



Minutes of the Tri-Chapter Meeting

Meeting Date: April 19, 2018
Host District: Mabank ISD
Location: 18446 E. US Hwy 175 Mabank, TX

Terry Penn called the meeting to order at 10:35 am. All members stood and pledged allegiance to the American and Texas Flags. Terry Penn welcomed everyone to the meeting. He introduced the director of Mabank, Randy Welch.

Randy welcomed everyone to Mabank and mentioned that his secretary, Diane, would be retiring this year. He said he was very blessed to have worked with her and all would miss her. He expressed his delight in seeing everyone and commented on how the meeting felt like a small state convention because of all the members in attendance. Randy also informed the group of the eating arrangements provided for the meeting. He then asked for a show of hands from the first timers in the group and had them introduce themselves. Randy acknowledged the sponsors and expressed appreciation for their support on behalf of the organization. He thanked everyone for attending before introducing newly appointed President Elect, Raymond Forsberg.

Raymond began by communicating his gratitude for his new position, from Historian to President Elect. He then introduced speaker, Dawn. Dawn focused mainly on the importance of contacting state representatives and legislators about any concerns or issues involving student transportation and DPS. Mr. Forsberg interjected, saying there will be a board meeting in May to discuss issues with DPS. He reiterated how imperative it is for members to contact representatives with any problems they may be experiencing so they can be addressed. He spoke of some ongoing issues with DPS involving drivers receiving their certifications. According to Mr. Forsberg, there's a state wide issue involving inconsistencies within DPS that's resulting in drivers having to take their exam multiple times.

Randy Gover was next to speak. He began with informing the group of the deadline approaching for rodeo entry forms. He promised to process and return that info as soon as possible. He explained he drives a bus route twice a day and it keeps him busy. Mr. Gover also took time to reiterate the importance of informing representatives of any concerns or issues they may be experiencing. He went on to say there was another transportation meeting in progress with State Representative Bill King, who is also chairman of the Home Land Security and Public Safety Committee. In this meeting, Bill King will be gathering with superintendents and other

people involved in transportation to discuss issues concerning, but not limited to, DPS. Mr. Gover went on to talk about the problems they're facing with licensing do to now having to follow the same regulations that are under DOT in all states. He also touched on other issues involving DPS such as problems setting appointments for exams and inconsistent information from staff. Inconsistency, he went on to say, is the main issue they are facing from DPS. From office to office, rules and requirements change depending on the staff member providing the information. He also said attempting to contact them via phone is extremely difficult or, in most cases, not possible. He reiterated the importance of contacting representatives but also explained having requirements changed, more than likely, isn't doable. The focus, when contacting legislators, should be to inform them of the issues just discussed, which can mainly be attributed to poor customer service. Mr. Gover continued by apologizing to the group for not attending more chapter meetings. He explained due to the shortage and having to help cover routes, it makes it challenging to find the time. He also said he hopes to see as many group members as possible at the convention coming up in Corpus Christi. Randy Gover closed by encouraging the group to register for classes at the convention, if they hadn't already, because they fill up fast.

Randy Forsberg retook the floor. He touched upon Randy Gover's comments about having to drive a route every day. He expressed understanding and explained many members of the group face similar issues. Mr. Forsberg then informed the group the next NTAPT meeting will be May 10th, in Frisco. The meeting will include rodeo participants, scholarship winners, and the new Executive Committee will be introduced. He then asked the group if they had any other topics or announcements they would like to be shared at the upcoming meeting.

Mr. Forsberg explained this meeting serves, traditionally, as a TAPT candidate forum and would now give them a chance to introduce themselves and say a few words. He said he was not going to use the clock to allot time but asked that they be mindful of their time because there are others who still need to speak. He then opened the floor to each candidate to share some information about themselves with the group, such as their names, where they are currently working, what office they run, and any other encouraging words they might have to offer.

Not every candidate was in attendance. The ones who were present and spoke were Ernest Del Bosque, Assistant Director of Transportation for Garland ISD, Steve Batchelor, Director of Operations for Skidmore-Tynan ISD, Amy Scopac, Assistant Director of Transportation for Temple ISD, Dr. Kayne Smith, Executive Director of Transportation Services for Dallas ISD, and Aric Taylor, Assistant Director of Transportation for Conroe ISD. All candidates shared personal information and encouraged the group to contact them via phone or email with any questions or concerns.

Next the floor was opened up to the vendors who make these meetings possible through their, much appreciated, support. Mike Horn of Longhorn Bus Sales presented first. Mr. Horn spoke on many things, including the success of their self-diagnostic tool that saves on money and reduces the length of time buses are downed for repair. Next to speak was a representative for Goolsby Tire. Chuck Gardner was not in attendance due to a death in his family. Bill King from KLC Video Security was the last vendor to present. All vendors expressed gratitude for the opportunity to present and encouraged the group to reach out and contact them with any questions they may have.

The meeting adjourned with a prayer to bless the meal lead by Terry Penn.