



The Official  
Monthly Publication of the  
Retired Employees of Alameda County, Inc.  
P.O. Box 302, Oakland, CA 94604

# REAC NEWS

VOLUME 42 NUMBER 6

JUNE 2020

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE — BY MARY MILLER

Election of Officers were held by the REAC Board at the regular May 2020 meeting. Officers for this year are Mary Miller, President; Marian Breitbart, Vice President; Paul Reeves, Secretary; and Suman Sharma, Treasurer. The REAC Board held its first meeting via Zoom in May and subscribed to this service on a month to month basis for the basic level which allows up to 100 people to join. We are hoping that we can meet again in person in the not too distant future. Any REAC member that wants to "attend" the Board meeting via Zoom meeting may request an invitation to [www.reacmeetings@gmail.com](mailto:www.reacmeetings@gmail.com). In addition to elections, we heard an update from ACERA. They continue to provide services to retirees with most employees working remotely and offices closed during the Stay At Home period. On May 5, 2020 the California Supreme Court heard arguments on the 2012 Public Employees Pension Reform Act (PEPRA) which impacts people retiring on or after January 1, 2013. A decision is expected within 90 days. Details of this action can be found on the ACERA website under the news and information tab.

REAC members have reported information from their own experiences that they want to share with the membership. First, a REAC member asked us to share his experience with getting hearing aids after delaying them due to the high cost. He writes ..." [found out] when I sought help through my HMO, Kaiser Permanente, that I have a previously unknown to me \$1,000 credit per ear toward the cost of hearing aids... I don't know how I missed knowing about this substantial benefit or who else like me may qualify." Another member shared his experience with Delta

Dental leveraging his group policy through ACERA with an individual policy he paid for a short time. Replacing dentures at a cost of \$2,600 leaves an out of pocket cost of \$1,300 after reaching the Delta Dental group reimbursement cap. By purchasing an individual policy at \$65 a month with a cap of \$1,500 the combined benefit became \$2,800 (\$1,300 + \$1,500) to cover the \$2,600 cost. He writes "In essence the individual policy coordinates with the Group Policy... There is no waiting period for the individual policy... You can cancel the individual policy once the procedure charges are paid, but you will not be able to re-enroll for six months." He advised interested Delta Dental members to contact Delta Dental Customer Service at 1 (888) 335-8227 to see if this practice can be helpful to them.

Prudential sent all members of the Deferred Compensation Plan a letter May 1, 2020 describing changes available through the CARES Act. Their webinar for retirees on May 14, 2020 provided clarifications and answered specific question submitted by retirees. Most of the changes in the new law do not apply to retirees, however, anyone with additional questions is encouraged to contact the Treasurer's office for clarification.

### ACERA Performance Report

ACERA reported in their March 2020 performance report that the fund had lost \$819,626,685. The total fund returned -9.69%. The total market value of the fund at the end of March was \$7,471,872,071.

### REAC BOARD MEETINGS

**June 15, 2020**  
(Monday) 9:30 AM  
Zoom

**July 13, 2020**  
(Monday) 9:30 AM  
Zoom

<http://reacsite.org>  
[reacwebsite@gmail.com](mailto:reacwebsite@gmail.com)

### ACERA TRUSTEES MEETINGS

**June 18, 2020**  
(Thursday) 2:00 PM  
475 14th Street, Oakland

**July 16, 2020**  
(Thursday) 2:00 PM  
475 14th Street, Oakland

[www.acera.org](http://www.acera.org)

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Karen Bridges  
Rodman Freitag  
Douglas Henderson  
Bolangle Kelani  
Denise Meeks  
Jeffrey Taylor  
Salomae Trujillo De Torres  
Cynthia Elaine Walker  
Jeannie Yee

# MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, RETIRED EMPLOYEES OF ALAMEDA COUNTY, MONDAY, MAY 11, 2020

## *Zoom Video Conferencing Board Meeting*

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

**ROLL CALL:** Mary Miller, Marian Breitbart, Renaye Johnson, Connie Land, Mike Smart, Liz Koppenhaver, Rosalie Masuda and Suman Sharma were present. Nancy Reilly, REAC member and ACERA alternate retired board member, Mike Fara, ACERA Staff Representative, and Pete Albert, ACRE President were also present during the Video Conference.

**MINUTES:** The April 13, 2020 Board meeting was cancelled.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** No announcements were reported.

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## Reports

**ACERA:** Mike Fara provided an update on how Covid-19 is impacting ACERA. ACERA's top priority is the health and wellbeing of its members, its employees, and its families. ACERA recognizes that many of its members are those who are most at risk from COVID-19. ACERA has therefore made a number of changes to help ensure member safety, while at the same time continuing to meet member need.

Due to limited staff resources during the public health shelter in place order, ACERA is taking calls during the limited hours of 8:30 am – 5:00 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays only. Outside of those business hours, callers may leave a voicemail or send an email. Most of the ACERA staff is now working from home.

ACERA's office will be closed to the public March 17th through the end of the public health order to shelter in place. As a result, one-on-one Ready-to-Retire counseling appointments are only available via phone. Appointments will be prioritized by date of retirement. ACERA continues to process applications and members will continue to receive their pension checks on time.

All ACERA seminars, New-Employee, Mid-Career, Pre-Retirement, and Medicare Transition, will be held as Webinars. ACERA is also working on consolidating many of the forms it uses in order to reduce the number of forms retirees must complete, eliminate duplication, and make them available online. Mike also mentioned that Delta Dental has added a new phone application feature. ACERA anticipates sending out detailed information on the new feature in 2-3 weeks.

Liz provided a brief update on the 2012 "Vested Rights" lawsuit. On May 5, 2020, California's Supreme Court heard oral arguments in litigation that started in 2012 over changes to the state pension law affecting "legacy members" of ACERA and two other county retirement systems.

Legacy members are generally those members who have entry dates into ACERA membership prior to January 1, 2013, which was the effective date of the California Public Employees' Pension Reform Act (PEPRA). The lawsuit relates only to legacy members who retired on or after January 1, 2013.

Laws that passed in 2012 (at the same time as PEPRA) ordered county retirement boards to stop counting

certain cash received during service and at termination of employment in a legacy member's benefit calculation. The items which were no longer to be counted were some cash-outs of accumulated leave, "on-call" and "standby" pay, and other one-time payments made during the final compensation period. ACERA was prepared to follow the new law starting January 1, 2013, but the trial court stopped ACERA from following the new law for employees retiring on or before July 11, 2014, after which ACERA began following the new law, with minor exception for "on-call" and "standby" pay items.

Most of the Justices' questions related to the state of the law before the 2013 change and the scope of the "California Rule," which historically has protected public pensions from reduction after a public employee begins working. The Supreme Court will issue a ruling within the next 90 days, although the process could be further extended if any party files a petition for rehearing after the opinion is issued. In the meantime, there are no changes ACERA has to make and ACERA will continue to follow its current practices for calculating benefits.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Mary presented the March 2020 Treasurer's Report. Receipts totaled \$9,509.67 and Disbursements were \$4,882.40. Connie motioned that the March 2020 Treasurer's report be approved as submitted. Suman seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

Mary also presented the April 2020 Treasurer's Report. Receipts totaled \$8,438.13 and Disbursements were

\$3,672.27. Mary reported that she still has the one outstanding check for 211.00, which has not yet been cashed. Red Arrow Printing, which publishes the REAC News, received two payments in April 2020, one payment for April 2020 and one payment for January 2020. (Red Arrow submitted the January 2020 billing invoice late.) Connie motioned that the April 2020 Treasurer's report be approved as submitted. Suman seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

Covid-19, at least for the duration, will require the Board to begin using Zoom video conferencing for all meetings. Liz moved that Mary be allowed sufficient funds to open a Zoom account. Connie seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

**CRCEA:** The CRCEA 2020 Spring Conference, which was to be held April 6th thru April 8th in Visalia, California, was cancelled.

**SACRS:** The SACRS 2020 Spring Conference, which was to be held May 12th thru May 15th in San Diego, California, was cancelled. Pete reported that sessions would be available on line.

**RETIREMENT BOARD:** There was no additional information to report.

**INVESTMENT COMMITTEE:** The April 8th and May 13th 2020 Investment Committee meetings were cancelled.

**HEALTH CARE:** There was no additional information to report.

**ACTIVITIES:** Rosalie expressed concern regarding REAC's 2020 Fall Luncheon, which is normally held immediately

following the October Board meeting, which this year would be October 12, 2020. At this point in time, she normally begins to secure a location for the Fall Luncheon, including making a down payment.

Since COVID-19 may continue, at least for the foreseeable future, to require social distancing and prohibit buffet type luncheons, she is hesitant to secure a place and make a down payment. She wanted to know if the Board thought we should wait a bit more, and risk not having a suitable location, or to begin to secure a location now. After some discussion, the Board decided to wait a bit more. The issue will be discussed again at the June 2020 Board meeting.

**MEMBERSHIP AND RECRUITMENT:** Connie reported that as of April 30, 2020 membership stood at 3,940 members.

**REAC NEWS:** The next REAC News will include information regarding COVID-19, the REAC Board elections, the "Vested Rights" lawsuit, future access to REAC Board meetings, and the new Delta Dental option.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Election of REAC Officers

Paul reported that Mary Miller has agreed to serve another term as REAC Board President, Marian Breitbart has agreed to serve another term as REAC Board Vice President, Suman Sharma has agreed to serve in the position of REAC Board Treasurer, and that Paul Reeves has agreed to serve another term as REAC Board Secretary. Paul asked the Board if anyone else on the Board would also like

to run for one of those officer positions. No one volunteered. Paul called for a vote. Renaye moved that Mary, Marian, Suman and Paul be elected to serve in the positions noted above, Mike seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

**ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF POSITION:** Mary reported that three retirees have submitted applications for the new Administrative Staff position. The interview board will consist of Mary, Connie, Paul, and Nancy. The interviews will take place on Monday, May 18th, and will be conducted using Zoom Video Conferencing. Once the interviews have been completed, a recommendation concerning the selection will be sent to the entire REAC Board for approval.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Revision to the REAC Governance Manual – Article X, Section 5. The board previously voted to include a language change in that section of the Governance Manual which directly referenced "Stipends". Paul reported that the change has made and that copies of that change will be sent to the Board via email.

**FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:** There was nothing new to report.

Meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

*Respectfully submitted by Paul Reeves, Board Secretary*

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### **Next Meeting:**

June 8, 2020, 9:30 a.m. (Monday)

Zoom Video Conferencing

## CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR RETIREMENT

**AKBAR, Irfan**  
Probation

**ALBERGOTTIE, Linda**  
Social Services Agency

**ALI, Aslam**  
Sheriff's Office

**ANTOINE, Charles R.**  
Treasurer-Tax Collector

**ATTIOGBE, Kwablah J-L**  
Public Works Agency

**BAKER, Barry L.**  
Social Services Agency

**BARON, Howard L.**  
Sheriff's Office

**BAUMANN, Elizabeth P.**  
Health Care Services Agency

**BEINTEMA, Connie**  
Sheriff's Office

**BONCODIN, Maria-Luisa G.**  
Superior Courts

**BROWN, Trevor M.**  
Probation

**CAMPODONICO, Edward**  
Alameda Health System

**CARLISLE, Richard S.**  
Alameda Health System

**CARTER, Richard A.**  
Sheriff's Office

**CAYANAN, Rodrigo**  
Social Services Agency

**CHOW, Ted**  
ACERA

**COHRAN, Philip T.**  
General Services Agency

**COLON, Rafael**  
Probation

**CRUZ, Louis N.**  
District Attorney

**CSISZAR, Csilla**  
Social Services Agency

**DAVILA, Robert W.**  
District Attorney

**DE DIOS, Whilma C.**  
Probation

**DE JESUS, Emily D.**  
Alameda Health System

**DELEON, Yolanda C.**  
Alameda Health System

**DENNY, Christian P.**  
Sheriff's Office

**DOMINGO, Kofoworola M.**  
General Services Agency

**EDNALAGA, Melanio S.**  
Assessor

**FAUMUINA, Sao**  
Social Services Agency

**FREITAG, Rodman D.**  
General Services Agency

**GARCIA, Maria Amelia J.**  
Auditor-Controller

**GLORIA, Carolina V.**  
Auditor-Controller

**GORDON, Sandra J.**  
District Attorney

**GOSSETT, Damien M.**  
Community Development Agency

**HA, Hong T.**  
Information Technology

**HALPERIN, Lisa A.**  
Health Care Services Agency

**HASELTON, Thomas G.**  
District Attorney

**HINDERLIE, Thomas R.**  
Public Works Agency

**HODGSON, Hazel M.**  
Alameda Health System

**JOHNSON, Karen M.**  
Sheriff's Office

**JONES, Janet R.**  
Child Support Services

**KELANI, Bolanle A.**  
Alameda Health System

**KLASS, Deanne M.**  
Superior Courts

**KOLTZ, John K.**  
Zone 7

**KRAUSNICK, Michael E.**  
Health Care Services Agency

**LABAYOG, Victorino J.**  
Health Care Services Agency

**LAKE, Robert**  
Alameda Health System

**LAM, Cynthia**  
Social Services Agency

**LISTER, Daniel V.**  
Probation

**LOVESETH, Sharon L.**  
Health Care Services Agency

**LUI, Leung**  
Social Services Agency

**MCKOY, Vivian**  
Alameda Health System

**MEEKS, Denise M.**  
Social Services Agency

**MOUNT, Kathy E.**  
ACERA

**NANCE, Karen F.**  
Child Support Services

**NEAL, Kim L.**  
Social Services Agency

**NUNLEY, Pamela L.**  
District Attorney

**OSBORNE, Tanya M.**  
Human Resource Services

**PINEDO, John S.**  
Sheriff's Office

**RUELAS, Patricia A.**  
Child Support Services

**SADLER, William L.**  
Zone 7

**SCHAECHNER, Lillian**  
Health Care Services Agency

**SIMS, Sharon L.**  
Social Services Agency

**SINGH, Nilma D.**  
Community Development Agency

**SPENCER II, Roger W.**  
Public Defender

**STEPHENS, Una M.**  
Social Services Agency

**TANG, Wei Cheng**  
Alameda Health System

**TAYLOR, Jeffrey**  
Sheriff's Office

**VILLEGAS, Anthony M.**  
Probation

**WALKER, Cynthia E.**  
Superior Courts

**WHITTLE, Tony F.**  
Sheriff's Office

**WILKENSON, Brian C.**  
Information Technology

**WILLIAMS, Rosemary**  
Alameda Health System

**WON, Kendell H.**  
District Attorney

**WONG, Elsie C.**  
Auditor-Controller

**WONG, Lynn E.**  
Child Support Services

**WONG, Terence F.**  
Community Development Agency

**YEE, Jeannie**  
Sheriff's Office

## IN MEMORIAM

In deepest sympathy to the family and friends of the following retirees:

**ARCENEAU, Danny**  
Social Services Agency  
3/24/2020

**BALDWIN, Lillian A.**  
ACERA  
3/17/2020

**BEAUGHAN, Barbara E.**  
Public Works Agency  
4/17/2020

**BOYD, Kenneth**  
Community  
Development Agency  
3/23/2020

**BUCHER, Rita M.**  
Non-Mbr Survivor of  
Alfred R. Bucher  
4/22/2020

**BULLUCK, Vancy C.**  
Social Services Agency  
4/8/2020

**BUTZBACH, Eugene B.**  
Public Works Agency  
3/18/2020

**DOLSBY, Vicki D.**  
Non-Mbr Survivor of  
Gale F. Dolsby  
3/18/2020

**EDGERLY, Miranda**  
Superior Court  
4/2/2020

**EPPERSON, Joanne L.**  
General Services Agency  
4/12/2020

**FABELLA, Antonio U.**  
Sheriff's Office  
3/18/2020

**GARCIA, Linda M.**  
Social Services Agency  
4/8/2020

**GINES, Milagros**  
Non-Mbr Survivor of  
Camilo S. Rivera  
3/29/2020

**HARRISON, Florence A.**  
Health Care Services Agency  
4/17/2020

**HOLMAN, Christine J.**  
Social Services Agency  
3/18/2020

**KOLLAR, Sheila M**  
DRO of Clint R. Ojala  
4/8/2020

**LOPEZ, Dolores M.**  
Social Services Agency  
3/27/2020

**MCDONALD, Laura H.**  
Sheriff's Office  
4/15/2020

**MILLER, Harold I.**  
Public Works Agency  
4/2/2020

**O'CONNELL, Anne M.**  
ACERA  
3/13/2020

**O'DONNELL,  
Lambert M.**  
Non-Mbr Survivor of Grace  
E. O'Donnell  
4/18/2020

**REID, Imelda T.**  
Probation  
4/5/2020

**RIVERS, Shirley A.**  
Alameda Health System  
2/14/2020

**ROBERSON, Roger W.**  
Probation  
4/6/2020

**ROBERTS, Billie G.**  
Public Works Agency  
4/20/2020

**SALVADOR, Teresa U.**  
Sheriff's Office  
4/12/2020

**SCOTT-WILSON,  
Georgia M.**  
Alameda Health System  
1/29/2020

**SIVILA, Michael E.**  
Sheriff's Office  
4/12/2020

**SMITH, Denree M.**  
Social Services Agency  
2/14/2020

**SORENSEN, Lois A.**  
Non-Mbr Survivor of  
Ronald F. Sorensen  
3/20/2020

**SPLAN, Tanjore E.**  
Sheriff's Office  
3/12/2020

**STORCH, Sandra J.**  
Public Health  
Services Agency  
4/12/2020

**TABOADA, Manuel J.**  
Alameda Health System  
2/7/2020

**THOMPSON,  
Abimbola B.**  
Assessor  
2/28/2020

**TUGADE, Andres A.**  
Non-Mbr Survivor of  
Romula C. Tugade  
3/21/2020

**TURPEN, Larry L.**  
Zone 7  
3/12/2020

**VOGEL, Marta K.**  
Alameda Health System  
3/22/2020

**WATSON, Leon S.**  
Alameda Health System  
4/13/2020

**WHEATLEY,  
Barnarese P.**  
Alameda Health System  
3/5/2020

**YEE, Peter**  
Social Services Agency  
4/5/2020

The surviving spouse of a member is eligible for REAC membership. To enroll, send an email to [reacwebsite@gmail.com](mailto:reacwebsite@gmail.com).

# Keeping Members Informed

View all important COVID-19 updates at  
**[1stunitedcu.org/status](https://1stunitedcu.org/status)**

  
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# REAC NEWS

Retired Employees of Alameda County  
P.O. Box 302–Oakland, CA 94604  
June 2020

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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<p><b>REAC'S Mission</b></p> <p>The purpose of the Retired Employees of Alameda County (REAC) is to promote the common good and general welfare of Alameda County retired employees, subject to the County Employees Retirement Act of 1937, by promoting the interests of its members throughout the community by means of social, political, and educational activities that advance the social welfare of such retirees.</p> <p><b>Moving? Please fill out and mail this notice to the following address:</b> REAC, P.O. Box 302, Oakland, CA 94604 or e-mail <a href="mailto:reacwebsite@gmail.com">reacwebsite@gmail.com</a></p> <p>Name: ----- New Address: ----- City/State: ----- Zip Code: ----- Date of Move: ----- Telephone: ----- Old Address: ----- 1/2018</p> <p><b>Also send change of address to ACEPRA:</b> Alameda County Employees' Retirement Association (ACEPRA) 475 14th St., Ste. 1000, Oakland, CA 94612 Phone: 800-838-1932 or 510-628-3000</p> <p><i>Select Option 1 for the Retiree Benefits Unit (health, vision, dental, etc.)</i></p>	<p><b>REAC Officers and Directors</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acting President: Mary Miller .....mmiller1948@gmail.com</li> <li>• Vice President: Marian Breitbart ..... (510) 769-1604</li> <li>• Secretary: Paul Reeves ..... bongsaaw@gmail.com</li> <li>• Treasurer: Suman Sharma .....suman775@gmail.com</li> <li>• Directors:       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Renaye Johnson ..... (925) 286-0716</li> <li>Liz Koppenhaver ..... (510) 579-3319</li> <li>Connie Land .....landcon@comcast.net</li> <li>Rosalie Masuda ..... (510) 339-1307</li> <li>Mike Smart ..... mgsmart@comcast.net</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Directors Emeriti:       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Barbara Jean Hallisey</li> <li>Steve Scheinman</li> <li>Emily Shea</li> <li>Ken Moresi</li> <li>Janet Waring</li> <li>Jon Orellana</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Editor: Gina Palmer Printing and Mailing: Red Arrow Printing Membership questions: <a href="mailto:reacwebsite@gmail.com">reacwebsite@gmail.com</a></p>
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