

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
RETIRED PUBLIC EMPLOYEES ASSN. – CHAPTER 77
Wednesday, February 21, 2018, 9:00 A.M. – Farmer’s Skillet, 690 Rio Lindo Avenue

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by President Norman Stump, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag led by Craig Praizler.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Norman Stump, President; Betsy Kruger, Vice President; Barbara Evans, Secretary; Joan Palmer, Treasurer; Sharon Salcido, Newsletter Editor & Web Master; Al Raitt, Health Benefits Chair; Mary Kowta, Legislative Chair; Margaret Ballinger, Membership Chair; (Vacant) Sunshine Chair; Ralph Huntsinger, Past President; Judy Winter, Member at Large; Craig Praizler, Member at Large; Lawrie Salvestrin Member at Large; Sandra Thomas, Member at Large; James Gregg, Member at Large.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

MINUTES: A motion made by Huntsinger to approve the 1/24/18 minutes was seconded and unanimously carried.

TREASURER’S REPORT: Palmer reviewed her report that reflected a beginning balance of \$1579.64 and an ending balance of \$1555.72 as of 2/21/18. She pointed out that the Work Training Center costs for its part in processing the newsletter had increased from \$75 to \$106 per month. She then asked that the Board consider requiring only her signature on checks of \$100 or less. Following discussion, Huntsinger moved that checks of \$200 or less require only one, rather than two signatures. The motion was seconded and unanimously carried.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT: Kowta referred members to the Newsletter for her report which indicated that no measures affecting pensions were yet on the June ballot, and that some groups were withdrawing from or not joining CalPERS for their own less-costly pension systems. In addition, she reported the following: (1) CalPERS COLA increases will be reflected in the May 1 retirement checks. (2) Recent bills before the Legislature propose (a) offering a 401K alternative for new state employees, (b) reducing the termination fees for local governments and agencies wishing to leave the State pension plan, and (c) allowing CalPERS to suspend COLA for retirees. (3) An article of interest in the Sacramento Bee was titled “Wall Street Caused the Pension Crisis, not Cops and Firefighters”.

HEALTH BENEFITS REPORT: Raitt indicated that he had submitted an article in the Newsletter that reflected his own personal medical experience involving a heart catheterization in hopes that it could be of benefit to members or someone they knew. At the next stakeholders’ they will be reviewing various bills relating to health benefits.

MEMBERSHIP & SUNSHINE REPORTS: Ballinger reported that she had submitted an article in the Newsletter relating to a common misconception by some members of the public about the sources of funding for retirement benefits. Also, she had sent letters to 22 new members who had not yet attended a membership meeting. In addition, sympathy cards were sent to the families of Marguriet Toland and Elizabeth Pareno.

NEWSLETTER & WEB SITE REPORT: Salcido stated that the last Newsletter distribution by U.S. mail and email was accomplished by working with the State RPEA from its membership lists. This allowed her to know which members did not have valid email addresses and she would be contacting them for

corrections. She added that Manuel Salcido was working on updates to the Chapter 77 web site program. Members concurred with the President's recommendation that a recap of past programs be included in the newsletter as a way of encouraging more members to attend membership meetings.

PROGRAM REPORT: Kruger noted that the March program would feature Jerrod E. Sieberg from the California Department of Motor Vehicles speaking on the Senior Driver Ombudsman Program. The April program will consist of two speakers regarding the Silver Sneakers Program. The May program will feature someone speaking on the Japanese internment camps in the U.S. during the Second World War. June will be the annual picnic.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: Huntsinger will deliver at the 3/1/18 Membership meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Barbara A. Evans, Secretary

COMPUTER PROPOSAL: After adjournment of the meeting, an RPEA Chapter 77 Computer Proposal was presented by Craig Praizler and discussed among members.