

CONVENTIONS AND QUARTERLY MEETINGS SUBCOMMITTEE

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GOALS:

1. Restructure district meetings to provide learning and project sharing opportunities in a festive atmosphere to increase attendance.
2. Revise the length and agenda format of meetings and method to assign meeting sites to minimize travel time and costs.

Suggested Agenda Items:

- How to increase attendance
- How to make them more relevant
- Rotate sites in central part of DMM
- Multi-year contracts
- Find sponsors to reduce registration fee
- Major themes for convention and meetings
- Make conventions and meetings more festive

Subcommittee's Initial recommendations:

Meeting attendance has been on the decline in recent years. There are many issues to research to determine why the decline. Location, number of days of the meeting, cost of attendance and hotel expense and related costs. The following thoughts from the committee at large and the numerous committee members.

District Meetings

Currently the members meet three times a year. First, third quarter and the convention. Consideration on having the 3rd Quarter and convention being the only district wide attended meeting.

The First Quarter and Second quarter would be changed to sub-district meetings. Much like the Zone meeting concept. The meeting would be a one-day event. The Governor, Lt. Governors and members, would attend the meeting. Selected committee chairs would be in attendance.

The Governor would be in charge on the agenda with input from the Lt. Governors. It would be combined with a number of Zones attending by area. Yes, this would increase the Governor/ Secretary-Treasurer's travel.

The thought is that members don't go to meetings; we take the meeting to the members. This will reduce member's time commitment and reduce cost. Any executive meeting can be held the day before without the general membership.

The third quarter meeting would not change from the current two-day event. The convention would be a two-day event. Executive meeting can held the Thursday night before the convention. Lt. Governor training would be held off sight 2 -3 weeks before the convention. This was a practice many years. The training would be a one-day event with spouses attending. The training would be at a central location. This would help to develop the TEAM and allow more time with clubs and members at the Convention.

Propose to establish a Convention / Meeting Committee be put on the executive board to work with the Governor and the Sub-district teams to coordinate all meetings and conventions. This would need to be funded to allow travel by the chair and related committee members.

Meeting Locations

The objective is to determine the area that would be draw the best attendance and to minimize the distance of travel for members. Although not the exact center of the district, Highway 29 provides the best route from Sioux Falls to the Canadian border and provides ideal locations for quarterly meetings, especially Conventions.

Zone/ sub-district meetings would be held throughout the district replacing the First and Second quarter meetings. Zone/ sub-district meetings would be combined zone meeting in the best area suited for the member. Grouping the zone together that are close to a given area. The combined zones, Governor's staff and selected committee chairs would travel to each area meeting.

Executive board meeting would be held at the Third quarter and convention. First and Second would be held via conference call. Conventions would be at the best location from Sioux Falls to Grand Forks. Every five years we could travel to the outer cities. (Rapid City- St. Cloud, Minneapolis, Bismarck, Duluth).

The new position of the Convention/ Meeting Committee would coordinate the process. Host Clubs would still be involved in the process. The Governor and his/her team would review and approve the program and schedule programs and dates.

This is a change in how we operate, but it just might work. Input from the members is a vital piece required in planning a meeting, including content, topics, training, social and meeting format. Club members should be surveyed for input on their expectations.