

This was a virtual meeting held via ZOOM

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Retired Public Employees Association/Chapter #77

Wednesday, March 26, 2025 @ 9:00am

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order @ 9:00am by Vice President Betsy Kruger.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Betsy Kruger, Vice Present; Joan Palmer, Treasurer;]Newsletter Editor and Webmaster; Al Raitt, Health Benefits Chair; Mike Cassetta, Membership Chair; Judy Winter, Sunshine Chair; Faye Johnson, Member at Large. Norm Stump, President joined meeting @ point of Health Benefits Report and assumed direction of meeting Agenda.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Barbara Evans, Secretary.

OTHERS PRESENT: Abe Baily, Chapter Member; Roger Klaves, Chapter Member.

MINUTES: Approved as submitted by Kruger for February 26, 2025 Board Meeting.

TREASURER REPORT: Palmer submitted Report to Secretary Evans 3/23/25 who then forwarded it to all Board Members. The balance as of 3/26/25 is: \$4,864.39. Members acknowledged receipt of Report and offered no questions &/or corrections to Report which was accepted and will be filed as submitted.

LEGISLATIVE: Baily reported to date there is still no Inspector General to oversee CalPERS Activity.

HEALTH BENEFITS REPORT: Raitt reported on two State legislative bills reviewed by the RPEA March 12th statewide Health Benefits Committee Meeting: (1) SB 242: Medicare supplement coverage: open enrollment periods. Current Medicare coverage is for persons 65 years of age and older and specified persons with disabilities who are under 65 years of age. Medicare supplement policies, also known as Medigap coverage, allow for reimbursement for expenses of persons eligible for the Medicare Program who are younger than 64 years of age who do not have end stage renal disease. This bill would delete the exclusion of otherwise qualified applicants who have end stage renal disease thereby making the specified Medicare supplement benefit plans available to those individuals. An application for coverage is submitted during an open enrollment period. Would become effective Jan. 1, 2026.

(2) AB 278: Health Care Affordability: The California Office of Health Care Affordability within the Department of Health Care Access and Information, whose functions are to analyze the health care market for cost trends and drivers of spending, develop data informed policies for lowering health care costs and create a state strategy for controlling the cost of health care, would be required, on or before June 1, 2026, to establish a Patient Advocate Advisory Committee which would be required to meet four times a year and receive public comments and to include specified data from the meetings to the board as part of its annual report. The committee would be comprised of eight patient advocate organizations: Two each for chronic conditions, rare diseases, terminal illnesses and mental or behavioral health

conditions. The statewide RPEA Health Benefits Committee recommendations to the Legislative Committee were to “support” both bills.

NEWSLETTER & WEBSITE: Salcido related delivery of Newsletter timely. Website is up to date.

MEMBERSHIP: Cassetta submitted Report to all Board Members via e-mail on 3/16/25. Membership count is down from February 369 count to 366. Two members have died and one moved to another chapter. Cassetta reports members are being very cooperative re: relinquishing name badges prior to leaving lunch meeting and facilitating wrap up of badges case for Nash.s storage.

SUNSHINE REPORT: Winter reported sending two sympathy cards, families of members Dial and Kibbee.

PROGRAM REPORT: Kruger reported speaker @ April Membership Meeting will be Recruiter with the Concrete Industry Management Degree Program @ CSUC

Meeting adjourned @ 9:50am.

NOTE: After Board Meeting, Kruger read e-mail received from Winter minutes before Board Meeting commenced in which she related having sent two sympathy cards to families of deceased members of Chapter.