

RETIRED EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION OF VENTURA COUNTY (REAVC)

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

April 6, 2021

In Accordance with the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20,
Members of the Board met electronically (via Zoom)

- ***Call to Order and Roll Call***

President Nancy Settle called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

Present

Board Members: Butch Britt (left at 1:36 p.m.), Colleen Bruns, Anne Dana (arrived at 1:19 p.m.), Art Goulet, Roberta Griego, Will Hoag, Reddy Pakala, Jacquie Richardson, Cindy Schneider (left at 2:35 p.m.), and Nancy Settle

Staff: Sharon Hurault

Absent

Maryellen Benedetto, Paul Callaway, Ken Cozzens, Colleen House, and Tom McEachern.

- **Financial Report**

Butch reported that the budget is essentially on track, considering that the submitted report reflects only three months of financial activity and several expenditures have not been encountered yet this fiscal year. Primarily due to there being only one general luncheon in 2020, our cash flow and budget versus actual reports for the end of last fiscal year show a positive amount of about \$16,000 income minus expenditures. There is currently about \$56,000 in the money market account and about \$36,000 in three CD accounts. Our total net assets at the end of 2020 was about \$91,000 and the April report shows total net assets of about \$96,000. In general, our total net assets has been about \$80,000.

It was moved that the Financial Report be received and filed. Moved/Seconded/Carried (MSC) (Goulet/Pakala/Unanimous). Motion passed.

Butch felt that the Board may wish to think about forming a subcommittee of two to four Board members to recommend what to do with what is currently a higher amount than normal in the money market account (\$56,000). Butch did caution that it is necessary to keep some funds in the money market account (normally \$20,000 to \$25,000), for cash flow reasons. When a big expenditure, such as issuing the scholarship checks is anticipated, it is necessary to transfer funds from the money market account to checking to cover the expenditures. Additionally, in the year that

REAVC hosts the CERCA conference, additional funds are needed to cover the cash flow of the event.

Reddy, Cindy, and Will volunteered for the subcommittee. Nancy said she will send an email to those who were not in attendance today to see if they wish to join the subcommittee.

- **Approval of the Minutes of the February 9, 2021, Meeting**

Because Anne had not yet arrived, she was not included in the vote. Kelly abstained from voting due to her absence at the February 9, 2021, Board meeting. The minutes of the meeting were approved as presented. (M/S/C) (Hoag/Schneider/Yeas – 10; Nays - 0; Abstained 1 - ; Absent – 5; and Absent at the Time of this Vote -1).

Old/New Business

1. Luncheon Update

Anne reported that due to COVID-19 restrictions, the Sterling Hills Country Club (Sterling) is currently serving meals either outside at a maximum 100 person capacity, or inside, where seating is limited to 25% of maximum capacity. Sterling also stated that they could make a combination of indoor and outdoor dining available to use, with seating of eight to 10 people per table. Meals are served buffet style.

Anne noted that we had \$1,500 left from our deposits made in 2020 that have been carried over to 2021. Sterling has kept their prices for REAVC the same as our March 2020 luncheon. Anne said she has not yet signed a contract for the September or December 2021 luncheons, but needs to do so in order to save the dates.

Concern was expressed by Board members about the following issues:

- Either members will clamor to attend the luncheons or they won't bother to go at all.
- What about weather problems when holding a luncheon outside?
- How would we have a speaker for both inside and outside seating?
- Are we going to have a speaker? Should we have a speaker? Should we present scholarship recipients?

At the end of discussion, it was moved to hold the September 7, 2021, REAVC luncheon in one location, outdoors, unless CDC guidelines indicate that it can be held indoors to maximum capacity (M/S/C) (Pakala/Richardson/Unanimous).

Nancy suggested that Anne and other Board members get together to work out the logistics of holding a luncheon. Jacquie also stated that she will explore the legality of requiring proof of vaccination records. Nancy said that she will reach out to other retirement associations to see how they're handling this issue.

2. Retired Employees of Los Angeles County (RELAC) Fall 2021 CRCEA Conference Co-Chair, David Muir – Request to post “Conference Acknowledgement and Appreciation” on Retirement Association Websites Beginning November 7, 2021, for a Period of Three Months

Nancy stated that CRCEA Conference Co-Chair, David Muir, has requested that REAVC include on its website, appreciation for the different associate groups (such as PGA) which provide support, and help to pay for, setting up the CRCEA conference.

Following discussion, a motion was made to have the Fall CRCEA Conference listed on the REAVC website for three months. (M/S/C) (Goulet/Hoag/Unanimous).

3. Publishing the Names of non-REAVC Member who Have Passed Away in the Memoriam Column of the REAVC Newsletter

Will reported that REAVC has been receiving phone calls from random retirees who would like for us to place the names of non-REAVC members in the “Memoriam” column of the REAVC newsletter. Colleen B. noted that this might be difficult as REAVC would probably be unable to obtain information on non-REAVC members from VCERA. Art said that it should be considered a privilege of being a REAVC member for their name to appear in the Memoriam column. A motion was made to limit the death listing in our newsletter to members only (M/S/C) (Goulet/Pakala/Unanimous).

4. Membership Report

Sharon noted that between retirees joining, discontinuing membership, and passing away, REAVC maintains a membership of 2,747 members. The County has about 7,000 retirees and beneficiaries. Nancy noted that membership surveys done in the past of other retirement associations revealed a membership of about around 40% of all retirees will join.

5. Revision to REAVC Application Form

Sharon reported that when submitting a REAVC application to VCERA, she often experiences a delay between the time the REAVC membership application is submitted to VCERA and when the \$2.00 membership fee is taken from the retiree's pension check. (Sometimes this can be between 60 and 90 days.) Anne expressed

concern that retirees who wish to join REAVC and attend a luncheon should be able to do so, whether or not their application has been process by VCERA. It is not the retiree's fault that VCERA takes so long to process a REAVC application. Art felt that a retiree becomes a member of REAVC when they are dues-paying. Sharon stated that she will look into how other organizations are handling a situations such as this, and get back to the Board with further information.

Committee Reports

- Retirement Board/Legislation – Art reported that VCERA has filed a lawsuit against the County, all of the unions, the court system, and former county counsel (Leroy Smith). The County threatened to file a demurrer saying there is no justiciable dispute because many of the provisions of PEPRA in the Alameda Decision have not yet been imposed upon the affected retirees. The hearing on this is scheduled for April 19, 2021. Art noted that Leroy Smith has filed a countersuit against VCERA, denying all allegations and saying that he's entitled to 240 hours of annual leave redemption even though he straddled two calendar years. Art noted that the California attorney general is interested in VCERA's case, because of his concern that some of the retirement systems may not be enforcing PEPRA and Alameda. He stated that there has been very little retirement-related legislation in California this legislative year, having more important things to deal with including, COVID-19, the budget, workers compensation, and unemployment. Art said he will keep us posted on this complex issue.
- Associate Members – Due to Maryellen's absence, no report was given.
- Benefits – Kelley reported that she attended the Labor Management Committee meeting and found that there are virtual classes that retirees can take through the Wellness Program.
- Communications – Will stated that he had nothing new to report.
- Membership/Courtesy – Nancy stated that for the time being, the County has cancelled their retirement workshops due to COVID-19.
- CRCEA – See Agenda Item No. 2.
- Newsletter – Sharon reminded everyone to submit their articles for the May/June newsletter at the end of April.
- Nominations/Elections - Nancy stated that she has nothing to report.
- Program/Social – Due to Tom's absence, no report was given.

- Scholarship – Nancy reported that 10 scholarship applications have been received.

6. **Other** – Nothing to discuss

7. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

The next REAVC Board meeting will be held electronically via Zoom on Tuesday, June 1, 2021, at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Hurault
REAVC Executive Assistant