

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors  
Retired Employees of Alameda County  
Monday, March 11, 2024, 9:30 A.M.**

**DoubleTree by Hilton  
7050 Johnson Drive, Pleasanton, California**

Alicia Baptista, President of the Board, called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM

**Roll Call:** Alicia Baptista, Dawn Stevenson, Liz Koppenhaver, Paul Reeves, Connie Land, Cynthia Baron, Kathy Foster, Marsha Rice, and Linda Slater were present. Charo Panesi-Guerra, REAC Member and Administrative Assistant, was also present.

**Minutes:** Minutes of the February 12, 2024 REAC Board meeting were reviewed. Connie Land moved that the February 12, 2024, REAC Board Minutes be approved as submitted. Marsha Rice seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

**Announcements & Communications:** In the President's Message portion of the March 2024 REAC Newsletter, Alicia asked for member feedback on whether or not the Silver&Fit benefit should be continued. Alicia reported that she did receive feedback from a few members who just loved the program, and would like it to continue.

**ACERA:** There was no March 2024 Retirees Committee meeting.

**Treasurer's Report:** Liz presented REAC's February 2024 Treasurer's Report. The beginning Interest Privilege Account balance was \$35,003.14. Receipts totaled \$8,038.69 and included \$500.00 from our 1<sup>st</sup> United Credit Union advertisement, and \$7,538.00 from membership dues. Disbursements totaled \$9,993.56 and included \$1,782.08 to Red Arrow for the Newsletter, \$1,050.00 for officer monthly stipends, \$597.79 for postage, and \$5,356.93 for several months of back pay for Admin Services. (This was a direct result of Select Staffing failing to send us appropriate invoices.) The ending Interest Privilege Account balance was \$33,048.27 and total assets were \$256,009.12.

Linda asked if we have a prudent reserve for unanticipated costs. Liz explained that while we did not have a specific line item for a reserve, we currently have a Money Market account worth approximately \$40,000.00 which can function as a prudent reserve if so needed. Connie moved that the February 2024 Treasurer's Report be approved as submitted. Kathy seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

**CRCEA (California Retired County Employees Association):** Connie provided her March CRCEA report.

A). The February Executive Committee meeting was held on February 21, 2024. Connie was unable to attend that meeting. However, after she was able to review the meeting Minutes, there's not much going on at this time. Contra Costa County reported that they're on track to host the CRCEA Fall 2024 Conference. They're finding that costs are high but they're continuing efforts to mitigate the costs. San Bernardino County announced that their next general meeting is titled, "Before I Go". It is being hosted by a local mortuary and will cover issues such as pre-planned final arrangements, options to accomplish the same, expense mitigations, etc. The mortuary will also be providing snacks and lunch for attendees.

In addition, the President thanked all associations who responded to their survey regarding organizational/operational structure. With the help of our Treasurer, REAC responded to the survey timely.

The Chair of the Ad Hoc Conference Committee had to leave the February 2024 Executive Committee early. Before leaving, he stated he will be contacting members on February 22, 2024 to ascertain the best date/time to meet. The meeting purpose is to craft recommendations to present at the next Executive Committee meeting on Wednesday March 20, 2024. After that meeting, a final report and recommendations need to be ready to present at the Wednesday April 24, 2024, Business Session. The Subcommittee met via Zoom on March 8, 2024. Connie was not able to attend that meeting. Connie will provide the meeting results at the next REAC Board meeting.

As Connie reported last month, the CRCEA Spring 2024 Conference will be a virtual Business Session conducted on Wednesday, April 24, 2024; 9:00 AM to Noon via Zoom. The Agenda and Zoom invitations will follow at a future date.

B) REAC's 2025 Fall Conference Planning Committee Update: The Planning Committee is scheduled to tour DoubleTree hotels in Newark, Livermore and Pleasanton this month. In addition to the hotel tours, they will be reviewing proposals received from Berkeley Marina and Hilton Garden Inn in Emeryville and the CRCEA Conference Manual. Once again, they are seeking volunteers who are comfortable with soliciting funds. REAC needs sponsorships for our conference to help offset costs. Please consider volunteering. This committee meets monthly via Zoom.

**SACRS (State Association of County Retirement Systems):** Paul provided his SACRS report.

As reported last month, SACRS 2024 Spring Conference is being held at the Hilton Santa Barbara Beachfront Resort. The Conference takes place from May 7-10, 2024. The Conference registration and Hotel reservations will be open sometime in March 2024. At this point there is still no information regarding specific topics. They are requesting suggestions for a presentation, topic or speakers during a session at the conference. Paul will not be able to attend the conference.

At SACRS's February 2024 meeting, SACRS provided a brief Legislative Update. As a function of Term Limits, the tenures of Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon and Senate Pro-Temp Toni Atkins have ended. Robert Rivas has now assumed the position of Assembly Speaker and Mike McGuire has assumed the position of Senate Pro-Temp.

SACRS's is also committed to modernizing their organization. With that in mind, they will be evaluating all their systems, with an eye to the future. What are they doing, how are they doing it, what are the results, and how can they do it better, is the approach they will use.

**Retirement Board:** There was no additional information to report.

**Investment Committee:** There was no new information to report.

**Health Care (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention):** Linda provided her Health Care report.

According to the CDC, COVID-19 rates remain low for Alameda County. The CDC also reported a nationwide increase in sexually transmitted diseases. The CDC's 2022 STI (Sexually Transmitted Infections) Report underscores that STI's must be a public health priority.

Linda also reported that the East Bay Regional Park District provides many fun activities for individual and families to enjoy. They have free, self-guided, hiking and bicycling programs. Each year, the Trails Challenge includes 20 detailed trail descriptions available for all levels of fitness, from easy to challenging. There are many trails open to hikers, bicyclists, dogs, and equestrians, and some trails are wheelchair accessible.

**Activities:** Charo reported that our Spring Luncheon, immediately following our Annual Membership Meeting, will be very well attended. She will provide specific numbers at our April Board meeting.

**Membership and Recruitment:** Charo reported that as of February 29, 2024, membership stood at 3,781 members. We lost 16 members.

**REAC Website:** Connie provided the REAC Website Sub-Committee Report. The Website Sub-Committee met on February 26, 2024 to review and update the Power Point presentation. On March 5, 2024, they met with the Web Designer to discuss the website changes. The estimate for the changes to the website is \$400.00. Once the changes are made to the website, they will inform the Board and provide another update at the next Board meeting. The Website Sub-Committee includes Connie, Dawn, Charo, and Linda.

Over the past 28 days, there have been 189 unique visitors (different people) to the REAC website. That's an increase from last month's report, which was 160 unique visitors. The average time spent on the site was 7 minutes and 10 seconds. The most-visited section on the website was the Members Only page, followed by the Membership page, and the What We Do page.

**REAC News:** The REAC News will contain information on the Annual Membership Meeting and Spring Luncheon, the re-election of Linda Slater, Dawn Stevenson, and Alicia Baptista to another 3-year term on the REAC Board, and feedback on the Silver & Fit program.

**Other Reports:** Paul provided a brief report on the possible REAC Goals & Objectives for 2024. The list included a Membership Drive, Modernizing the REAC Website, a Membership survey, the future of In-Person meetings, Health Plan Planning with ACERA, attendance at ACERA Board and Committee meetings and several internal administrative reviews.

**Old Business:** There was no additional information to report.

**New Business:** There was no additional information to report.

**For the Good of the Order:** As a reminder, Paul mentioned that during the April 8, 2024 Board meeting, the REAC Bylaws require that the Board elect the 2024 Board Officers. The Board Officer Positions include the Board President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Paul Reeves, Board Secretary

**Next Board Meeting: Monday, April 8, 2024, 9:30 am**  
**Zoom Video Conferencing Board Meeting**