

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors
Retired Employees of Alameda County
Monday December 12, 2022, 9:30 A.M.**

Zoom Video Conferencing Board Meeting

Renaye Johnson, Vice President of the Board, called the meeting to order at 9:33AM

Roll Call: Renaye Johnson, Paul Reeves, Suman Sharma, Connie Land, and Linda Slater were present. Charo Panesi-Guerra, REAC Member and Administrative Assistant, and Pete Albert, ACRE Board President were also present.

Minutes: Minutes of the November 14, 2022 REAC Board meeting were reviewed. Linda moved that the November 14, 2022 REAC Board Minutes be approved as submitted. Connie seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

Announcements & Communications: Renaye reported that Alicia renewed the See's Candies Volume Savings Program for REAC Members. REAC members just need their REAC Membership Card in order to purchase the discounted candy.

ACERA: Michael Fara, ACERA Communications Manager, was unable to attend today's Board meeting, so he will present both the November 2022 and the December 2022 Retirees Committee reports at the January 9, 2023 Board meeting. Pete mentioned that the Retiree Committee voted to recommend to the Board of Retirement to continue to provide the Medicare Part B Reimbursement Plan (MBRP) benefit to eligible retirees in 2023.

Treasurer's Report: Suman presented the REAC 2023 Proposed Annual budget. The proposed budget does not anticipate a substantial increase in membership, so the anticipated membership income is projected to be \$93,500 for 2023. It is anticipated that REAC will hold both a Spring Luncheon and a Fall Luncheon. With that in mind, Suman added \$4,000 to reflect the possible net from the two luncheons. The total projected income for 2023 is \$103,530 which is an increase of \$1,215 over the 2022 approved budget and about \$5,000 more than the 2022 actual. Paul asked if the CDs received interest, and if so why is it not reflected in the proposed budget? Suman said the earned interest is automatically added to the principle amount and is not reflected as a separate line item. Paul asked him to include a brief explanation in the comments section for the interest.

Linda asked if Suman could add an additional explanation for the See's Candy, Expense Line Item 19, which reflects the fact that the \$500 represents 20 gift certificates at \$25 each. She also asked Suman if he could also add a similar explanation for the \$500 in Line Item 20. The Board also discussed the rate being paid for administrative clerical support and should that rate also reflect cost of living adjustments. The Board created an Administrative Support Cost Committee to evaluate and make recommendations related to payment rate options. Connie, Suman & Alicia will be on the committee. The Board decided to carry over that discussion, plus the committee report, to the January 9, 2023 Board meeting.

The Board then discussed the issue of mileage reimbursement. REAC currently uses the rate Alameda County uses. Linda thought the rate the County uses was the IRS rate for 2022 and that rate was 58.5 cents per mile. Suman checked the IRS website, and the rate they used, for the last six months of 2022, was 62.5

cents per mile. For mileage reimbursement, REAC can only pay the rate previously approved by the Board, unless a subsequent vote changes that rate. While the Board could vote to use a different rate, they could not change it retroactively, without a separate vote. They could vote to include a new rate for 2023, but Paul wanted to check the wording in the Bylaws, to determine what rate was approved to use now, and did the wording allow for additional automatic changes, or retroactive payments for those months which did not match the IRS rates. Suman moved that the Board review the mileage reimbursement paid to Charo during 2022 and retroactively pay her the difference between the mileage rate she was paid during 2022, and the higher IRS rate. Connie seconded the motion and the motion was approved with four Yeas and one Nay vote.

Linda moved to approve the 2023 proposed budget as modified, Connie seconded the motion, and the motion was approved.

Suman presented the November 2022 Treasurer's Report. Receipts totaled \$8,192.39. Disbursements totaled \$9,315.62. Red Arrow is almost current in submitting their billing invoices. They are now only one month behind. The total check book balance was \$98,476.34 and total assets were \$229,256.14. Connie moved that the November 2022 Treasurer's Report be approved as submitted. Paul seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

CRCEA (California Retired County Employees Association): Connie gave her report on the CRCEA December 12, 2022 meeting. The CRCEA Long Term Care Ad Hoc Committee is undertaking a project to publish an online petition urging the Governor and the State Legislature to enact a program providing compensation to CalPERS policyholders who have been harmed by CalPERS mismanagement of the Long Term Care Insurance program. This is considered to be a long shot but another way of exploring every possibility for policyholders. Volunteers are needed to obtain online petition signatures through emails and newsletter articles, etc. Connie is planning to join as one of the volunteers.

Connie reminded the Board that it will be REAC's turn to host a CRCEA Conference in the Fall of 2025. We need to start planning now. There are guidelines on the CRCEA website to help us. Many counties start planning two years in advance by getting sponsors, negotiating hotel room rates, costing out the event, approving a specific budget for the event, etc. Connie recommended that several Board members attend next year's Spring and Fall Conferences to gain an understanding of what it takes to be a Host County.

Connie reported that the CRCEA 2023 Spring Conference will be held April 23, 2023 thru April 26, 2023 at the Ontario Airport Hotel. The host county is the Retired Employees of San Bernardino County (RESBC). Hotel room rates are \$119 per night, plus taxes, breakfast and parking included. You must reserve rooms by April 1, 2023.

Connie also reported that there was no new information regarding the CalPERS Lawsuit. The last website update was on November 7, 2022. The trial is still set to start on May 15, 2023 and is scheduled to last 25 court days. Policyholders are encouraged to check the website frequently to stay updated or they can contact the Settlement Administration at: 1 (866) 217-8056.

SACRS (State Association of County Retirement Systems): Paul reported that the SACRS Spring Conference will be held from May 9-12, 2023 at the Paradise Pointe Resort & Spa in San Diego. At this point in time, there is no information available regarding possible agenda items, topics, etc.

Retirement Board: There was no additional information to report.

Investment Committee: There was no additional information to report.

Health Care (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention): Renaye reported that the number of COVID-19 cases was beginning to increase and that means both Contra Costa County and Alameda County are now considered to be at the medium COVID-19 level. The medium level comes with additional masking suggestions/requirements. Last month we were at the low COVID-19 level. To complicate matters, there has been a sharp increase in the number of Flu cases, and the number of respiratory type cases which generally affect children and the elderly.

She also reminded the Board that the Kaiser Silver&Fit program is still on going, so members should sign up, if they have not already, and take advantage of the various options including the available kits.

Activities: Renaye reminded the Board that the Board's holiday luncheon will take place this coming Friday and will be held at the Trabocco Kitchen & Cocktails in Alameda.

Membership and Recruitment: Charo reported that as of November 30, 2022, membership stood at 3,853 members, which was a slight decrease from the October 2022 numbers. Charo also reported that they were able to resolve the issues we were experiencing with Zoom. Alicia, Suman, Charo and Linda all have access to the Zoom account and anyone of them can open and host meetings.

Charo mentioned that we were getting the paper copy of our REAC Newsletter returned as non-deliverable, which suggests the member has changed their address and not notified us of the change. She wanted to know if she can use the email address the member added to their enrollment document to contact them regarding their correct mailing address. Since it is being supplied by the member, even though they opted to receive their REAC Newsletter in the mail, it would be appropriate to use the email address they provided to contact them regarding those types of issues. Renaye will add a question regarding email use in the President's Message of the REAC Newsletter.

Paul reported that at the December Board meeting of each year, a Nominating Committee is created to determine if the Board members, whose terms are expiring at the end of March of the coming year, would be willing to serve an additional term on the Board of Directors. The President selects a Nominating Committee Chair, and two additional Board members, whose terms are not expiring, to serve on the committee. Essentially, the committee sends a message to each member whose term is expiring, and in this case, those members are Renaye Johnson, Connie Land, and Paul Reeves. Once those members respond, the committee then reports the results back to the Board. In the absence of the Board President, Linda agreed to Chair the committee and Suman and Dawn will also serve.

REAC Website Redesign: Connie gave her report on the Website Redesign Sub-Committee. The sub-committee met on Monday November 21, 2022 and Saturday, December 10, 2022 to discuss the drafts from our web-designers. They've done a great job interpreting the information we sent them. We met with the web-designers on Monday December 5, 2022 with another meeting scheduled for Monday December 19, 2022. Member bios were sent to our web-designers to add to the test site. We're working on getting head shot photos for each Board member, and hopefully this can be done at the upcoming holiday luncheon.

Thanks to Linda for taking the lead on this. We received a response from ACERA to our questions and we're assessing their responses. We really appreciate ACERA for taking the time from their busy schedule to respond to us. We're making great progress and hope by the January 2023 Board meeting to have a very good Draft for presentation and to solicit feedback.

REAC News: The REAC Newsletter will include the issue of returned REAC Newsletters, Happy New Year, a CRCEA Flyer, information regarding Silver&Fit, information regarding the March Annual Membership Meeting, and that the Board is considering holding the March meeting as an in-person meeting rather than a Virtual meeting.

Other Reports:

Old Business:

New Business:

For the Good of the Order:

Meeting adjourned at 11:40 AM

Respectfully submitted by Paul Reeves, Board Secretary

Next Board Meeting: Monday, January 9, 2023, 9:30 am
Zoom Video Conferencing Board Meeting