

RETIRED EMPLOYEES OF KERN COUNTY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
November 9, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by Past President Jeanne Berkshire.

ROLL CALL: Alan Annis, Mary Lou Bennett, Jeanne Berkshire, Ginger Carpenter, Josie De La Torre, Ginger Mello, Brenda Preston, Tony Rizos

OTHERS PRESENT: Earlene Smith and Josiah Vencel

MINUTES – MOTION by Ginger Carpenter to accept the October minutes as read, seconded by Mary Lou Bennett and CARRIED.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Mary Lou Bennett gave the Treasurer's Report and the Claims Paid Report for the month of October 2010. MOTION by Ginger Carpenter to approve both reports, seconded by Josie De La Torre and CARRIED.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

HOST/HOSTESS PROGRAM – Mary Lou Bennett reported that for the month of October there were 30 volunteers who worked 92 hours and assisted 1,021 visitors to the County Administrative Center. Since the opening of the County Administrative Center in 1992 through October 2010 the volunteers have assisted 287,980 visitors.

NEWSLETTER – Mary Lou Bennett reported the November-December newsletter was mailed and should have been received before November 1st.

CALIFORNIA RETIRED COUNTY EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION (CRCEA) – Delegate Ginger Mello reported this was one of the best conferences she has attended. The speakers were excellent and the topics very timely. Ginger reported there are still only three county retiree associations involved in litigation and they are all for three different concerns. Orange County - the county removed pre-Medicare retirees health benefits from the active employees which has caused the retirees premiums to increase dramatically; Stanislaus County - removal of money from the SRBR funds; and Sonoma County reduced the amount of the stipend for the payment of the health benefits for retirees.

MONTHLY PROGRAMS/SCHEDULED FUTURE PROGRAMS – 1st Vice President Ginger Carpenter announced Sandy Morris from the Bakersfield Police Department would be speaking on "Holiday Safety" at our meeting today and for our Christmas Luncheon in December we will have Dennis Wilson playing his saxophone. Ginger stated she would leave all future speakers in the hands of our incoming 1st Vice President.

KERN COUNTY EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION (KCERA) – Josiah Vencel reported the office has received numerous calls regarding our Supplemental Benefits program. Mary Lou Bennett and Jeanne Berkshire apologized for this and also reported on the number of telephone calls they have received.

Some of the telephone calls have been questions they themselves cannot answer due to what is being asked by the members. Josiah also stated KCERA has moved into their new office and it is very nice and spacious with room to grow. Josiah invited all to attend the first Board of Retirement meeting being held in the new building on November 17th at 8:30 a.m.

COMMUNICATIONS – In the mail at the Post Office Box, we received 1 invoice from NOR for \$810.00 for the remainder of the year, 2 checks from Kern County Auditor's Office for dues from two members, an address correction from a member, 2 CD maturity notices from Kern Federal Credit Union, 1 Supplemental Insurance Benefits brochure returned, 1 Hall Letter Shop invoice, 1 registration for the 21st Annual Southern California Public Retirement Seminar, 1 Bakersfield Homeless Center Newsletter, 1 postcard with KCERA change of address and telephone number changes, 2 Hoffman Hospice "Light Up a Life" Invitations, 1 Southern California Meetings and Events Magazine for Fall 2010, 1 World Ark magazine, 5 County Newsletters, 1 Kern Federal Credit Union statement and 1 unaddressed ballot. Ginger Mello also received a Move-Out Receipt from Fortress Self Storage showing no money owed when she moved everything out of the unit.

OLD BUSINESS:

COORDINATED COUNTY EMPLOYEES ORGANIZATION OF KERN (CCEOK) – Secretary Ginger Mello reported the next meeting will be held on Thursday, November 11, 2010 at the Sheriff's Training Facility and hosted by the Commanders Association.

WEB PAGE – No Report

RETIREE BENEFITS COMMITTEE – No Report

PACIFIC GROUP SUPPLEMENTAL BENEFITS – Mary Lou Bennett reported there had been numerous telephone calls from members regarding benefits and how to sign up if they want or need the benefits.

INCREASE OF DUES – BALLOTS ARE OUT – Secretary Ginger Mello announced she has received numerous ballots for the dues increase. Ginger is opening each envelope and alphabetizing them but will wait until she, Jeanne Berkshire and Mary Lou Bennett counts the votes to look inside each one. Ginger also reported it has come to her attention that some of the members seem to think the Officers on our Board are employed by Kern County and would like to take a few minutes during the General Membership Meeting to explain how REOKC actually operates in regard to the increase of dues.

RATIFY ENDORSEMENT OF NORMAN BRIGGS, RETIREE, KCERA BOARD OF RETIREMENT AND BOB JEFFERSON, GENERAL MEMBER, KCERA BOARD OF RETIREMENT – MOTION by Ginger Carpenter to ratify our endorsement of the above two names for the Retirement Board, seconded by Josie De La Torre and CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS:

REOKC ELECTION BALLOTS ARE READY – Secretary Ginger Mello reported the ballots are ready for the election today.

KCERA ELECTION BALLOTS ARE OUT – No Report

MOTION by Ginger Carpenter to adjourn the meeting at 10:47 a.m., seconded by Josie De La Torre and CARRIED.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Ginger Mello, Secretary