

STMA Conference Call. April 1, 2009

Minutes

Attendees:

Tim Hay- OR
Melissa Hernandez - TX
Kim Tarter – NV
Tami Nelson – UT
Kevin Lucas – UT
Greg Sandin – CA
Donna Carey – CA
Cheryl Edgington – CA
Bonnie Kahakui – HI
Linda Holcomb – NY
Mark Milstein - NY
Lenora Kingston - CO
Dave Wardell – SGTP
Rick Singer - SGTP
Kim Cassandra _SGTP

Thank you for the State of Nevada for hosting today's call.

Kim Tarter made a presentation on the State of Nevada travel program. Nevada has never had a formal travel program in the past and was just given the green light to develop a program. Nevada has had car rental contracts and a travel card program, but no real programs with airlines. Nevada has just entered into a new contract with US Bank for both purchasing cards and travel cards. They are developing an RFP for travel management and are considering a pilot program with "Travel Hero" for travel management services to get the program off the ground. There would be no cost to the state for this pilot. Nevada feels that with the downturn in travel right now, it is a good time to implement to program and when peak travel returns, everyone will understand what to do.

David Wardell from SGTP addressed the states asking for input on technology information the states would like to see at the fall SGTP Conference. SGTP is putting an emphasis on new topics, with technology being one of them. Education is still the top priority for SGTP. SGTP wants to know what will be useful for the states to see. SGTP hopes to have future white papers and presentations on technology. SGTP is asking for participation from all the states on this topic.

STMA Action Item: If you or your state wishes to see any type of travel related technology items that would benefit your state, please submit those ideas to david@wardell.org Some topics might be on-line banking integration tools, front

end registration and booking tools, or back end reporting, reconciliation and payment tools.

SGTP has rolled out a new website. www.sgtp.org Please review and provide feedback Kim. Also, log in and finish your state member profiles.

SGTP is working on the fall conference. It is scheduled for Sept 8-10th in Alexandria VA. It is at a new hotel this year, The Westin Alexandria. Please provide any topic ideas to Rick or Kim. One suggestion from STMA was to provide industry updates not specifically geared toward federal travel.

It was asked how many states were planning to attend the SGTP fall conference. A few states were going to make an attempt and ask, but with today's economy, it is going to be very tough for approval. Tami Nelson from Utah agreed to work with some other states to create a justification letter for states to submit to their management for approval to attend.

There haven't been many changes to the STMA Website. STMA Conference calls agendas and minutes will be posted on the events page. It was asked if a blogging section could be added. Tim will look into that. Also, submit any other ideas to Tim.

Progress is being made on the WSCA/STMA Car rental RFP. 5 states are working in a collaborative effort on developing the RFP. 13 states have indicated that they will participate, and three others are expressing an interest in joining also. May is the target to have the RFP released.

STATES ROUND TABLE:

Donna from CA asked if other states were looking to become their own travel agency like Utah. Utah indicated that they are not their own travel agency, but they contract with a travel agency who is on-site. Colorado is looking to do something similar. Someone mentioned that The Airline Reporting Corporation (ARC) has indicated this is one of the best routes for state to take, or to keep the ARC numbers as limited as possible who are allowed to sell government air fares.

Cheryl from IN indicated an interest in the WSCA car rental RFP.

Bonnie from HI mentioned the travel challenges in Hawaii. Travel to the main-land is banned and the travel rules are being audited to determine a proper direction of the travel program.

Mark and Linda from NY expressed an interest in the WSCA car rental RFP.

Lenora from CO is trying to get her contract with US Bank extended and has encountered a few road blocks along the way, more internally.

Kim from NV just awarded a new joint P-Card and Travel Card contract with US Bank and indicated that they could have gotten a better rebate if they split the contracts up.

Tim from OR just awarded the new city pairs for next year. United and Alaska Airlines continue to participate in the Oregon program, American Airlines dropped out this year. American has less of a presence now in Oregon. They dropped flights to Chicago and have trimmed flights to Dallas-Ft. Worth.

The next conference call is scheduled for June 3, 2009 at 11:00 AM Pacific Time. The state of Indiana is hosting the call.