

DIRECTORY AND BYLAWS 2025



*Protect Retirement and
Health Benefits
Advocate - Educate*

REOKC
www.reokc.org
**P. O. Box 2592
Bakersfield, CA
93303**

REOKC PAST PRESIDENTS

1964	Harry Long Sr.
1965-1967	Stewart Magee
1968-1969	L. G. Taggart
1970-1972	Phil Fickert
1973-1974	William Whiting
1975	Charles Snyder
1976	Durwood Herron
1977	Velma Wright
1978	Harley Stumbaugh
1979-1980	William Bishop
1981	Joe Briggs
1982-1983	Thomas Albright
1984	Carl Howard
1985	Thomas Albright
1986	Alice Mack
1987	Willis Wallace
1988	Earl Green
1989	Bonnie Kennedy
1990	Richard Bradshaw
1991	John Doty
1992	Robert Edwards
1993	Everett Julkowski
1994	Herman Riese
1995-1997	Jerry Dodd
1998	Charles Dowdy
1999	Herb Dodd (1/2 year)
1999-2001	John De Mario (2 ½ years)
2002-2003	David Merritt
2004-2006	Norman Briggs
2007-2009	Jeanne Berkshire
2010-2016	Phil Franey
2017-2019	John De Mario
2020-	Robb Seibly

2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers

Robb Seibly—President
(661) 747-3841 seiblyrl@gmail.com

Barbara Goodlow—1st Vice President
(661) 304-0677 piawonka@gmail.com

Sharon Langham—2nd Vice President
(661) 871-1792 theonedoula@icloud.com

Cynthia Alipio—Secretary
(661) 204-7832 ctajazz52@gmail.com

Mary Lou Bennett—Treasurer
(661) 871-5270 mlbennett36@sbcglobal.net

Directors

Phil Franey 2024/2025
(661) 330-4194 franeyp@bak.rr.com

Brenda Preston 2024/2025
(661) 204-4386 mommapanda1@aol.com

Tony Rizos 2024/2025
(661) 872-5622 trizos@pacbell.net

Edward Ochoa 2025/2026
(661) 410-8030 eochoa1342@att.net

Nancy Warnick 2025/2026
(661) 831-6380 warnancy@aol.com

Jeanne Berkshire Past President
(661) 979-1965 jeanneberkshire@yahoo.com

The Board of Directors meets at 9:30a.m.
prior to each regular meeting. All members
are invited to attend.

HELPING HANDS

CRCEA DELEGATES

Ginger Mello (661) 205-8336

Nancy Warnick (661) 831-6380

EYEGLASSES

Peggy Richardson (661) 871-5604

LUNCHEON GREETERS

Ester Adams, Jeanne Berkshire,
Christina De La Torre, Pamela Greenleaf,
Margarita Towe

RAFFLE TICKET SALES

Mindy White, Linda Rendes and
Donna Marquez

FLAG SALUTE

Edward Ochoa

PUBLICITY

Jeanne Berkshire (661) 979-1965

SUNSHINE

Josie De La Torre (661) 348-4222

TREND EDITOR

Mary Lou Bennett (661) 871-5270

BOOK EXCHANGE PROGRAM

Charles Burke (661) 477-5071

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Nancy Warnick (661) 831-6380

REOKC LUNCH/MEETINGS

Luncheons: Second Tuesday of each month unless otherwise notified.

Where: Liberty Hall at Hodel's Country Dining,
5917 Knudsen Drive, Bakersfield, CA

Time: 10:45 a.m. Doors Open
11:30 a.m. – Luncheon
12:00 p.m. – General Meeting
(Details in the TREND Newsletter)

Cost: Lunch is \$7.00 for members and/or their spouses and \$10.00 for guests. Payroll deduction is \$6.00 per person.

Business Meeting: Also the Second Tuesday of each month .

Where: Liberty Hall at Hodel's Country Dining,
5917 Knudsen Drive, Bakersfield, CA

Time: 9:30 a.m.

WEBSITES & PHONE NUMBERS

Kern County Employees Retirement Association (KCERA) operates a website with information concerning retirees. There are answers to common questions, and e-mail question forms for items not covered under general information.

www.KCERA.org (661) 381-7700

Toll Free (877) 733-6831

11125 River Run Blvd., Bakersfield, CA 93311

California Retired County Employees Association (CRCEA), the state wide organization of retired county employees, operates a website with very good and up to date information on what the State of California is doing for or to you.

www.CRCEA.org

Retired Employees of Kern County (REOKC) maintains a website which provides information regarding the organization and updates on current activity.

www.REOKC.org

For other REOKC Related Services (Address/Email changes; Newsletter; Membership; Scholarship Program) contact:
Mary Lou Bennett (661) 871-5270 or mlben-
nett36@sbcglobal.net.

KCERA Board Retiree Members:

Phil Franey—franeyp@bak.rr.com

Alternate—Robb Seibly—seiblyrl@gmail.com

OTHER TELEPHONE NUMBERS YOU MAY NEED

STRATA Credit Union (formerly Kern Federal Credit Union)

(661) 327-9461

Toll Free (800) 336-5376

Kern County Administration Office – Health Benefits (Insurance)

(661) 868-3182

Pacific Group Agencies, Inc. (REOKC endorsed Supplemental Insurance Benefits):

1 (800) 511-9065

www.pgagencies.com/reokc

Kern County Aging and Adult Services

5357 Truxtun Ave., Bakersfield, CA (661) 868-1000

BYLAWS OF RETIRED EMPLOYEES OF KERN COUNTY

A Non-Profit Corporation

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to promote the education and earned benefits of all retirees of Kern County, advocate the safeguarding and continuation of Kern County retiree pension and health benefits, provide avenues of support and information for Kern County retirees and beneficiaries, ensure proper and necessary representation on the Kern County Board of Retirement, and participate as an integral contributor in our Kern County communities' quality of life.

ARTICLE I

NAME AND PLACE OF BUSINESS

Section 1 – Name

The name of this organization shall be Retired Employees of Kern County, hereinafter referred to as REOKC.

Section 2 – Principle Office

The principle office for the transaction of business of REOKC shall be such address in the County of Kern, State of California, as may be fixed by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 – Regular Members

All persons who are retired from the County of Kern or any of the special districts under the direction of the County Board of Supervisors or independent special districts that are members of the Kern County Employees' Retirement Association are eligible for membership.

Section 2 – Associate Members

A. The surviving spouse of a regular member shall be eligible as an associate member.

B. Associated members may be appointed by the President to any committee or by the Board of Directors for eligibility for nomination to the Board of Directors.

Section 3 – Honorary Members

The Officers and Board of Directors may recommend honorary membership for persons who have contributed in time and effort toward the betterment of this organization, and submit their names to the members at large for approval or whose benefits have dropped below where deductions from their monthly retirement check is no longer possible to maintain Retired Employees of Kern County membership as validated by Kern County Employees Retirement Association.

Section 4 – Life Members

Life members are those who previously purchased such membership. Future life memberships are unavailable, having been discontinued.

Section 5 – Definition of Members

Reference to members in these bylaws shall include regular, associated, honorary and life members.

Section 6 – Voting Power

The voting power of the members of REOKC shall be limited to members as defined in Section 5 of this Article. The voting power shall be equal and each member shall have one (1) vote. The members shall vote in person or responding via ballot when required. Voting by proxy shall not be permitted.

Section 7 – Dues

A. The dues shall be set by the Board of Directors on a majority vote and approved by a majority vote of the membership present or responding via ballot.

B. Dues shall be paid only by deduction from the monthly retirement check.

C. Assessments: No members shall be required to pay assessment.

Section 8 – Members in Good Standing

A member who has paid current dues is in good standing and only has all rights of membership.

Section 9 – Property

Title and ownership of the property and funds shall be vested in the organization and be administered by the Board of Directors unless or until the organization dissolves. On Dissolution, after paying or adequately providing for the debts and obligations, the remaining assets shall be disposed of in accordance with a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

Section 10 – Miscellaneous

No member, officer or representative of REOKC shall be personally liable for any debts, liabilities or obligations of this organization.

ARTICLE III

MEETINGS

Section 1 – Regular Meetings

Regular meetings shall be held monthly at a time and place to be designated by the general membership.

Section 2 – Special Meetings

Special meetings of the membership may be called at any time with forty-eight (48) hours notice, by the President at the request of the Board of Directors.

Section 3 – Notice of Regular Meetings

Notices of regular meetings shall be made in REOKC publications and other news media.

Section 4 – Nomination and Election Meetings

At the **JUNE** meeting, the President will appoint a Nominating Committee. At the **AUGUST** meeting the Committee will present its recommendations to the Board for approval. All nominees are encouraged to attend all remaining Board meetings for that year. At the **OCTOBER** meeting, the Nominating Committee will present its recommendations to the General membership. Election of Officers and members of the Board of Directors will be held at the general membership meeting in **NOVEMBER**, and they will be installed at the first regular meeting in **DECEMBER**.

ARTICLE IV OFFICERS

Section 1 – Officers

The officers of this organization shall be a President, 1st Vice-President, 2nd Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. In addition to such officers, there shall be six (6) Directors, one Director being the outgoing President of this organization. The remaining five (5) Directors shall be presented for election by the Nominating Committee to be voted on at the general election.

Section 2 – Eligibility to Office

All candidates to office shall be limited to those in good standing, holding regular, associate, honorary or life memberships in REOKC, provided no member shall hold more than one elective office or appointed office at the same time, except should the offices of Secretary and Treasurer be combined.

Section 3 – Term of Office

The term of office shall be from January 1st through December 31st. The Officers shall be elected for a period of one year or until such time as properly relieved.

Vacancies, due to resignation or any other cause, will be filled by the Board of Directors for the period of the remainder of the term.

Should an officer, a member of the Board of Directors or a committee chairman be absent from three or more consecutive meetings without due cause, the Board of Directors may, by a two thirds majority vote, declare the position of such absentee vacant and may fill the vacancy by appointment; said appointee to serve until the next election.

Section 4 – Nominating Committee

At the **JUNE** general meeting, the President shall appoint a Nominating Committee of five (5) members, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors. At least two current officers or members of the Board of Directors shall be appointed to serve on this committee.

The Nominating Committee shall prepare the official slate of nominees for President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and six (6) Directors at

large; said directors to include the outgoing President of REOKC. This official slate shall be forwarded to the President and Board of Directors at the **AUGUST Board** meeting for submission with its recommendations to the general membership at the **OCTOBER regular** meeting, as provided in Article III, Section 4.

Section 5 – Independent Nominations

Nominations will be received from the floor at the time of election, with consent of the nominee.

Section 6 – Election of Officers

At the election of officers, the President shall determine the voting procedure, except that voting shall be by ballot in the event that nominations other than the official slate have been submitted. Judges of the election shall be appointed by the President. Election to be determined on a plurality basis and the vote not to be made public.

Section 7 – Duties and Powers of Officers

A. President: The President shall be the chief executive officer of the organization and shall, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors, have general supervision and control of the business and affairs of the organization. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors and shall be an ex-officio member of all committees. The President shall have such other powers and duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors or by the Bylaws.

B. First Vice President: In the absence or disability of the President, the First Vice President shall perform all the duties of the President and when so acting shall have all the powers of and be subject to all the restrictions upon the President. The First Vice President shall have such other powers and perform such other duties as may from time to time be prescribed by the President or the Board of Directors.

C. Second Vice President: The Second Vice President shall, in the absence of both the President and the First Vice President, have all the powers and perform all the duties as may be assigned by the Board of Directors or the President.

D. Secretary: The Secretary shall keep minutes of all meetings of the organization and discharge such other duties as may be assigned by the Board of Directors or the President.

E. Treasurer: The Treasurer shall collect all dues and receipts for and keep all monies, stocks, bonds, notes and other credits belonging to, received by or transmitted through the general membership, officers and/or Board of Directors; and shall keep regular true and full accounts of all receipts, property and disbursements; shall make a detailed monthly report of the same to the Board of Directors for approval. The Treasurer shall perform such other duties in connection with the financial administration as the Board of Directors may prescribe to include the annual Federal and State Filings.

F. Audits: The Board of Directors shall have conducted, in a manner, time and place as they may designate, an examination and audit of all books, records and accounts maintained in the name of REOKC, provided that there shall be at least one audit conducted annually and a report made **to the general membership.**

ARTICLE V BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1 – Powers

Subject to the limitations of the Bylaws as to action to be authorized or approved by the members, all powers shall be exercised by, under authority of, and the business affairs of this organization shall be conducted by the Board of Directors.

Section 2 – Members

The Board of Directors shall consist of eleven (11) members and shall include the President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer and six (6) Directors; one, the outgoing President of this organization and five (5) to be elected from the general membership. All Directors shall serve for the term of two years or until their successors shall have been named. Three of the Directors are to be elected each year in order to insure a partial continuity of the members of the Board of Directors.

Section 3 – Quorum at Meetings of the Board of Directors

Six (6) members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any of the meetings of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VI

STANDING COMMITTEE

The President shall appoint, subject to confirmation by the Board of Directors, such standing committees as may be determined to be advisable by the Board of Directors. Such committees shall be composed of such members and be vested with such authority as these Bylaws provide and as the organization may determine. All such committees shall serve for a period of one (1) year or until their successors are appointed and qualified. Vacancies occurring may be filled by appointment by the President. The President shall determine the chairman of each committee.

ARTICLE VII

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Subject to the approval of the Board of Directors, the President may appoint such other committees deemed advisable, the number of members, term of office and duties of such committees to be established at the time of appointment.

ARTICLE VIII

REVENUE & DISBURSEMENTS

Section 1 – Disbursements

No appropriation or expenditure of money shall be made except by authorization of the Board of Directors. No officer, director, member or employee of this organization shall contract any obligation or incur any debt on behalf of the organization or in any way render it liable unless authorized by the Board of Directors.

Section 2 – Special Audits

An accountant or qualified person selected by the Board of Directors shall examine the books, records and accounts of this organization at such times designated by the Board of Directors and as often as required by the organization, and shall report the results of the examination to the organization.

ARTICLE IX

AMENDMENTS

Section 1 – Amendments

These bylaws may be amended at any regular or special meeting of the REOKC Board upon the affirmative vote of a majority of the members present.

Section 2 – Suspension

A Bylaw of this organization may be suspended in case of an emergency by two-thirds vote of the REOKC Board members present, but only for a single meeting.

ARTICLE X

MISCELLANEOUS

Section 1 – Miscellaneous

Robert's Rules of Parliamentary Procedure shall be used as authority in the conduct of all meetings of Directors, except when in conflict with specific provisions of these Bylaws.

Section 2 – Publications

Information pertaining to this organization may be published periodically and will be available on the REOKC website, www.reokc.org.

The last Amended Bylaws were approved at the REOKC Board meeting on February 14, 2023.

Section 3 - Definitions

Amendments - Revisions to the 10 Articles that constitute the Bylaws.

Changes - Maintenance of non-Article items in this pamphlet