



Association of Retired Employees of Orange County  
A California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation  
Meetings Held at OCERS, 2223 Wellington Avenue, Santa Ana CA  
Minutes of the AREOC Board of Directors Annual Meeting

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Present: Sara Ruckle Harms, Jan Grimes, Doug Storm, Lou Scarpino, Larry Leaman, Gaylan Harris and Jan Stephenson. Also in attendance is Tom Beckett, Bill Castro, Tom Cooney and Ilene Bárcenas, Office Manager. There is a quorum.

Absent: Linda Robinson, Rebecca Guider, Bob Griffith

- I. The AREOC Board meeting was called to order at 11:10 AM by the AREOC President, Sara Ruckle Harms**
- II. Approval of Minutes for April 15, 2015**  
*A motion was made by Doug Storm and seconded by Lou Scarpino to approve the minutes of the April 15, 2015 meeting as written. Motion carried.*
- III. Treasurer's Report – April 2015**  
Jan Stephenson presented the Treasurer's Report for the month of April 2015.  
*Motion made by Doug Storm and seconded by Larry Leaman to accept the monthly Treasurer's report for April 2015. Motion carried.*
- IV. Further Board Discussion for Goal Setting**

In advance of the meeting, Sara Ruckle Harms sent out a draft of the goals for 2015. The goals were discussed along with the strategy of the goals. The three goals include:

- Continue to Monitor Federal, State and Local legislation, State Initiatives, Court Decisions and Board of Supervisors actions;
- Build Partnerships with Federal, State and Local stakeholders; and
- Educate Members and Public.

She discussed an interest in a Rapid Response team to counter anti-public employee Op-Ed pieces; submit editorials with an emphasis on the positive; and establish an Ambassador program all related to the goal to Educate Members and Public.

*Action Item: Sara Ruckle Harms will reach out to Robin Mattocks to see if she would be interested in the Ambassador program; this will be discussed at the June meeting.*

It may be helpful to work with OCEA who has inroads to the OC Register as well as knowledgeable staff to get letters written and published. Our retiree voice may be of help to OCEA too. The Board agreed that it is a good idea to reach out to OCEA.

*Action Item: Sara Ruckle Harms, Linda Robinson, and Doug Storm will reach out to the new OCEA CEO, Jennifer Muir, to discuss the Rapid Response plan.*

Doug Storm stated that we should look at the material that has already been written by the Retirement Security Committee of CRCEA to update and utilize for the Op-Ed pieces. The second white paper (Train wreck II) may be the best document to utilize at this time for the first letter.

*Action Item: Doug Storm and Lou Scarpino will work on the talking points to reduce them to an editorial. They will bring this back to the June AREOC meeting.*

The other goal to Build Partnerships includes meeting with the Board of Supervisors, CEO, HR Director as well as the OCERS leadership.

*Action Item: Jan Grimes, Gaylan Harris, Linda Robinson and Doug Storm will attempt to meet with Frank Kim as the new CEO sometime after the budget hearings.*

We also discussed reaching out to RPEA as one of the groups at an earlier AREOC Board meeting. We should try to learn about their organization and their advocacy structure. Sara Ruckle Harms believes that they should be one of first groups to work with. Sara Ruckle Harms would like to know if there is or if there could be a Senior Legislative Day.

*Action Item: Sara Ruckle Harms and Larry Leaman would be willing to meet with the local representative of RPEA.*

Sara Ruckle Harms stated that as a part of our goal to reach out should be to educate ourselves as to how other organizations are preparing for the Cadillac Tax.

*Action Item: Sara Ruckle Harms will talk to Linda Robinson to see if it would be appropriate to talk to OCMA regarding this topic.*

Alameda County Employees Retirement Association has now adopted the medical exchanges for the post-65 and trying to go to the exchanges for the pre-65 per Kathy Foster's discussion at the CRCEA Conference.

*Action Item: Sara Ruckle Harms, Lou Scarpino, Linda Robinson and Gaylan Harris will reach out to Kathy Foster in July (through a conference call). Sara Ruckle Harms will reach out to her before the conference call to let her know of the planned conference call.*

## **V. Schedule Meeting**

The next meeting of the AREOC Board will be after the next REAOC Board meeting on June 10, 2015.

## **VI. Adjournment**

*A motion was made by Doug Storm and seconded by Larry Leaman adjourn the meeting at 11:58 AM. Motion carried.*