

**CRCEA Conference
October 17-19, 2016
Contra Costa County**

**CRCEA Conference
Monday, October 17, 2016**

Opening Session

Call to Order: Skip Murphy, CRCEA President

Presentation of Colors: Contra Costa County Sheriff's Honor Guard

National Anthem: Latrice Hutchins

Pledge of Allegiance: Mary Lou Williams, CCCREA Past President

Invocation: Contra Costa County Sheriff Chaplain, Dan Conklin

Welcome to Contra Costa Counties: Contra Costa Co. (District II) Supervisor Candace Anderson

Roll Call of Counties: Virginia Adams, CRCEA Secretary – all counties present with the exception of Mendocino County.

Introduction of First-Time Attendees: Skip Murphy, CRCEA President

Welcome – Candace Anderson, Chair of BOS.

Contra Costa County has a population of 1.1 million people. The Supervisor shared the highlights of the County including its agriculture, technology, education, business.

Mount Diablo, a state park of about 20,000 acres, is one of the major landmarks. There are 9,600 county employees in Contra Costa County. She thanked all attendees for their great service to the public in all of the individual counties.

Keynote Speaker: John Chiang, California State Treasurer – “Secure California” –

Introduction: Mike Sloan

Mr. Chiang stated that he first worked at the Board of Equalization, then worked as the State Controller and then, in 2014, became the State Treasurer. He reminded us to check for unclaimed funds at www.claimit.ca.gov. He also sits on the CalPERS and CalSTRS Boards. When ideas for projects are directed to the State, he determines how they can be funded or financed.

Mr. Chiang also stated that too many people retire into financial insecurity. We need to try to change the system so that all are protected cradle to grave including access to good education, jobs and a retirement plan.

Retirement had three components – social security, company provided defined-benefit plan and our own individual savings. Over the years, social security is hanging in there, DB plans are going by the wayside and now people are becoming more dependent on their personal savings. Wages have not kept up with the increasing costs especially in California. CA created SB1234, signed into law last month, would allow people to save

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for their retirement plan. Secure Choice allows for some earnings to be set aside each month for an individual's retirement – very similar to a 401K type of savings. Money is put into safe investments to protect capital although the earnings are not very high. The State will try to make this easy and have administrative and management costs low to minimize costs. This law will apply to employers who have 5 or more employees. Mr. Chiang stated that this is the most significant retirement development since Social Security began. As of the date of the conference there is still not a clear administrator of the Secure Choice plan. Hardworking Californians will now be able to save for their future. Illinois, Oregon and also have this type of plan. The State will continue to have hearings on Secure Choice to make sure that the benefit is successful and protects all Californians and their retirement security.

Mr. Chiang also talked about the issue with Wells Fargo and he has taken them to task due to the issues with creating millions of fake accounts. The Treasurer announced that he has ordered the suspension of Wells Fargo's participation in its most highly profitable business relationships with the State of California. He has also updated the State's Treasury's functions. When he took over the office, they were making all transactions by phone and fax. He is working hard on changing these inefficiencies. Now they bank electronically which is more efficient. CA has improved their credit rating and has improved their finances.

LTC lawsuit – Mr. Chiang is one of the trustees. They are trying to determine how to make the plan solvent and sustainable.

Presentation: CCCERA: Becoming an Independent Employer

Speaker: Gail Strohl, CEO – Contra Costa Co. Employees Retirement Assn.

Introduction: Jerry Telles

Ms. Strohl discussed the 2.75% pay decrease the county imposed on all employees who work for Contra Costa County. A bill was signed by the governor in 2014 and led to the retirement association becoming an independent employer effective 1-1-15. Due to this, there was a lawsuit and one of the contingencies of the suit was to have the County support having CCERA becoming an independent employee. The currently run their employee payroll through an ADP contractor and their benefits through CalPERS. In December 2014 Ms. Strohl went to their Board of Supervisors and asked for the 2.75% back for all employees and they did pass this resolution effective 1-1-15.

The retiree association, as an independent employer, had to create new procedures and policies and they are negotiating their own MOUs. They are also managing their own open enrollment periods for benefits for their employees. Open dialogue was very important for the management with their employees. The Contra Costa County Employees Retirement Association has 85% funding as of 2015.

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Roundtable Discussion – Items of concern or interest to the entire association

Mike Sloan referenced an article he wrote in the CRCEA Newsletter regarding the conferences, the funding of the conferences, etc. He has had significant feedback from this article. He discussed the issues with hotels and the increasing rates and how this impacts the associations. He also said that as the representatives at CRCEA leave, the newer people may not want to continue this large effort. We need to look at the future to determine what changes we need to make. The following are the attendees' comments during the roundtable discussion:

Mark Brickley from Santa Barbara County will hold the conference after Ventura and Alameda. He stated that they are getting close to signing a contract and needs to be aware of what may change.

David Muir, LACERA, is concerned about the potential dues increase. They have almost 20,000 members and dues per capita do not work for them; they pay half of what San Diego County pays. He said their Board suggested one day conferences rather than having to stay at the hotel overnight.

Mike Sloan stated that the bylaws state that they must have two formal meetings a year. We could do the business in one-day rather than a multi-day conference.

George Shoemaker stated that having a meeting one north and one south would not work if all the delegates did not attend to maintain a forum.

Ventura County stated that they would like to work with another county to plan the conference meetings together.

Round Table Discussion – Continued

GuidedChoice (Jerry Yen) – one of the new affiliates spoke about his company. They provide digital retirement guidelines. They show a retiree how to take the income and assets they have and make it last to hand off as a legacy.

Ginger Mello – she stated that she gets so much out of the conference two times a year and believes that meeting and getting to know the conference attendees is too important to not have the conference twice a year. She would like to keep it as is but have counties who need help work with other counties.

Marin County – the speaker stated that working with another county was difficult.

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Linda Robinson – given the times regarding the anti-pension efforts, it seems now is not the time to make a change. All of the counties have been an excellent resource, working with the RSC through CRCEA has been a good selling point to get new members - can the same level of information be provided if we meet less than two times a year? Would webinars be possible to share information such as is being provided in the conferences?

Dick Estel from Fresno County – they talked about the possible changes in the CRCEA conferences at their Board meeting. They do not want to host if there is a same place conference; they like going to many places. Considered having more meetings rather than conferences.

Video conferences and Skype may assist in sharing information.

Bill Robotka of Sonoma County – in favor of doing the conferences once a year and having webinars or other resources for a second meeting rather than having a second conference. Mike Sloan stated having a meeting on Skype would be difficult. He said the Executive meeting that is held on Wednesday has been utilizing Skype but he does not think it would be successful for all the potential attendees for the conference.

Rhonda Biesemeier from Stanislaus County – they had two counties work on their conference. They had no problems working with Merced County. She reviewed the current conference brochure and stated that we could save about 8 hours if the topics that are not related to business are deleted from the conference. She suggested that maybe they can have a one-day conference.

One of the attendees (Tom Potter – San Bernardino County) stated that a new conference brochure is needed. He agrees that having two conferences a year is required.

Michael O'Neal, Stanislaus, he agrees that twice a year is essential. Perhaps we can have one three-day conference and the second conference could be a one-day meeting. Personal contact is very important and the communication is essential.

Dave Muir, Los Angeles County – having a regional meeting rather than a conference would be less work. Just need a hotel and lunch and the operation could be pared down.

Roberta Griego, Ventura County – Mike Sloan and Virginia Adams went to Ventura to educate Ventura about the conference. Having conferences on the coast is more expensive than having a more central state conference.

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Jerry Jacobs from Alameda County – recommends that we have one conference that is less than 3 days once a year and then the second conference can be for 3 days.

Liz Koppenhaver of Alameda County – she would suggest that we could tack our meeting onto a SACRS conference.

Randy Angeloni of Sacramento County – recommends that we have conference districts/zones with committees with funding based on the size of the association. He believes we should have proposals and processes created by the individual zones and then present the final product to the Executive Committee.

Pat Lynch – stated that it is important for planning way ahead and saving money in each of the budgets every year to fund the future conference.

Barbara Smith – Sacramento County – she stated that one-day conference would work with one three days a year. For the one-day conference, don't have to have it at a hotel and would not have to provide lunch.

Alameda County – he stated that SACRS has a huge budget for their conference. Their conference fees are very expensive (\$1,000).

Mike DeBord states that twice a year conferences help build the relationships needed to be successful. He would suggest that conferences could be reduced to two days; a more casual dinner on the first day and the business meeting on the last day.

Doug Storm – he likes the two a year but the conference needs to be redone. Perhaps having the conference in the same place every time.

Presentation: Rosie the Riveter

Speaker: Sue Fritzke, Deputy Superintendent and Kelli English, Chief Interpretation

Introduction: Jan Aaronian – Registration Co-Chair

Sue Fritzke shared information about the four national parks in Contra Costa County. This year they are celebrating their 100th year. The first park was Yosemite but the first set aside by the government was Mariposa. In 1916 the National Park Service established. In 1964, John Muir National Park was created to set aside the home site of Mr. Muir. Mr. Muir was able to talk to the President, Teddy Roosevelt, and encourage him to support the idea of national parks. He lived in a beautiful three story mansion in Martinez that was built by his father-in-law. National Historic Preservation Act has allowed the National Park Service to protect many historic sites. She shared information about Eugene O'Neill, who was a famous playwright and Nobel prize winner, who has a

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historical area named for him. One of the newer parks is Rosie the Riveter World War II Home Front National Historical Park. This is located in Richmond along with other world war II memorial sites. This park is not owned by the government but all of the displays in the facilities are owned by the government. During the war, women would work seven days a week and 24 hours a day; child care centers were created to watch the children of these women. Henry Kaiser provided health care for the workers as they couldn't take the time away from work to get medical care. During this period of time, the City of Richmond went from 24,000 habitants to 100,000 in 3 months. They had to create a significant amount of housing including prefabs.

Kelli English – has been with the park service for 15 years. The site of the largest home front disaster is the Port Chicago Naval National Park. This was a deep water port and it became the largest shipyard producing ammunitions in the United States.

Unfortunately, there were not safety standards and on July 17th, 1944 at about 10:18 PM there were two explosions that obliterated the entire port. 320 men lost their lives in the explosions; everyone who was in the port at the time of the two explosions was killed. Most of the sailors were African American – over 200 were killed. They were then, after two weeks, forced back to work in another area with the same lack of safety. 258 refused to go to work and they were convicted of mutiny. The mutiny trial showed the inequity and injustice of how the armed forces operated and how the African Americans were treated.

The goal of the Park Service is to connect with and create the next generation of park visitors. They are encouraging people to find your park including city parks, county parks, regional parks and California State parks. Partnerships among parks is essential. “Every Kid in a Park” – 4th graders and their families receive free passes for a year to encourage families to go to the National Parks in the Richmond area. There are 28 California National Parks and Monuments.

There is a senior pass at age 62 for National Parks; it is \$10 for the senior lifetime pass; a disabled veteran's pass is free.

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Presentation: “Trust Me? Estate Planning – Tales of Sibling Rivalry, Lost Treasures and the Missing Documents”

Speaker: Stefanie West, Attorney

Introduction: Mike Sloan

Has been practicing law for over 13 years.

www.truststephanie.com/index.php/myproactive

Stephanie suggests:

Titling accounts with your children, this can be a mistake. Things can go sideways as the child would be considered a joint owner and can legally get the entire account. The other siblings could be left out. If you add someone to a joint account, they are elevated to your status; if they have creditors, go through a divorce, etc., the accounts can be taken for debts and tax judgments. You can instead add your child as a power of attorney or trustee.

Where are your estate planning documents and safe deposit keys? If you (or your estate) cannot find your full trust or will, there could be problems. Must have the originals available. Also – the notary signature must be on all necessary pages. If you have a key, combo etc., to a locked box, someone must be aware of where the keys are/codes are. Passwords/pins to your accounts – should be written down in a safe place and someone should know where the documents are.

Where are the beneficiary designations to your houses/policies? Get copies of the beneficiary forms for all assets. Write down all of the policies and information. Always keep the originals and give copies for people who request copies.

Do you hide your assets? Jewelry, personal effects. If you do, make sure someone knows where to find them.

Did you loan or gift money? Should it be deducted from the inheritance? If you loaned money to your children, make sure it is written down so that loan can be considered when dividing up your estate.

Your end of life wishes – always do an advance health care directive. Always pick someone who will honor your wishes. HIPPA release to obtain medical records should also be done. Clearly state if you want to be cremated or buried. Do you want to stay on life support?

Children over 18 should have a HIPPA release, a health care directive and a financial directive. If you are married and your trust was made before 2013, it should be reviewed as the laws have changed. If an update needs to be done on the trust (like

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change in bank account), it can be changed on the schedule at the back of the trust. No other part of the trust should be crossed out and changed.

**CRCEA Conference
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Morning General Session

Call to Order: Skip Murphy, CRCEA President

Announcements: general conference announcements were shared

Presentation: Road Scholar

Speaker: Ann White

Introduction: May Kennedy, Registration Co-Chair

Ms. Kennedy shared information regarding her history. She is a volunteer for Road Scholar and has traveled to many countries and within the US with this group. She emphasized the chance to travel and learn with their group. The core of their group is education and providing enrichment to the travelers. They have travel opportunities all over the world in over 50 countries. All tours are escorted and everything is included – airfare, most of the food, hotels or conference centers, tours, gratuities, insurance, etc.

Road Scholar a non-profit organization that started in 1974 (formerly known as Elder Hostile). They have intergenerational trips where the grandchildren can travel with the grandparents. They also have trips that are handicap friendly. The group size is about 30 but the cruises have smaller groups. Mike Sloan stated that he is working with Road Scholar and it is highly likely that they will become a CRCEA affiliate.

Presentation: Ask the Actuary Anything!

Speaker: Paul Angelo, Sr. Vice President & Actuary, Segal Consulting

Introduction: Mike Sloan

Segal Consulting is the actuarial for 12 counties in California. He summarized the retirement systems in the State. CalPERS being the largest, next CalSTRS and the third largest is the UC system. The fourth biggest is LA County followed by either Orange or San Diego County. California has led the way in how to operate public pension system. Prop 162 changed the way the policy of how pension systems are done and separated the retirement systems from the employers so that they have a separation of power between the employer and the pension system. It is no longer unusual for a safety contribution to exceed 50% rate.

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A question was asked how many times the 50% increase from the retirement rate of 3% at 50 was discussed - the costs were underrepresented when presented. The surplus was used to increase benefits without thinking about the long range impact.

Two things that make up the employers' cost are the "normal" cost and the UAAL payment. The UAAL pays off the unfunded liability. In the 90's there was a surplus of assets to liabilities. During that time, there was a contribution rate smaller than normal costs due to amortization credits. Surplus can be a dangerous thing – PEPRA changed the law that there has to be a 20% surplus before there is a contribution reduction.

In California the assumption rates are always set by the retirement boards not by the actuary. At www.actuarialstandardsboard.com one can find the standards of actuaries. Agency risks – the people who have control or influence on the process will seek to influence the decisions to their advantage. Segal came to Orange County in 2004 – after the 3% pension plan.

Introduction of Affiliates – Mike Sloan, CRCEA Vice President

We currently have 11 affiliates and should soon have an 12th. Several of the affiliates attended the conference and presented information about the companies they represent.

Presentation: Age Well/Drive Smart (Part I)

Speakers: California CHP – Cindy Lima, Senior Volunteer Coordinator Officer Brandon Correia, CHP PIO

Introduction: Mike Sloan

Ms. Lima discussed the Age Well/Drive Smart program that is applicable to drivers over 55 years of age. Many insurance companies will give a discount to mature drivers who have passed this course. As 65% of all fatal car crashes are caused by drivers aged 15 – 20 there is the Start Smart - a program offered through the CHP for the younger drivers.

When driving, your hands should be placed on the 8 and 4 position on the steering wheel. The air bag deploys at the strength of 200 MPH. Driving at the 8-4 position will protect your face and your arms from the air bag doing damage. A line of sight when driving should be 3 inches above your steering wheel. If the car seat will not adjust to provide for this view, one should sit on a wedge on the seat. She recommends that the

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driver place a non-slip piece under the wedge so that it does not move easily. She recommends that the driver and the steering wheel should be 12 inches apart.

Drivers should have a safety bar (handy bar, support bar) in their car – it goes into the side of the car door where the labels are – it assists in helping disabled persons get in and out of the car. This bar can also be used to break the window and there is a razor in the bar that can be used to cut a seat belt. While in the car, this should be handy but not just loose in the car. These can be bought on the Internet (Amazon). It can also be bought in a medical supply store. She said that a soft shoulder strap that goes around the seat belt is popular to assist in making the seatbelt more comfortable. Side mirrors should be moved out a little bit more to decrease the blind spot. She also recommends using a small concave mirror that can be placed on the side mirror to decrease the blind spot.

Contrary to popular opinion, the CHP does not receive any of the money from tickets. They do receive money from citations on “Out of State plates” if they are not changed in the legal time.

In the packet provided by this program, there is a transportation cost sheet. This cost sheet may be helpful to determine how much it really costs you to drive. At your 70th birthday, you have to go into the DMV and take a written test. There are 18 questions on the DMV test. There is a question on the test regarding use of cell phone. The only time you can hold your phone and drive is in an emergency and a call is placed to 911. Study the child safety seat requirements. If you fail the written test two times, there is a mandatory driving test.

Presentation: Age Well/Drive Smart (Part II)

Speakers: California CHP – Cindy Lima, Senior Volunteer Coordinator
Officer Brandon Correia, CHP PIO

Introduction: Mike Sloan

The highlights from this second session were:

There are no quotas for tickets; it is illegal for any department in the State of California. A vehicle cannot have white lights in the rear of the car other than reverse lights. There are no new vehicle code laws related to the marijuana initiative. Driving while impaired is driving while impaired be it drugs or alcohol.

In 2008, CHP implemented a recording system on their cars to record stops. They also have an audio recorder on their bodies.

The CHP officers are single in the car until 10:00 PM. From 10:00 PM until 5:00 AM there are two officers in the car.

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When in an accident, if possible, move to a safe location.

- Grace period for vehicles with tags expiring is about 30 days.
- Impeding traffic by driving too slow can be cited.
- Ms. Lima also stated to leave enough space between you and the car in front of you so that you can stop if they slam their brakes unexpectedly.
- A CHP officer can give a citizen a ticket anywhere; their jurisdiction is the entire state. Every 15-minute program – it simulates a real car accident with fatalities. These are shown at many high schools. After words they have an assembly announcing the kid(s) who have died. At the assembly, those kids are absent but their parents are there at the assembly. Very moving lesson.
- There is always a Smart Start program for kids 15-20 years old but the parents have to participate with them. Some high schools do not allow their students to park in the school parking lots until they have passed this course.
- Licensed 16 year olds cannot have anyone in their car while they are driving other than their siblings until they are 18.
- Seatbelts cannot be reused if the car has been in an accident; once they have been “used” in an accident, they need to be replaced.
- Approximately 85% of child car seats are improperly installed. Any CHP office will inspect child seats and train the driver how to properly install them.

This Age Well/Drive Smart program can be provided by any CHP office to groups of at least 10 people.

Legislative Report

Speakers: Amy Brown, CRCEA Lobbyist, Karen Greene, the Chief Consultant of PER and SS committee, Pam Schneider,

Introduction: Art Goulet, chair, CRCEA Legislative Committee

The legislative team gave a general overview of elections, pensions, post-employment benefits, legislation, attack on DB pensions in the future. Below are the highlights:

- Amy Brown’s favorite part of the last presidential debate was Ken Bone, the man with the red sweater who asked the question of climate change.
- She said she believes that we will see record voter turnout especially in California. People who are running for local offices are using the presidential elections to help in their elections.
- 77% of CA Latinos do not support for Trump. She discussed a local election in Fresno; a special election was held and one candidate was a Latino, Pereira and

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one a white man, Olivier. On mailers, they linked Olivier to Trump on the flyers. The Latino voters came out in droves and elected the Latino, Pereira.

- She believes that the democrats will have no trouble passing their issues or their candidates.
- Because of term limits, someone elected to the Senate or the Assembly terms out after 12 years. Due to the longer terms in office, relationships are created and the politicians can reach across the aisle and get more done.
- This election is much more complicated due to the number of initiatives. To qualify for an initiative, it is quite difficult due to the cost of gathering all of the signatures.
- Amy's guess is that Reed and DeMaio will be back in 2018. Reed is currently working with people around the country to determine what other states are doing regarding pensions. He also remarked that the Marin decision is indicating something is wrong with pension systems. It's likely that some of the issues related to the Marin decision will be brought up in legislation next year.
- Senate Bill 1203 (Hertzberg) – allows public agencies when they form a JPA to have employees carry over their legacy benefits.
- SB 1234 (De Leon) – is going to have the effect of creating private retirement savings accounts for non-public workers. These accounts will be run in the Treasury and can be transferred from job to job. Employees would be automatically enrolled at a minimum of 3% of their earnings being saved. An employee can opt out but since it is automatic, they believe that many will stay in. The contributions can be increased up to 8%. It will probably take a year to a year and a half to get this up and running. The bill is very clear that it cannot create a liability to the State or to the employer. This bill was an attempt to provide retirement security for all (alleviates public envy).
- AB 1853 (Cooper) - would allow Act 37 retirement boards to become independent employees from the counties. Primary opposition came from CSAC. This bill was vetoed by the Governor. This bill may be presented again.
- AB 1692 (Bonilla) – a Contra Costa County bill was signed this year.
- Last year the governor's budget had a projection that the revenue would exceed the budgeted amount by about \$6 billion dollars. Many in Sacramento were clamoring for those dollars. John Chiang then let the governor know that any excess had to go to prefunding retiree health care.

Presentation: Ask the Attorney Anything!

Speaker: Harvey Leiderman, Reed Smith, LLP

Introduction: Jerry Telles

Mr. Leiderman discussed the Orange County OCERS meeting yesterday where they discussed the pension of a convicted felon (Carlos Bustamante). The court is looking at

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the issue of attorneys using their e-mail accounts to conduct business and determine if they can be release through a public record request.

The issue that retirees should be most concerned about is funding of benefits. All those who are currently retired have made an assumption that there is funding for all those that are currently retired. So far no one has tried to fight benefits for those who are already retired.

He also believes there is a reason to worry about COLAs. If the Marin case becomes the law of the State, among the formulas that we rely on is the COLA and it could be determined that it is not reasonable to provide the COLA. It will encourage folks to go after the COLA.

A lower court stated that when the Supreme Court made a decision in the Marin case, "they did not really mean what they said". In his opinion, this decision took the "defined" out of the defined benefit. A petition has been filed in the Supreme Court asking the court to review this decision. He would encourage CRCEA to file an amicus brief to notify the court that this decision should not leak over to retirees.

There was a recent issue in the newspaper about a retiree who lived in a very small city; that city quit paying their CalPERS liability. They are trying to stop her pension. If a city defaults on their payment, they then accelerate the unfunded liability. They have to assume a risk free rate of return and send that bill to the contract city. If that city does not pay it, CalPERS can then reduce the retirees' pension down to 40%. The retiree could then go back to the City and sue them for their vested promise.

We do have to worry about bankruptcy of a fund sponsor. A bankruptcy court could make a decision to honor bond holders rather than pensioners.

The Manhattan Institute out of New York – is funded primarily by the Koch Brothers and is primarily trying to attack DB pensions. An article written by Diane Ross who would like to change a bankruptcy code and put it in section 113 that would allow the pensioners not to be protected. (See the Pension Tsunami blog site.) There is a wedge that is being created between pensions and wages - Reed stated that entities cannot deliver services if they have to pay pensions.

He discussed Measure B in San Jose from 2012 and the new Measure F.

He stressed the need for retirees and retiree associations to be involved – to know their Board of Supervisors. We need to come together and know one another.

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Breakout Sessions – meetings of CRCEA Standing Committees

There were several breakout sessions but I did not attend.

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Call to Order: Skip Murphy called the meeting to order at 8:10 AM

Announcements: he reminded attendees to turn in badges and survey sheet. Skip thanked Contra Costa County for an outstanding conference.

Roll Call of Delegates: Virginia Adams, Secretary

There is a quorum.

Approve April 2016 Business Meeting Minutes – Virginia Adams, Secretary

Moved by Contra Costa; second by Merced; motion carried.

Executive Committee Report:

Skip has met with several associations since the last meeting. Mike Sloan also met with many counties to help with conference planning. The CRCEA Executive meeting location was moved to San Diego and, for those who do not wish to go to San Diego for the meeting, the meetings are also done on Skype. CRCEA has saved money by making this move as they do not have to pay a hotel meeting room. They use a room at SDCERA at no cost. If any associations would like Skip Murphy and/or Mike Sloan to visit individual meetings, they are very willing to do so.

Financial Report:

Carlos Gonzalez shared the CRCEA Financial Report for the quarter ending September 30, 2016 as well as the budget proposal for 2017. The RSC line item in the 2016 budget was not needed as anticipated but will carry over to 2017.

Motion to accept and file made by (I could not hear who made the motion); seconded by San Diego. Motion carried.

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Carlos Gonzalez presented the proposed budget for 2017.

Motion made by Merced and seconded by Stanislaus to approved the budget as presented. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business

None

Committee Reports: CRCEA Standing Committee Chairs

Nominating: Will Hogan, Ventura

Nominations were made for the four Executive members that are now sitting in these positions (Skip Murphy, President, Mike Sloan, Vice-President, Carlos Gonzalez, Treasurer and Virginia Adams, Secretary).

Motion by Contra Costa County; seconded by Merced to accept the nominations from the Nominating Committee by acclimation. Motion carried.

Affiliate: Mike Sloan reported

Seven out of 11 of our affiliates attended the conference. Remember to keep in touch with the affiliates during the year. One of the new affiliate is a cruise company; Mike Sloan stated that they are competitively priced when arranging cruises. Mike Sloan also talked about the discount we will get at the Moore paint company – there is a 35% discount on paint and 15% on other items. CRCEA will post a code to use on their website to purchase items from Moore. He also stated that Bill de la Garza is pulling out of his commitments with CRCEA and they are seeking a new committee chair.

Audit/Finance: Jerry Jacobs, Alameda

He reported that he did an audit of the checking account and will do a full audit to report on at the next conference. The checking account balanced. \$15K was put into a money market account.

Benefits: John Michaelson, San Bernardino County

No report.

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Bylaws: David Muir, Los Angeles County

Nothing is pending right now but there may be a change when CRCEA decides if there needs to be a change with the conference.

CalPERS Long Term Premium Increase Ad hoc Committee: David Muir, Los Angeles County

There was no report given.

Communications: Virginia Adams, San Bernardino County

She thanked Contra Costa for a great conference. They are working on a revision to the CRCEA Brochure that was shared with the counties. They are hoping to use this as a marketing tool to obtain additional affiliates. This brochure can also be shared with the local county members as they are members of CRCEA through their membership with the individual counties retirement groups. They can be printed for \$.50 each.

December 17, 2016 is the next deadline for the Intercom articles. Mike Sloan stated that on the member's only site, we can see the PRJ. We do need to sign up for the access. He would also be willing to post the individual counties newsletters on the CRCEA website if we send them a digital copy. CRCEA is also willing to post any of our regular scheduled meetings on their website.

Legislation: Art Goulet, Ventura

No additional report. There was a suggestion to post the legislative report on the CRCEA website. This will be done ASAP.

Membership: Rhonda Biesemeier, Stanislaus County

Every County reported completed the survey regarding membership so that this information could be shared with all counties. She stated that the membership committee breakout meeting was very good. They will break out the benefit section so that a "how to" sheet can be created to establish benefits. The membership trend area on the report was reformatted. There was a discussion of how counties have increased their membership numbers.

If there are any suggestions to upgrade the format for the report, comments should be sent to Rhonda Biesemeier.

**CRCEA Conference
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Contra Costa County**

Retirement Security: George Shoemaker, San Diego, Mike DeBord, Sacramento

They spent a great deal of time gearing up for the Reed DeMaio initiative; they are now in a monitoring mode. Their committee meeting yesterday was interesting as it relates to this meeting. The discussion regarding the Marin County case and the possible impact regarding COLAs led to this committee considering to write an Amicus letter.

A motion was made by David Muir, Los Angeles County, to seek an attorney to file an Amicus letter or brief for the State Supreme Court in the Marin case and give the Executive Committee full discretion to go ahead with this action; seconded by Marin. Motion carried.

CalPERS LTC Ad hoc Committee – David Muir, Los Angeles County

He checks in regularly with the associate attorney on the case. He is trying to arrange to have the attorneys attend the Spring conference to give an update on the case.

Conference Committee Report

Mike Sloan stated that they had a great discussion about the next two conferences. They appreciate the help of other Counties who have recently hosted the conferences. He will complete the budget for the current conference and will submit that very soon.

Nancy Settle from Ventura County shared plans for the Spring 2017 conference that will be held in Ventura County. Alameda County will host the conference in Emeryville at the Hilton Garden Inn in the fall of 2017.

Round Table Discussion

Conference issues will continue to be discussed at future conferences. Mike Sloan talked about the settlement his county received in arbitration. The County broadened the suit to the entire County group. The court certified the class action. The court finalization will be on the 25th of October. The County had an agreement that they would pay 80% of the health care cost for retirements. The County then arbitrarily changed it to 60%. In the new agreement, the current retirees will never have to pay any more than 30% of the cost of insurance; the county will carry the remaining 70% of the cost. The County will guarantee the current county coverage that they have will be for life. There are also lifetime benefits for beneficiaries or spouses to get group rate for their health insurance. They guaranteed that they would not split the pool from the actives. This ruling does not apply to safety as they have a better group. The doctors are not included nor are the people who are on Medicare. The Stanislaus lawsuit is still pending but their attorney expects that they will hear something this year.

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Invitation to 2017 Spring Conference

Retired Employees Association of Ventura County
Host Committee Chair – Nancy Settle
April 24-26, 2016
Crowne Plaza Hotel
450 Harbor Blvd, Ventura

Good of the Order

Skip Murphy thanks the body for the confidence in the Executive Committee. He also thanked Mike Sloan for all the work he has done for the committee.

Closing Remarks: Skip Murphy

Skip Murphy thanked George Linn, the President of RPEA, for attending the meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:56 AM