



MINUTES
REAO Board of Directors' Meeting
OCERS Hearing Room
2223 Wellington Avenue, Santa Ana
Tuesday, November 17, 2015
9:30 AM

I. Called to Order at 9:37 AM by REAO Co-President, Linda Robinson

Present: Linda Robinson, Tom Beckett, Bill Castro, Gaylan Harris, Larry Leaman, John Iagjian and Sara Ruckle Harms. Also in attendance are Robin Mattocks, Tom Cooney and Ilene Bárcenas, Office Manager. There is a quorum.

Absent: Doug Storm, Rebecca Guider, Jan Grimes

II. Approval of Minutes of October 2015 Regular Board meeting

A motion was made by Bill Castro and seconded by Gaylan Harris to approve the October 13, 2015 Board Meeting minutes as written. Motion carried.

Gaylan Harris asked if we could get the Wi-Fi access code for OCERS on the days of our meetings. Ilene Bárcenas could obtain the code on the morning of the meeting and share it with the Board.

Action Item: Linda Robinson and Doug Storm will ask if obtaining the Wi-Fi code is possible.

III. Treasurer's Report for August

A. Approve Monthly Operating Report for the month of October 2015.

Bill Castro presented the October 2015 Monthly Operating Report. He will be transferring additional monies to the Money Market account. Gaylan Harris stated that we should consider incentives for members utilizing some of the monies to purchase trinkets (key-chains, t-shirts, etc.). Linda Robinson reminded the Board that we still need to reserve monies for future needs.

Motion made by Gaylan Harris and seconded by Larry Leaman to approve the Monthly Operating Report for October 2015. Motion carried.

B. Approve Proposed Budget for CY 2016

Bill Castro presented the proposed 2016 budget to the REAO Board. During the discussion, the following items were debated:

- Funding for Health Care Professional

Linda Robinson stated that it would be good to hire a consultant(s) for the health care planning needs. This person could be very helpful when it is time to process the health care for 2017.

- Approach to Negative Press

There is also a need for someone to consider for the 2016 budget who can immediately respond to the negative press items. Doug Pipes was mentioned as someone who writes very well and has been used by Sonoma County. Linda Robinson also discussed an editorial written by Rusty Kennedy and he may be a great resource for REAOC.

Based on these needs, we could increase the Extra Help Budget for 2016 to provide for monies to handle the health care planning needs as well as someone who could assist with negative press.

A suggestion was made to have \$24,000 budgeted in REAOC and \$15,000 budgeted in AREOC for these items in the Extra Help line item.

- Luncheon Attendance

There was an additional discussion about the lunch attendance. In the past meetings, we discussed doing a survey to our members and especially the newer retirees to determine why they are not attending the luncheons. It may be attractive to have more of a learning effort at the luncheons with a message that would be appropriate for retirees. Robin Mattocks stated that she would be willing to be on the survey committee. To bring interest, Gaylan Harris suggested we utilize the Informer to highlight a new retiree in each edition. To enhance the value and attendance of the luncheon, a suggestion was made by Sara Ruckle Harms to increase the money budgeted for speakers. Gaylan Harris also suggested that we have incentives in the form of t-shirts and giveaways. Larry Leaman suggested having a panel at a luncheon of former retirees who share their past county experiences. There was also a suggestion to contact Frank Kim to see if he would be willing to be a speaker at a future luncheon.

A motion was made by Gaylan Harris and seconded by Sara Ruckle Harms to add a new line item for marketing in the amount of \$10,000. Motion carried.

Action Item: Based on the luncheon attendance discussion, Bill Castro will add a recruitment/marketing line-item in the amount of \$10,000. He will also increase the amount in the luncheon line item to \$3,000 to allow for additional monies for speakers/entertainment at the luncheons.

Action item: Sara Ruckle Harms will call Jan Edwards of the Orange County Holistic Chamber of Commerce as a speaker on health and wellness for the January luncheon.

Executive Session called at 10:45:

Executive Session adjourned at 10:49 AM.

A decision was made during the Executive Session to increase the pay of the Office Manager to \$25.00 per hour.

Motion made by Tom Beckett and seconded by Gaylan Harris to approve the CY 2016 REAOC Operating Budget. Motion carried.

IV. Website Update

Ilene Bárcenas shared how useful the website is to REAOC so that important, urgent messages can be posted immediately to assist the retirees. With the duplicate check issue, having the ability to post this promptly assisted in reducing some of the telephone calls for REAOC and most likely for OCERS.

V. Meeting Reports

A. OCERS

Tom Beckett discussed the issue with the duplicate checks issued in the month of November. He believes all of the retirees received this duplicate check. There were issues regarding the amount of the checks (some had a small difference), the information such as SSNs showing on deposit statements, etc. They will be looking at issues before the December 2015 go live date.

In advance of the REAOC Board meeting, Sara Ruckle Harms sent a summary of the OCERS October 19, 2015 meeting. She stated that the meeting held November 16, 2015 was also quite interesting. There was a long discussion about a bonus that was requested for the providers and developers of the new system. Even though supported by the OCERS Board, the union was very much against allowing for bonuses being paid.

The year-to-date return is -1.69%; the 3-year average shows a gain of 5.5%. Gaylan Harris stated that the employers and employees are putting a lot more money into the system but are at a loss this year of the \$413K. Tom Beckett stated that our cash flow remains positive. Tom Beckett reported at the Financial Investment meeting they discussed that the NEPCs are all negative.

B. CRCEA

Gaylan Harris recommends Board Members watch the Fritz Coleman, Pasadena, presentation at the Conference on Aging that was presented at the CRCEA Conference. In advance of the meeting, Ilene Bárcenas sent her notes from the conference.

VI. Committee Reports

A. Membership

In advance of the meeting, the membership report was sent to the REAOC Board. Our numbers are still in a positive number for the year; the attendance at the seminars remains high – in the 30-35 person range. We are still waiting for our bump up in membership from the PGA open enrollment. Larry Leaman pointed out that the OCEA magazine still has a small article regarding REAOC. John Iagjian will look at adding a bit more information if possible.

B. Board Watch

Not many issues related to retirees are being discussed. There was a legislative bulletin that discussed the Medicare upcoming increase but the current plan is to spread the increase in the premiums over a period of time rather than just next year. There was also a closed session regarding the class action lawsuit. The County has changed the counsel for the Gaylan Harris, et.al. lawsuit; not sure why this was done. The new firm, Renee Sloan, Holtzman and Sakai, LLT was approved at a much higher rate than the previous firm (Meyers/Nave).

C. Legislation

No report.

VII. Luncheon

The next luncheon will be held on December 2, 2015. The Harbor Singers will entertain at the meeting. We will also be giving away the \$500 Progressive money at the luncheon.

We do not have any entertainment scheduled for next year.

Lou Delgado, the photographer that took pictures at our last holiday luncheon, sent a proposal to do the same at this year's holiday lunch for a reduced cost of \$185.00.

Motion made by John Iagjian and seconded by Gaylan Harris to hire Lou Delgado to take pictures at the luncheon. Motion carried.

Action Item: Ilene Bárcenas to contact SSA regarding obtaining the boxes for Senior Santa and Operation Santa Claus. She will also determine where we deliver the gifts.

We are still trying to draft a luncheon committee to help us plan the luncheons for 2016. In January, we will try to get the survey finished and shared at the luncheon.

VIII. The Informer

The deadline for the January Informer is December 3, 2015. Larry Leaman submitted an article regarding targeting the elderly and Lou Scarpino will write an article regarding the CRCEA conference. Norma Roberts will ask about obtaining Board Watch volunteers. Robin Mattocks will solicit members regarding their future articles about their county careers. Robin Mattocks will ask Rebecca Guider to submit information about the Health Care presentation that was done in November.

IX. Presidents' Message

A. Litigation Update

No updates at this time.

B. Health Insurance Issues

The November 4, 2015 presentation at Mile Square Park was very successful. Approximately 175 retirees attended the presentations. The vendors and the Council on Aging participated in the meetings and met with the retirees who wanted to ask individual questions.

C. Other

There is a SACRS conference coming up in San Diego on the 19th of November. Harvey Leiderman will be in attendance. Reed will be speaking at the conference.

We received an e-mail from Grand Circle and Overseas Adventure Travel and they would be interested in providing an audio-visual program at a future luncheon. They would do no selling.

X. Adjournment

A motion was made by Gaylan Harris and seconded by John Iagjian to adjourn the meeting at 12:12 PM. Motion carried.