

RETIRED EMPLOYEES OF KERN COUNTY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES

June 13, 2006

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by President, Norman Briggs.

ROLL CALL: Mary Lou Bennett, Jeanne Berkshire, Norman Briggs, Nettie Collins, Opal Hargis, Ginger Mello, David Merritt, Earlene Smith, Walter Stewart and Elinor Wells

OTHERS PRESENT: Belva Jared and Paul Leonard

MOTION by Elinor Wells to approve the May 2006 minutes as read, seconded by David Merritt and **CARRIED.**

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

CRCEA – David Merritt reported that he has sent questionnaires to every delegate to see if they are in favor of a 3rd term for the current President and Vice-President of CRCEA. David stated that he knows that San Diego County will not vote in favor of the 3rd term. Without a unanimous vote, it cannot be done. David stated that SB777, which is the bill allowing death benefits to be put into life insurance, is still being opposed by State Firefighters. CRCEA has written letters to the State Firefighters and talked to them but they still are opposing the bill. CRCEA is now going to write a letter to Senator Soto, the writer of the bill. President, Norman Briggs, suggested that David contact Derek Robinson, KCFU President and remind him that he was going to look into it. David also announced that Tom Branan has retired and that Amy Brown has purchased his business. Amy is a registered lobbyist, therefore she cannot contact SACRS on our behalf and if she could, it would be \$200 per hour. David announced that the price of the Officers' Protection Insurance in which the 1937 Act Counties have been participating through CRCEA, at no cost to them, will now be costing \$7,200 per year. The Fall Conference is in Sacramento in October.

CCAPE – Paul Leonard reported that there has been a consolidation of SEIU and Kern County will probably be lumped into a larger group running from Kern County to San Jose. There is a good chance that our local will become a chapter. President, Norman Briggs, stated that at the last CCEOK meeting, Paul Hussey, President of KCDOA, commented that he thought it would be a good idea if all the unions worked together and had the same health insurance plan. That way when each of the unions would go to negotiations, the health insurance would not be an issue. Paul stated that as far as he knows CCAPE has not discussed health insurance with other unions.

HOST/HOSTESS PROGRAM – Mary Lou Bennett reported that for the month of May there were 37 volunteers who worked 112 hours and assisted 1,249 visitors to the County Administration Building. She announced that from 1992 through May 2006 the volunteers have assisted 235,351 visitors. Mary Lou commented that at the Luncheon in May, given by General Services for the volunteers, each volunteer was given a very nice pen and pencil set and a pin imprinted with "Kern County".

MONTHLY PROGRAM – 1st Vice President, Jeanne Berkshire, announced that the program today would be Paula Jones who works for Mental Health. Paula was going to tell her own story. Nettie Collins suggested that we ought to extend some kind of thank you to the people who speak at our luncheons without compensation. It was decided that they should be given one of the REOKC pens along with a thank you letter. Jeanne stated that at our July Picnic we will have Cloggers as our entertainment.

NEWSLETTER – President, Norman Briggs, announced that June 15th is the deadline for articles for the next TREND which needs to go out ASAP because of the picnic.

KCERA – President, Norman Briggs, announced that Wanda Castro is now Anne Holdren's Administrative Assistant. Norm will discuss with Wanda or Anne the possibility of having someone else from their office attend our meetings. KCERA had their Spring Retirement Seminar in May where Norm participated as a speaker.

MEMBERSHIP – At this time we do not have a membership chairman. President, Norman Briggs, has ideas of a new brochure that can be given out at the Retirement Seminars. CRCEA has a Membership Chair who wishes to meet with each County Membership Chair to get ideas to share. Norm also advised that Kern County maintains one of the higher percentages of members to total retirees.

CRCEA CONFERENCE COMMITTEE UPDATE – Secretary, Ginger Mello, announced that the members of the committee are Opal Hargis, Belva Jared, Ginger Mello, David Merritt and Greg Salas. Opal and Ginger took it upon themselves to visit Holiday Inn Select and Doubletree. Ginger is still waiting for information from Doubletree. Opal and Ginger did receive information from Holiday Inn Select for a package deal along with additional information. Once all information has been received, the committee will meet and decide where they feel is the best place and price for the spring 2008 conference to be held. At that time, because we do not have a meeting in July, we may have to call a special Board meeting or use telephone/computer to get information out and decide as a Board where to have the conference. The goal is to get the place secured and on the calendar. David Merritt stated that CRCEA had moved the Spring Conferences to April and we need to be careful to avoid Easter. Ginger stated that she became aware of a CRCEA Conference Manual through an e-mail from Everett Julkowski. Ginger has contacted Dorothy Lueking, CRCEA Secretary, and Betty McCollum, CRCEA Conference Chair, regarding the manual. Betty is sending Ginger a current copy and in October we will be able to pick up a new one that contains all the updates.

INTERVIEW COMMITTEE – The ad hoc interview committee members were Jeanne Berkshire, Nettie Collins, Opal Hargis, Ginger Mello and David Merritt. Opal stated that the day was long but very productive. In our presentation about REOKC, there were items listed that indicate what we are trying to accomplish to improve benefits for our members. By bringing in candidates to show them our presentation and give them the opportunity to get to know what we do, we hopefully will build some very workable relationships. Ginger stated which candidates were interviewed and who we recommended. Norm stated that we need to make these candidates realize that we are a viable organization. Norm feels that we need to start working on the November election in August.

TREASURER – Mary Lou Bennett gave the Treasurer's Report for May 2006. **MOTION** by David Merritt to approve the Treasurer's Report and the CD Report, seconded by Elinor Wells and **CARRIED**. **MOTION** by David Merritt to approve the Claims Payable for May 2006, seconded by Jeanne Berkshire and **CARRIED**. Mary Lou reported that she had purchased 4 - \$15,000 CD's. Mary Lou has a goal of having a CD mature every three months. Also, all interest on the CD's will be put in the Special Account. Mary Lou also reported that she sent a letter, TREND, pen and directory to 63 new retirees and 5 beneficiaries.

COMMUNICATIONS – In the mail at the Post Office Box, we received 2 letters from the Bakersfield Rescue Mission, a Corporate Compliance Center letter, 7 County Newsletters, a Trophy Catalog, 2 change of address requests, 1 USPO receipt from our mailings of the TREND, 2 Bank Statements (April and May), 1 voting flyer returned in an envelope stating it was received late, and 4 items from Hartford Insurance.

OLD BUSINESS:

STATUS OR PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE – CCEOK met on May 17th at El Torito hosted by Kern County Detention Officers Association and compared what issues were on the table of each union. The safety unions have a coalition and they were all supporting Mike Maggard for 3rd District.

WEB PAGE – A week before the election our server went down. President, Norman Briggs, contacted our host and they have added REOKC to their list server. Norm sent them his e-mail list and now all he has to do is type up a note and send it to the server and they send it out to the entire e-mail list.

PAC UPDATE – No Report

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP – President, Norman Briggs, will be getting information on this from the Firefighters.

NEW BUSINESS:

BID FROM HALL LETTER SHOP - President, Norman Briggs, and Treasurer, Mary Lou Bennett, received a bid from Hall Letter Shop regarding printing the TREND. Hall Letter Shop has more capabilities than Three Diamond or Central Printing & Graphics. One of the big problems has been labels; Hall Letter Shop is able to print addresses on the newsletter. Hall Letter Shop pointed out that our mailing permit was incorrect and they could save us money. We also have to rearrange our TREND mailing address to the top of the page so that it will be less expensive. Hall takes time sensitive mail to the Post Office in a separate box and the Post Office does not consider it to be junk mail. Norman also received a bid from Performance Solutions Supplies. President, Norman Briggs, proposes that we change printers to Hall Letter Shop. **MOTION** by Opal Hargis to change printers to Hall Letter Shop, seconded by Elinor Wells and **CARRIED**. Norman requested that Secretary, Ginger Mello, send a letter to Three Diamonds thanking them for their many years of service.

APPOINTMENT OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE – A discussion was held regarding the difficulty that David Merritt is having in finding officers for CRCEA. President, Norman Briggs, appointed Greg Salas as Chairman of the Nominating Committee. Greg will need to find 1 Board member and 3 General members to serve on the committee. In October the slate goes to the general members and the election is held in November.

APPOINT PERSON TO MAKE LUNCHEON MENUS W/MOSSMAN'S – President, Norman Briggs, announced that Everett Julkowski had to resign due to poor health. Earlene Smith volunteered to work with Lori at the Southwest Lanes – Mossman's. Norman stated that he would introduce Earlene to Lori at the General Meeting today.

JULY PICNIC – Secretary, Ginger Mello, reported that she spoke with Lori at the last meeting regarding the cost to change to Deep Pit Beef, Santa Maria Beans, Potato Salad, Green Salad, Dinner Roll and Dessert. The price would be the same as our regular meetings which is a little more expensive than the hamburger feed. **MOTION** by Opal Hargis to go with the new menu in place of hamburgers, seconded by Earlene Smith and **CARRIED**.

MOTION by David Merritt to adjourn the meeting at 11:42 a.m., seconded by Opal Hargis and **CARRIED**.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Ginger Mello, Secretary