Characteristics and Attributes of an Ideal Board Member

- **Proven Performance**
  Leadership requires knowledge, talent, skill, vitality and the ability to make a difference. For GMIS International, that translates into a solid track record of contributing to the success of programs, events or projects whether with GMIS International or your state chapter.

- **Commitment**
  Serving as a GMIS Board Member is an honor, and it requires a demonstrated commitment to the organization and its mission and goals.

- **Time to Serve**
  Participating fully in GMIS activities requires extra time to prepare for and travel to attend meetings. Board members must be able to participate in 2 in-person meetings annually, as well as semi-monthly board calls. Additional committee responsibilities will vary based on the committees served. Board members should expect to spend between 5-10 hours per month on GMIS International business.

- **Understanding of Team Work**
  Many people contribute their efforts toward the realization of GMIS International’s goals and objectives – no one does it alone. Well-developed interpersonal and communication skills are essential to effective teamwork and accomplishing the strategic objectives of GMIS International.

- **Sound Judgment and Integrity**
  GMIS Board members are required to act in the best interest of the organization. At times this may be incongruent with some member’s wishes. Board members must use their best judgment when acting on behalf of GMIS and ensure they act with integrity.

- **Communication and Mentoring**
  By virtue of their position, current leaders serve as mentors and teachers to future leaders. Enthusiasm, and a desire to “train your replacement” is a must to ensure the development and success of future GMIS leaders.

- **Ability to Subordinate Special Interests**
  Leaders often emerge because of their special expertise or effective representation of a specific concern or constituency. Leadership, however, may require subordinating those interests for the greater good of GMIS International.

- **Strategic Thinking/Visioning**
  Intuitive and interpretive skills enable leaders to understand the people around them, internalize the data they receive, recognize the relationships that exist between the systems within their world and integrate all these elements into a coherent whole.