

**RETIRED EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION OF VENTURA COUNTY (REAVC)**

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

April 2, 2019

Four Points by Sheraton, Ventura Harbor Resort, Ventura, California

***Call to Order***

At 12:14 p.m., President Nancy Settle called the meeting to order at 12:14 p.m. This was followed by a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

***Roll Call***

**Present**

Board Members: Nancy Settle, Ken Cozzens, Will Hoag, Butch Britt, Colleen Bruns, Colleen House, Kenneth Cozzens, Anne Dana, Tom McEachern, Cindy Schneider, and Maryellen Benedetto.

Staff: Sharon Hurault

**Absent**

Board Members: Roberta Griego, Paul Callaway, Art Goulet, and Reddy Pakala

***Financial Report***

Butch Britt presented the “Financial Data as of April 1, 2019.” Butch noted that “Year-End Report” on the title page needs to be deleted. He stated that tax returns for REAVC have been completed and file. Paul Callaway now has signature authority at Ventura County Credit Union. Butch stated that while there is nothing unusual about this report, concern remains about the increasing costs of the general membership luncheons. A motion was made to receive and file the Financial Report. Moved/Seconded/Carried (M/S/C) (Cozzens/McEachern/Unanimous).

***Approval of the January 15, 2019, Minutes***

Butch noted that Paul Callaway is not the chair of the Audit Committee; Ken Cozzens is. The minutes will be corrected to reflect this change. (M/S/C) (Britt/House/Unanimous).

***Old/New Business***

1. Pacific Group Agencies (PGA) Supplemental Insurance Status – Nancy reported that PGA has approved the long, revised version of the contract; however, she has yet to receive a signed copy of it. Samples of the two revised cover letters (one for REAVC members, and one for non-REAVC members), were distributed to Board members. Sharon suggested that the REAVC logo be placed on these letters. Butch concurred, and suggested that the PGA logo also be added. Colleen Bruns suggested that after a few years, a survey letter be sent to participating REAVC enrollees to see if they are happy with the plans. Nancy noted that May 20, 2019, would be the earliest that VCERA would be able to deduct the cost of the PGA supplemental plans from VCERA pensions. A motion was made for Nancy to sign the finalized contract, and for the Board to approve the sample cover letters with the recommended minor modifications. (M/S/C) (Britt/Cozzens/Unanimous).
2. Sterling Hills Luncheon Venue Increased Cost for 2019 - Anne noted that REAVC will be \$1,800 over budget this year due to the increasing costs of member luncheons. This number is based on costs quoted by venues for 2019, and provided that luncheon attendance is kept at 170. (This does not allow for the additional members who attend the December luncheon.) Board members discussed the quoted costs of holding REAVC luncheons at the Sterling Hills Country Club, the Tower Club, the Courtyard Marriot in Oxnard, and the Poinsettia Room. Options made by Board members to decrease costs included: (1) having fewer luncheons per year (three instead of four); (2) charging a nominal fee for REAVC members to attend the luncheon; or (3) changing the venue. All Board members concurred that any such changes not be made until 2020. Colleen Bruns suggested that a survey of REAVC members regarding this issue be taken at the next luncheon. At the conclusion of the discussion, a motion was made to appoint a subcommittee to evaluate these three options.

(M/S/C) (Britt/ Schneider/Unanimous). Butch and Cindy volunteered to be members of the subcommittee.

3. Incentives for Members – Nancy stated that CRCEA has a booklet on how to motivate members on a given topic. These findings were the result of a survey performed by CRCEA of its 20 county agencies. Nancy noted that the current cost of mailing the REAVC newsletter is approximately \$2,000 per mailing. She suggested that a way be found to encourage REAVC members to provide us with their email addresses so that we can send the newsletter to them electronically. Suggestions by Board members to increase email mailings included:
  - Stressing the negative impact of continued mailings on the environment; and,
  - Placing any money saved by reducing mailing costs towards the REAVC scholarship fund.
4. Community Involvement – Nancy stated that some county retirement associations extoll how involved they are in volunteering throughout their communities. She noted that REAVC members now donate non-perishable food for Food Share, and asked if REAVC should expand its volunteer efforts. Maryellen suggested that Food Share be advertised in the REAVC newsletter. It was noted that various volunteer agencies already work toward meeting the needs of the homeless, Veterans, etc., Following discussion, it was the consensus of the Board that due to current commitments, additional volunteering is not possible at this time.
5. My Senior Health – Nancy stated that My Senior Health has contacted REAVC with another offer of their services. They provide advice to retirees on Medicare supplemental health insurance. Following discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to not use their services at this time.
6. Board Vacancy – Nancy stated that she had nothing new to report.
7. Board Member Name Tags – Butch stated that additional name tags will be made for those who help at the sign-in tables during membership luncheons.

8. Other/Adjournment

- Nancy stated that Wayne Larroque, former president before Art Goulet, called and asked why the County had lost its \$27 benefit. Nancy said that Wayne believed this benefit should not have been lost due to some type of settlement promised to retirees. Nancy noted that this issue will be placed on the agenda for discussion at the next REAVC Board meeting.
- Maryellen asked why sympathy cards are no longer being sent to survivors of REAVC members who have passed away. Nancy stated that this was discontinued when the previous executive assistant left. Colleen House stated that she would be willing to review the REAVC letter that had previously been previously sent to survivors. Nancy said that this process could be continued once the issues with the REAVC database are resolved.

Committee Reports

- Retirement Board/Legislation – Due to Art’s absence, no report was given at this time.
- Associate Members – Maryellen stated that she would be willing to continue contacting survivors if she can get some help.
- Audit – There was nothing new to report.
- Benefits – Update postponed due to Roberta absence.
- Communications – Update was postponed due to Will having to leave the Board meeting early.
- Membership/Courtesy – Tom reported that he and Anne went to a County retirement workshop and made a PowerPoint presentation on REAVC. This worked well. Maryellen, Anne, and Tom requested that Patty Dowdy notify them at least one month in advance of any scheduled workshop.
- CRCEA – Nancy reported that a CRCEA meeting will be held on April 14, 2019, in San Diego.
- Newsletter – Sharon stated that Butch sent the newsletter to the printer, and he will handle the emailing.
- Nominations/Elections – There was nothing to report.

- Program/Social – Anne confirmed that the March luncheon will be held on June 12, 2019, at the Sterling Hills Country Club. A guest speaker from the Ventura County Credit Unit will make a presentation on what to do after you have been scammed.

9. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 1:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Hurault  
REAVC Executive Assistant