

RETIRED EMPLOYEES OF KERN COUNTY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

October 12, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by President Phil Franey.

**ROLL CALL:** Alan Annis, Mary Lou Bennett, Jeanne Berkshire, Ginger Carpenter, Josie De La Torre, Phil Franey, Ginger Mello, Tony Rizos and Julie Salley

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Norman Briggs, Liz Keogh, Sally Ruiz, Stan Shires, Earlene Smith, Teresa Vasquez, Josiah Vencel and Nancy Warnick

**MINUTES – MOTION** by Julie Salley to accept the September minutes as read, seconded by Tony Rizos and **CARRIED.**

**TREASURER'S REPORT** – Mary Lou Bennett gave the Treasurer's Report and the Claims Report for the month of September 2010. **MOTION** by Jeanne Berkshire to approve the Treasurer's Report and the Claims Paid Report for the month of September 2010, seconded by Julie Salley and **CARRIED.**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**HOST/HOESSTESS PROGRAM** – Mary Lou Bennett reported that for the month of September there were 33 volunteers who worked 101 hours and assisted 872 visitors to the County Administrative Center. Since the opening of the County Administrative Center in 1992 through September 2010 the volunteers have assisted 286,959 visitors.

**NEWSLETTER** – Mary Lou Bennett stated she had received all articles except from the President and Retirement Board representative. She reminded those individuals of the deadline of October 15, 2010. She is in hopes of getting the TREND out to the members by the first of the November.

**CALIFORNIA RETIRED COUNTY EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION (CRCEA)** – Delegate Ginger Mello reported the conference would be coming up and she would have more information after the conference. Ginger stated she had received an email from the CRCEA Executive Secretary asking for any items to be included on the agenda for the Executive Meeting to be held on Monday morning prior to the conference starting at 1:00 p.m. on October 24, 2010 in San Rafael, CA. It was suggested Ginger mention REOKC is in the process of increasing dues to increase their Special Account used for public education and advocacy of our benefits.

**MONTHLY PROGRAMS/SCHEDULED FUTURE PROGRAMS** – 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Ginger Carpenter announced Eric Barthel, Kern County Health Benefits Consultant, would be speaking at today's meeting on upcoming changes in the health care premiums. Ginger stated she has Sandy Morris from Bakersfield Police Department speaking on "Holiday Safety" for November and Dennis Wilson will be back with us in December playing his Saxophone.

**KERN COUNTY EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION (KCERA)** – Josiah Vencel reported KCERA had received a Public Information Request from The Bakersfield Californian and the State Attorney General’s Office. Josiah announced KCERA will be moving into their new building the last weekend of October and it will be open to the public on November 2, 2010. The first Board Meeting to be held in the new building will take place on November 17<sup>th</sup>.

**COMMUNICATIONS** – In the mail at the Post Office Box, we received 5 County Newsletters, 1 Hall Letter Shop Statement, 1 letter from North of the River Recreation and Parks (NOR) introducing Roger Perez, Marketing Director as our contact person, 1 Contract from NOR through December 2010, 1 Bakersfield Homeless Center Newsletter, 1 Kern Federal Credit Union Statement and a packet of Fit Facts sent by Sean Kenny, our speaker from last month.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**COORDINATED COUNTY EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATIONS OF KERN (CCEOK)** – Secretary Ginger Mello gave a little background of exactly what CCEOK is and why it was started a few years ago for the benefit of the guests in attendance at the meeting today. Ginger reminded the Board of the fact CCEOK members were interested in starting a campaign to make the public aware of the truth of retiree pensions and active employees’ contributions toward their health benefits and retirement. She said two communication firms had been contacted and spoke to several CCEOK members in regard to how they would handle the campaign. As of today, she has not heard any more about this campaign. She reported the next meeting will be held in November hosted by the Sheriff Command Association.

**WEB PAGE** – Norman Briggs reported he and President Phil Franey had each received an email about REOKC.com being available to purchase. Norman contacted our Web Master who stated we have REOKC.org and do not need to worry about REOKC.com.

**RETIREE BENEFITS COMMITTEE** – No Report

**PACIFIC GROUP SUPPLEMENTAL BENEFITS** – Mary Lou Bennett reported she had received confirmation everything has been approved by the Board of Retirement for open enrollment to take place. She stated Stephen Pettee is in the process of having the brochures printed. President Phil Franey stated he would like to see the Open Enrollment for Health Benefits be completed and then the Supplemental Benefits be mailed out a week or two later.

**NOR CONTRACT** – Secretary Ginger Mello reported receiving a letter from NOR introducing Roger Perez, NOR Marketing Director, as our contact with NOR beginning Monday, October 11, 2010. His office is located directly across the parking lot from the Hall. She also reported having received the statement for the remainder of 2010 and after a short discussion; Mary Lou Bennett stated we have money in the budget to cover the cost.

**INCREASE OF DUES – REVENUE ANALYSIS FOR \$1 - \$3** –In compliance with Phil Franey’s request at our last meeting, Mary Lou Bennett had a Proposed Increase in Dues Worksheet, analyzing the difference of the Special Account increases for dues of \$1.00, \$2.00 or \$3.00. After a lengthy discussion, **MOTION** by

Julie Salley to increase the dues by \$1.00 (from the current amount of \$1.00 to \$2.00 per month) with members voting approval, seconded by Josie De La Torre and **CARRIED**. After more discussion, a **MOTION** by Jeanne Berkshire to approve an expense not to exceed \$3,000 to print and mail ballots to all members for the dues increase, seconded by Julie Salley and **CARRIED**. President Phil Franey stated the ballots would be mailed to the Post Office Box and a simple majority of respondents would rule. Mary Lou Bennett, Jeanne Berkshire and Ginger Mello will work together to count all the votes and report back at a future meeting.

**INSURANCE RATE INCREASE AND 2011 W2 INCLUSION OF HEALTH PREMIUMS** – This will be the topic of our speaker at the General Meeting luncheon today.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**REPORT OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE** – Jeanne Berkshire stated she was having a committee meeting directly after our Board meeting to prepare a Slate of Officers and Directors for presentation at the General Meeting today.

**KCERA ELECTIONS UPDATE** – Norman Briggs is running for the RB position and has one person opposing him. Phil Franey is running for the alternate RB position.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** – Secretary Ginger Mello announced she had received a copy of Mossman's Insurance Policy for liability which President Phil Franey had requested in August. Treasurer Mary Lou Bennett reported she had paid for 6 months at Derrel's Storage on Airport Drive for only \$19.00 per month for the first 6 months.

**MOTION** by Mary Lou Bennett to adjourn the meeting at 11:43 a.m., seconded by Jeanne Berkshire and **CARRIED**.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Ginger Mello, Secretary