

# GMG hits record membership, unveils new fee structure

**MANKATO** — Greater Mankato Growth hit a record of 792 members in 2010.

“Eighty-five percent of members represent businesses with 25 or fewer employees,” said GMG President & CEO Jonathan Zierdt during the group’s annual meeting Tuesday.

Zierdt also reviewed the economic growth of Blue Earth and Nicollet counties during the past decade.

The population grew 9 percent to 93,177, while gross sales in the two counties went from \$2.62 billion in 2000 to \$4.62 billion in 2010.

“These are great economic indicators to tell us about the vitality of our community.”

GMG Board Chairman Dr. Greg Kutcher also unveiled outlines of a new fee structure for GMG members.

Rather than paying a set fee based on the number of employees in their business, members can choose from a variety of packages that vary in cost depending on how many benefits the member business wants.

And, at the request of small businesses, GMG will allow a monthly payment of dues rather than a one-time yearly payment.

Details of the new fee structure will be rolled out over the coming year.

GMG is the combined Chamber and Convention and Visitors Bureau.