

RETIRED EMPLOYEES OF KERN COUNTY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES
May 9, 2006

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by 1st Vice President, Jeanne Berkshire in the absence of President, Norman Briggs.

ROLL CALL: Mary Lou Bennett, Jeanne Berkshire, Nettie Collins, Opal Hargis, Ginger Mello, David Merritt, Greg Salas, Walter Stewart and Elinor Wells

OTHERS PRESENT: Belva Jared and Paul Leonard

MOTION by David Merritt to approve the April 2006 minutes as read, seconded by Greg Salas and **CARRIED**.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

CRCEA – David Merritt reported that Tom Branan and the PERS PAC are sponsoring a Benefits Retirement Training Seminar. In the past, Secretary, Ginger Mello, has attended the Trainings and it was stated that it is more for PERS than 1937 Act. He has also received the 2006 Bills List from Tom Branan. David also reported that this is an election year for CRCEA and he is the Nominating Chair for CRCEA. The current President, Bill Kirkwood and Vice President, Bill De La Garza have both served two terms. Bill De La Garza does not want to move up to President because he is too busy with RELAC. Bill Kirkwood might consider serving a 3rd term **HOWEVER** according to the CRCEA by-laws NO elected officer may hold the same office for more than 2 consecutive terms for a total of 4 years except by unanimous approval by the voting delegates. David will be calling all the delegates to make them aware of the difficulty he is having in recruiting officers and also to poll them. Bill De La Garza is not willing to become President but is very willing to stay on as Vice President if Bill Kirkwood will stay on as President. In this poll David will be asking 3 major questions – 1) Do you approve or disapprove of Bill Kirkwood/Bill De La Garza running for a 3rd term?; 2) Will your association be changing delegates before the Fall 2006 Conference?; and 3) Do you have any nominations in mind for President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer? David was informing our Board of the situation because it is not just his decision. David feels that both men are doing a very good job in their positions. The only objection he has is that the two Bill's are from Southern California, but at this time the only person from Northern California who has stepped forward is Joan Clendenin.

CCAPE – Paul Leonard is our new representative. He announced that at this time SEIU are considering consolidating all SEIU chapters into only 4 locals throughout California.

HOST/HOST PROGRAM – Mary Lou Bennett reported that for the month of April there were 34 volunteers who worked 104 hours and assisted 1,278 visitors to the County Administration Building. She announced that from 1992 through April 2006 the

volunteers have assisted 234,102 visitors. Mary Lou announced that on May 16th there will be a luncheon given by General Services for the volunteers.

MONTHLY PROGRAM – 1st Vice President, Jeanne Berkshire, announced that the program today will be Sue Benham, Executive Director for the Golden Empire Gleaners and that from 11:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon Sandy Brockman from the Elections Department will have two voting machines outside the building to enable members to acquaint themselves with the new voting procedures prior to the election.

NEWSLETTER – Mary Lou Bennett announced that the TREND went out fairly early.

KCERA – Wanda Castro was not in attendance at the meeting today.

MEMBERSHIP – No Report

TREASURER – Mary Lou Bennett gave the Treasurer's Report for April 2006.

MOTION by Opal Hargis to approve the April Treasurer's Report, seconded by Nettie Collins and **CARRIED**. **MOTION** by David Merritt to approve the Claims Payable for April 2006, seconded by Elinor Wells and **CARRIED**.

COMMUNICATIONS – In the mail at the Post Office Box, we received 5 county newsletters, 1 Braille Institute Newsletter, 1 Hoffman Hospice Invitation, USPS Flat Rate Boxes Pricing and a letter from Lorraine Quinn re: Retired Benefits. It was decided that Secretary, Ginger Mello would take Ms. Quinn's letter to the Retirement Office for the answer to whether she qualifies for any benefits and will give a report at the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

STATUS OF PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE – Secretary, Ginger Mello announced that the next meeting will be on May 17, 2006.

WEB PAGE – No Report as President, Norman Briggs was not in attendance.

PAC UPDATE – No Report

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS – No Report

CSUB ENDOWMENT – Mistake of the Secretary – should not have been on the Agenda

BILLING KFCU FOR AD IN THE TREND – In answer to the question from last months meeting regarding the amount to be billed to KFCU, for advertising in the TREND, the following information was provided by Mary Lou Bennett; for July 2005 KFCU was billed the 20% but in September 2005 they were billed the 20% with a one time discount for long time vendor. In November 2005 they also received the one time

discount for long time vendor. In January and March, Mary Lou billed KFCU the 20%. She read the Motion that was in the October 2005 minutes where it was decided that KFCU would be billed a flat fee of \$300.00 if there was another advertiser to help supplement the cost of the TREND. After discussion of this matter, **MOTION** by Elinor Wells to bill KFCU the full 20% unless there is another advertiser to help supplement the cost of the TREND, seconded by Walter Stewart and **CARRIED**.

NEW BUSINESS:

LADDERING OF CD'S – Mary Lou Bennett reported on laddering of CD's as a way to increase the interest on our special account funds. If she were to purchase CD's at 3 month, 6 month, 9 month (1 3-month plus 1 6-month) and 12 month intervals, we would be maximizing the interest on the Special Account. Mary Lou has communicated with John DeMario and President, Norman Briggs and they are both in favor of purchasing the CD's. **MOTION** by David Merritt effective June 1, 2006 to purchase two 3-month CD's at \$15,000 each; one 6-month CD at \$15,000 and one 12-month CD at \$15,000 for a total of \$60,000 from the Special Account and interest on those CD's are to be directed into the Special Account, seconded by Greg Salas and **CARRIED**.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: 1st Vice President, Jeanne Berkshire stated that after listening to David Merritt, CRCEA delegate and nominating chair, speak regarding the difficulty in lining up a slate of officers for CRCEA, maybe we, REOKC, need to start thinking about appointing a nominating committee in the near future. Officers needed are President, 1st and 2nd Vice President and 2 Board of Directors.

Secretary, Ginger Mello announced that the interview committee will be interviewing on May 26th at the Stockdale Country Club and as of today there are 4 candidates who have responded to our letter that was sent out.

PICNIC – Discussion was held regarding the last picnic. Comments were made on where and when the hamburgers were cooked because they were dry. There was a discussion of how much we paid for the Picnic last year on an individual basis. Mary Lou gave us the total paid but we didn't have the number of people who attended. The decision was made that Secretary, Ginger Mello will contact Rick or Laurie regarding doing Deep Pit Beef, Santa Maria Beans, Potato Salad, Green Salad, Dinner Roll and Dessert. Ginger will bring a report back to our next meeting. The entertainment for the Picnic will be the Cbgers.

MOTION BY Greg Salas to adjourn the meeting at 11:11 a.m., seconded by Elinor Wells and **CARRIED**.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Ginger Mello, Secretary