

RETIRED EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION OF VENTURA COUNTY

P. O. Box 7231, Ventura CA 93006

“Dedicated to those who have already served”

Board Meeting Minutes

August 14, 2012

Four Points Sheraton, Ventura Harbor

Board Members Present: Art Goulet, Bob Riggs, Ron Janes, Ray Holzer, Betty McCollum, Susan Lacey, Jim Crow, Maryellen Benedetto, Luisa Haskell, Will Hoag, Don Greenberg, Don Wright, Cindi Mathieu, Butch Britt

Board Members Absent:

Judy Nash-Wade

President, Art Goulet, called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Minutes of the June 5, 2012 Meeting

The June 5, 2012 minutes were approved as read.

Treasurer’s Report

The financial report as of August 8, 2012 was presented by Butch Britt. Butch reported our total assets at \$88,863.70. Since Butch recently took on the responsibility of the financial reports he took the time to submit reports for: Banking Summary, Income/Expense by Category, Budget vs Actual, Checking Account Check Register, Money Market Check Register and See’s Candy Certificate Sales. Also, transactions from January 1, 2012 through August 8, 2012 were converted to Quicken software. Butch also reported that State and Federal informational income tax returns for 2011 have been filed. The Board conveyed to Butch that they liked his report and the method he used to generate all the reports. The reports were accepted as submitted.

PAC Discussion

The majority of the Board members felt this was not the time for us to get involved in forming a PAC (Political Action Committee). Bob Riggs felt it was something we needed to establish, something we must do. Art noted that we would have to raise our member dues.

Art inquired as to having candidates speak to our membership at a special meeting/luncheon. After a brief discussion it was decided it would not be an option at this time for various reasons (not everyone in the first district, the expense of having an additional luncheon, which would include rental of the venue.)

Committee Reports

Associate Members – Maryellen Benedetto

Maryellen reported that we had two new associate members. She had called approximately 25 survivors from a list that had been generated by Linda from our database records. She is calling survivors to see if there is anything we can do for them or something we can help them

with. There was one question as to how to get a name on the Fire Department monument. It was suggested that she call the current chief of the Ventura County Fire Department. Maryellen will follow up. Another survivor mentioned that the parking was bad at the luncheons. Maryellen told her we were aware and trying to address the problem.

Audit Report – Bob Riggs

No report at this time.

Benefits – Ron Janes

Ron and Bob will be attending the Labor Management Meeting to find out if pre-Medicare retirees will be offered insurance for next year. In preparation for the 2013 Medical Plan year, the County's consultant AON sought bids from Aetna, Anthem Blue Cross of California, Blue Shield of California, CIGNA, Health Net, Kaiser and UnitedHealthcare. Aetna, Anthem Blue Cross of California, Blue Shield of California, CIGNA and Kaiser declined to bid for the contract and gave the following reasons:

- The private insurance plans in the county have shown declining enrollment over the last several years.
- The potential risk in offering a plan exceeds anticipated revenue and therefore a competitive rate could not be offered.
- The option of VCHCP available to employees presents an "excessive adverse selection risk."

UnitedHealthcare provided the county with a quote, but they were rejected from the process because they refused to include early retirees with the active rates. We were grateful the county took this position, because if the early retirees are unbundled from the same rate pool as the employees the rates would become prohibitively expensive for them.

At this point the county remains in talks with Health Net as the only potential private insurance provider for 2013.

Communications – Will Hoag

Will had one inquiry as to whether we had a dental plan from REAVC. He told her we had had some discussion but currently there are no recommendations.

Membership/Courtesy

Art noted that he has not appointed a Membership chair as we have been struggling on how to approach the membership issue. SB 1382 (which has passed and on the governor's desk) would require Retirement systems to cooperate and communicate with associations who are trying to do a membership solicitation.

CRCEA – Betty McCollum

We are still working on fall conference that will be in Modesto. Enrollment packets will be ready this week for mailing.

Legislative – Art Goulet

Everyone one is waiting for the Joint Conference Committee report and rumor has it will be this week. Art noted that there is some apprehension as to benefits being reduced. Art reported there was an interesting bill being discussed regarding Worker's Compensation. That is, if a

safety retiree had a heart attack or contracted cancer at any age, it would be considered as job related. An example would be someone retires at 50 and dies of cancer at 90. The sponsors want the bill to provide that this person's eligible survivor would receive a death benefit payment.

Newsletter – Linda Jorgenson

Linda noted that we have 2597 newsletter subscribers and 393 YahooGroup members. She also reported that of the 21 people who were paying annual dues, 6 have replied and changed their membership to a monthly deduction. The remainder will be noted as inactive members as of September 1, 2012. Linda requested that the board members read the Newsletter.

Nominations and Elections –

The vacancy left by Jan Standing-Roberts is to be filled. The committee met (Linda was unable to attend), and is recommending to the board that Paul Callaway be appointed to fill Jan's position (through December 31, 2012). Don noted that Paul is a civil engineer previously with Public Works. He is an active member of the ASCE. Paul has stated that he would be willing to assist Butch Britt with any accounting functions, if needed. Don noted that he may also be able to assist the Audit Committee. Motion made and passed to bring Paul Callaway on board.

Don stated that the bylaws do not allow Jim Crow to be on the Nominating Committee and run for the next term on the board. The committee currently consists of Lauraine Effress, Linda Jorgenson, Jerry Schrum and chair Don Greenberg. Don asked that Art appoint someone else from the board to serve on the committee to replace Jim Crow. Don announced that Ron Janes and Bob Riggs would not be running this next term. Ray Holzer, Luisa Haskell and Jim Crow have agreed to run/serve for another term. Don has three individuals that he would like the committee to interview/meet with. Will Hoag volunteered to replace Jim Crow on the committee, to allow Jim to run for a position on the board, and he was appointed.

Ron noted to the board his concerns as to who would be replacing him and Bob and that he would like to have that person working with them at the Labor Management Meetings as soon as possible. Ron gave a description of the job requirements and what to expect. Bob also commented on the importance of representation at these meetings. Cindi Mathieu volunteered to be the new Benefits Committee Chairperson and our representative at the Labor Management meetings.

Program/Social – Judy Nash Wade

Judy was not present but had notified Art that everything was in place for the September 4th Luncheon speakers.

Scholarship – Susan Lacey

Susan announced that we have 2 very worthy young people who are being recommended for the \$1,000 scholarship(s). They are Brianna Poteracke and Joseph-Andrew LeVan Malach.

Motion was made and passed to approve these two students for the scholarships. The awards will be presented to the families of each winner. A question was presented to the committee by a member asking if they had raised a child but had not legally adopted them, would they still be eligible to apply for a scholarship. The committee unanimously said yes. Bob suggested that, rather than change the rules, the committee consider each request on a case-by-case basis. The board members agreed. Susan presented another question that had been raised by the committee and that was considering those who were going for training in a new field. Art asked that the committee work-up new requirements and applications to cover this type of scenario and present them the board at the next meeting.

Betty read a letter that had been sent to her by a recipient's mother (Carolyn Briggs and Dale Condra) letting the Board know how their son, Warren Condra, was doing and to thank the REAVC Board once again for the scholarship monies. Ron suggested that the letter be published in the next newsletter. Linda said she would do that.

Retirement Board – Art Goulet

The retirement board has reduced the assumption rate to 7.75% from 8.00% which will increase County and member costs. The increase in costs will be phased in over the next 3 years. Art estimated that the final earnings for the 2012 fiscal year would be approximately 1.5%, as opposed to the assumed rate of return of 8%.

Other

There being no further discussion the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Wyatt Jorgenson

Linda Wyatt Jorgenson
Executive Assistant