



## Highlights from TSM September 2018 Board Meeting

The Tri-State Manufacturers' Association Board of Directors met on September 25, 2018, at ITW Heartland in Alexandria, MN.

The consent agenda was approved, including August 28, 2018 meeting minutes and August 2018 financial reports.

Jaimee Meyer, Executive Director of Minnesota Dream It. Do It., led a discussion about the scope and focus of the Dream It. Do It. partnership in West Central Minnesota. It was agreed to table a new concept called "MakerFest" and instead focus on increasing the number manufacturing tours in the region: student tours and staff/counselor/admin tours, along with implementing a new program that encourages millennials currently employed in manufacturing to visit classrooms, events, etc. and spread the word about advanced manufacturing careers.

A recap discussion was held regarding the Candidate Forum hosted by TSM in September; five local candidates participated on the panel. It was agreed to continue this event every two years, recognizing that attendance will likely be stronger during a Presidential election year.

The planning committee provided an update on the second annual Stein & Wine Fest, scheduled October 4<sup>th</sup> in Alexandria.

The board accepted the resignation of Elroy Vesta effective September 1, 2018. No one will be appointed to fill his term since it ends on December 31, 2018; the annual election procedure will be used to fill this seat.

The manufacturing outreach project that was adopted last spring has been simplified to accommodate limited staff and volunteer time.

Discussion was heard regarding potential nominees for 2018 Manufacturer of the Year and 2018 Collaborator of the Year. Staff will call for nominations from the membership at large and provide the board with a report that captures member engagement.

The board approved TSM as a sponsor of Tour of Manufacturing Detroit Lakes; five manufacturers will open their doors to students and the public on October 24/25.

The TSM newsletter transitioned to a digital format in July 2018; analytics related to the new format were reviewed. Click through rates are encouraging. The popularity of specific content will help inform future issues of The Network News. New advertising rates will be determined at a later date.

The Executive Director report for September was reviewed.

The TSM Board is next scheduled to meet from 2:30 - 4:00 PM on October 23, 2018, in Alexandria.