



Tri-Counties Chapter

Meeting Minutes

January 24, 2011

I. Call to order

President Dave Wareham called meeting to order at 6:30 pm at the Harbor Restaurant in Santa Barbara.

Roll call

The following individuals were present:

1. Ryan Bates, Vice President (PHPOA)
2. Matt Findlay, President (VCDSA)
3. Mark Hanks, Chapter Director, Treasurer (VCDSA)
4. Roger Stephenson, PORAC LDF, (ESPOA)
5. James Meter, Chapter Secretary (SBCDSA)
6. Ken Yuwiler, SHSW&L
7. Randy Watkins, Region III Director (VCDSA)
8. Eric Swartz, Myers Steven & Toohy
9. Mike Durant, PORAC Vice President (SBCDSA)
10. Dave Wareham, Chapter President, Director (VCDSA)
11. Gary Wyatt, AFLAC
12. Mark Sikorski, UBS Financial

II. Approval of Minutes – Dave Wareham

A motion was made by Ryan Bates to approve the minutes of the November 2010 meeting held at PORAC Conference in Las Vegas. Randy Watkins seconded the motion. No discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

III. Treasurer's Report – Ryan Bates

Treasurer Bates reported General account balance of \$10,529.59 as of January 24, 2011.

John Snowling not present. No PAC account report.

IV. PORAC Officers Report – Mike Durant

PORAC Vice President Mike Durant reported on COPS closing their doors as of December 31st. They did not advise their respective members. COPS only advised a law firm who has come behind COPS closing shop and trying to assume their business. This law firm is working hand-in-hand with the FOP.

State budget will be tough as all expected. Most associations are in concession bargaining, not typical collective bargaining. Almost everyone Mike has talked to is giving something up. Vallejo gave up 19% total package due to concession. Public employees are clearly under attack and there is a notable amount of misinformation being fed to the public.

Mike spoke about CLEA and their attempts with FOB to essentially union bust, coming in behind COPS in attempt to pick up business.

Ron Cottingham, PORAC President, sent his regards. He had planned on attending our chapter meeting but had important business to attend and was unable to make it.

V. President's Report – Dave Wareham

President Wareham reported he received information people are not receiving his emails. He will work to rectify this problem. Nothing further to report at this time.

President Wareham acknowledged and thanked Mark Hanks for his service and dedication to our chapter.

VI. Committees

Insurance & Benefits – Bill Daniels not present. Ryan Bates reported on email sent from Bill Daniels. Bill advised the I&B trust will be reviewing participating associations to determine if there will be any increases due to high utilization. There only appear to be a few associations who may fall into the high utilization category. If these associations are to receive increases, they will be advised in advance and the increases will go into affect July 2011.

Mike Durant reported on PORAC's new membership program. PORAC is using Benesys to customize the long term disability claims forms and process. Once all of the beta testing is completed, this process will be integrated with the new electronic membership program. This will assist the claims analysts in tracking claims and speed up the ability to assist members.

Eric Swartz with Myers, Stevens and Toohey was present and available for questions and assistance. Eric mentioned employer sponsored life insurance and/or disability programs. He mentioned this may be a tool to bargain with during concession bargaining and the ability to use PORAC for these plans.

Reminder about the Insurance and Benefits website www.poracinsurance.org as a resource for basic insurance questions as well as additional contact information.

Gary Wyatt with AFLAC was present and available for questions and assistance.

LDF - Director Roger Stephenson reported membership at 88,893, 907 associations in 32 states as of December 31, 2010. Net assets \$5.7 million in reserves as of December 31, 2010. LDF has 43 active criminal cases. This is obviously a significant number. Up until a couple years ago the average criminal cases was 16.

Roger touched on LDF working on avoiding automatic terminations for peace officers who end up with Brady issues. Hope is to tie this process into the Peace Officers' Bill of Rights.

Roger also gave an update on some of the other officers involved in the BART shooting. One officer was recently reinstated after being terminated.

Roger complimented PORAC in their attempts to assist associations that were dumped by COPS, left with no representation.

Roger also briefed on 5-6 year old taser related cases in Federal Court.

Roger announced his unplanned retirement due to his association's concessions to avoid layoffs. Roger will serve as our Trustee until Conference 2011, at which time he will no longer be able to serve due to PORAC rules of being an active peace officer.

Roger reminded chapter members of the LDF website which contains valuable articles and information. www.porac.org/ldf

Ken Yuwiler spoke about the history of Brady and the on-going issues being experienced. LDF panel is currently working on these issues; working towards a potential legislative fix via establishing some sort of due process for peace officers through their local District Attorneys' Office. Ken offered additional information about this issue on the heels of Roger Stephenson's initial information.

RMT – John Snowling not in attendance, no report.

PAC – no news

VII. Directors' Reports

Tri-Counties' Director John Snowling not in attendance, no report.

Executive Board Director Randy Watkins had nothing to report.

VIII. Vice-Presidents' Reports

San Luis Obispo Vice-President Dale Strobridge not in attendance, no report.

Santa Barbara County Vice-President Chris Corbett not in attendance, no report.

Ventura County Vice-President Ryan Bates reported on Port Hueneme and Oxnard's new Police Chiefs. Ryan was highly complementary of his new chief. He also spoke briefly about their current collective/concession bargaining with the City. Talks surrounded concessions and two tiered medical. Matt Findlay spoke about Ventura's new Sheriff, Geoff Dean.

IX. Unfinished Business

None discussed.

X. New Business

President Wareham and Matt Findlay presented a shadow box to recent past President Mark Hanks in acknowledgement for his years of service to the Tri-Counties Chapter. Mark was applauded and the chapter wishes him the best in his retirement.

Mark Sikorsky from UBS Financial Services gave a presentation about UBS services. Mark recently started working with PORAC and their investing. Mark has also worked with Ventura DSA for a while now. Both PORAC and VCDSA were highly complementary of UBS services, specifically working with Mark. Contact chapter Secretary for contact information.

Matt Findlay spoke briefly about issues VCDSA has had with their members purchasing military time. Working with Assemblyman Jeff Gorell for a legislative fix to change the Government Code to resolve issues. Contact chapter secretary for more information.

XI. Good of the Chapter

Motion by Matt Findlay for chapter to reimburse VCDSA expenditures for Dave Wareham's conference fee, hotel and per diem totaling \$730.72. Second by Ryan Bates. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Matt Findlay to pay Ventura Trophy for purchase of shadow box presented to Mark Hanks for the amount of \$167.79. Second by James Meter. Motion passed unanimously.

Mark Hanks' retirement celebration will occur on March 17, 2011 at Todd Road Jail. More details to follow in the near future.

XII. Adjournment

President Wareham adjourned the meeting at approximately 08:35 pm. Minutes submitted by: James Meter, Chapter Secretary