

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors
Retired Employees of Alameda County

Monday, August 12, 2019

Health Care Services Agency Building, Room 135, 1000 San Leandro Blvd., San Leandro, CA

Mary Miller, President of the Board, called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M.

Roll Call: Mary Miller, Rosalie Masuda, Mike Smart, Liz Koppenhaver, Paul Reeves, and Connie Land were present. Michael Fara, ACERA staff member, Nancy Reilly, REAC member and ACERA Alternate Retirement board member, Pete Albert, ACRE President, and Suman Sharma, REAC member, were also present.

Minutes: Minutes of the July 8, 2019 Board meeting were reviewed. Suman pointed out that his surname was misspelled. It should be Sharma, rather than Sharman. A motion was made by Paul and seconded by Connie, that the minutes be approved as corrected. The motion was approved

Announcements: Liz reported that she received several calls from members who received “demand” letters from ACERA regarding premium payments back to Plan Year 2013. Approximately 70 retirees received those letters. Liz has been working with ACERA to help address those concerns and ACERA now has a new system which seems to have fixed the problem.

James J Hartnett, Jr., REAC Director Emeritus, and former REAC Board Treasurer, passed away on June 24, 2019. A motion was made by Paul and seconded by Rosalie, that either a small donation be made in his name to a charity he supported, or that a bouquet of flowers be sent to his surviving partner. Mary agreed to contact his relatives to determine which option seems most appropriate.

Reports

ACERA: Michael Fara gave his report on the August 7, 2019 Retirees Committee meeting. There were two action items and three information items.

The first action item was a motion to recommend to the Board of Retirement to continue the dental plan contributions for Plan Year 2020, which provides a monthly subsidy equal to the single-party dental plan coverage premium of \$42.04 for the PPO plan and \$22.18 for the DeltaCare USA plan for retirees who are receiving ACERA allowances with ten or more years of ACERA service, are service connected disability retirees, or are non-service connected disability retirees as of January 31, 2014.

This is a non-vested benefit funded by contributions from the ACERA employers to the 401(h) account. After contributions are made in accordance with the County Employees Retirement Law, ACERA treats an equal amount of SRBR (Supplemental Retiree Benefit Reserve) assets as employer contributions for pensions. The motion was approved.

The second action item was a motion to recommend to the Board of Retirement to continue the vision plan contributions for Plan Year 2020, which provides a monthly subsidy equal to the single-party vision plan coverage premium of \$4.24 for retirees who are receiving ACERA allowances with ten or more years of

ACERA service, are service connected disability retirees, or are non-service connected disability retirees as of January 31, 2014.

This is also a non-vested benefit funded by contributions from the ACERA employers to the 401(h) account. After contributions are made in accordance with the County Employees Retirement Law, ACERA treats an equal amount of SRBR (Supplemental Retiree Benefit Reserve) assets as employer contributions for pensions. The motion was approved.

The first information item was a review of Dental and Vision Plans Premiums for 2020 and the second information item was a review of the draft SRBR (Supplemental Retiree Benefit Reserve) benefits survey to be sent to active members and retirees for Retirement Board Trustees' feedback.

At the July Retirees Committee meeting ACERA provided a timeline with targeted dates of events and actions for developing and administering a survey on the SRBR benefits that will gauge active, deferred, and retired members' perspectives on the importance of these benefits. The results of this survey can be considered when the Board of Retirement finds it appropriate or necessary to reduce or increase benefits.

The survey will be conducted in an online survey tool. A link to the survey will be distributed to active, deferred, and retired members in mid-October. The primary question, which asks respondents to rate the current benefits, will be a different type of question than was asked in 2011. In 2011, they used a Rank Order type of question where respondents were asked to rank the benefits in order of importance. The results of that question were challenging to assess because the respondents could not communicate the weight of their preferences using the rankings. For the 2019 survey, ACERA will ask a Constant Sum type question where respondents will be asked to assign 100 points between the six current benefits, which will allow them to assign weight and will give a clear set of results.

Mike reported that there will be a Wellness Walk on August 23rd, 2019 and that the Health Fair will be held on October 30th, 2019 at the Albert H. DeWitt Officer's Club in Alameda from 9:00 AM to 2:30 PM.

Mike also reported that the Monthly Medical Allowance, MMA, has been increased for the 2020 Plan Year.

Mike reminded the Board that an election will be held from November 14, 2019 through December 28, 2019 to elect Retirement Board members. The positions up for a vote include the Third Member, representing the General members, the Seventh Member and Alternate Seventh Member, representing the Safety members, and the Eighth Member and Alternate Eighth Member, representing the Retired members. Liz Koppenhaver and Nancy Reilly will be running again for the positions on the ACERA Retirement Board.

Treasurer's Report: Mary distributed copies of the July 2019 Treasurer's report. Receipts totaled \$4,685.04 and Disbursements were \$3,176.60. There were no unusual disbursements or receipts in July. Paul moved that the July 2019 Treasurer's report be approved as submitted. Rosalie seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

CRCEA: Rosalie reminded the Board that the next CRCEA conference will be held October 28th through October 30th in Santa Rosa (Sonoma County) and that she and Mary will be attending.

SACRS: Nancy reminded the Board that the next SACRS conference will be held November 12th through November 15th in Monterey. Nancy, Liz and Paul will be attending.

Retirement Board: Liz reported that the Retirement Board is seeking guidance on whether or not the legal parameters have changes regarding the collection and use of diversity related information when hiring a vendor or service provider, particularly Investment Managers.

Investment Committee: There was no new information to report.

Health Care: There was no new information to report.

Activities: Rosalie reported that six individuals have already signed up for the REAC Fall Luncheon which will take place on October 14th, 2019 at the Fairview Metropolitan Golf Course. Ish Pina, ACERA staff member, will be the guest speaker and he will also take questions.

Membership and Recruitment: Connie reported that as of July 31, 2019 membership stood at 4,105 members. As of July 31, 2019, 110 individuals have opted out of the \$1.00 REAC dues increase.

REAC News: Mary reported that the REAC News will include information about Jim's passing, the Fall Luncheon, the Retirement Board elections, the SRBR Survey, and the Monthly Medical Allowance increase.

Old Business:

Administrative Support Job Duties & Responsibilities: The Board provided feedback on the draft Administrative Support Job Duties & Responsibilities developed by Connie. Some of the suggestions included adding the following: Attending meetings, completion of a monthly time sheet, clarifying direct reporting, and clarifying specific focus, i.e. membership. Mary will clarify some of the following: Can the individual contract with REAC through an employment type agency, Will REAC's current insurance coverage cover an independent contractor employee, Is it even necessary to have separate insurance if they are contracting with REAC through an employment type agency, and consider adding the number of anticipated monthly hours (a range of 20-30 hours or perhaps more in some months.)

Mary will contact a number of employment agencies to determine the range of payment rates, insurance coverage, how much they pay the independent contractor employee and how much goes to the agency, etc.

For the Good of the Order: There was nothing new to report.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 AM.

Respectfully submitted Paul Reeves, Board Secretary

Next Meeting

September 9, 2019, 9:30 a.m. (Monday)
Health Care Services Agency Building, Room 135
1000 San Leandro Blvd, San Leandro