



Tri-Counties Chapter

Meeting Minutes

May 16, 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, Chapter Treasurer & V.P. Ventura Co, President (PHPOA)
2. Matt Findlay, President (VCDSA)
3. Roger Stephenson, PORAC LDF, (ESPOA) -- retired member
4. Randy Watkins, Region III Director (VCDSA)
5. Eric Swartz, Myers Steven & Toohey
6. Dave Wareham, Chapter President, Director (VCDSA)
7. Gary Wyatt, AFLAC
8. Bill Daniels, I&B Trustee, Director (SVPOA)
9. Diane Hubbard, President (VCPPOA)
10. Rene Smit, (RAM)
11. Chris Corbett, Chapter V.P. Santa Barbara Co., Director (SBCDSA)
12. Gary Fletcher, RaSport PORAC PPS
13. Chris Martinez, President (SMPOA)
14. Mike Wheeler, Treasurer (SMPOA)
15. Louis Tanore, Vice-President (SMPOA)
16. Chris Coulter, President (SVPOA)
17. Mike Galvan, Treasurer/Secretary (PHPOA)

II. Approval of Minutes – Dave Wareham

A motion was made by Matt Findlay to approve the minutes of the March 2011 meeting held at the Harbor Restaurant in Santa Barbara. Bill Daniels seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

III. Treasurer's Report – Ryan Bates

Treasurer Bates reported General account balance of \$10,541.89 as of May 16, 2011. The balance is \$2,400.00 lower than normal for this quarter because the first quarters deposit from PORAC has not come in; the deposits have not come in for anybody due to a computer glitch. Treasurer Bates has spoken with PORAC's accounting office and they advised it the deposits would not come in for another month. By the time of the next meeting he will have both the first and second quarter deposits. All the Association fees have been paid.

Director Snowling was not present for the PAC account balance.

IV. PORAC Officers Report – Mike Durant

PORAC Vice President Mike Durant unable to attend.

Randy Watkins briefed on behalf of Mike Durant. PORAC has been dealing with budget issues behind the scenes with the State and are trying to get the Republicans to work with the Democrats. The bottom line is they are all trying to look good with the current environment with the using our pensions for the reason why there is the budget problems. Initial press was not in favor of public employee pensions, but now articles are coming forth in defense of public employee pensions. This does not mean that PORAC and its members should relax because there is going to be a long hall battle with first stage of the battle is to get the budget passed to get our grant money and other law enforcement State funding that we are used to seeing for our departments.

Legislators are jockeying to use our pensions as reason for why there are no doing as well with budget. The budget deadline is the end of May or turns into no man's land. If there is no budget signed, we will see real time layoffs. PORAC's lobbyist Aaron Read and his firm believes that will be a last minute deal cut at the end of this month because the politicians don't want to go home at the end of their term. Average citizen does not want to see public safety dissolved.

Retirement issues have been pulled from legislation, but once the budget has been resolved PORAC will support this legislation. Last meeting up at

PORAC has some minor legislation that Randy will talk to those members interested in hearing. Randy spoke briefly on retirement pension alternatives.

RAM is 5,000 members strong with 1,500 members in the CCW LDF program. A sophisticated group of people hacked into the RAM member accounts. 2,600 member's data had been stolen. Luckily for us cops being cops they looked at their account. PORAC has retained several attorneys. There were between 11 and 13 actual victims that lost money. It is believed that the hackers dumped the stolen information once they realized they were being investigated. The FBI has picked up the case.

Treasurer Bates and Vice-President Corbett spoke of the pending layoffs of sworn and non-personnel from their department.

VCDSA President Findlay spoke on the budget issues with the Ventura Sheriff's Department affecting sworn personnel. There was also a discussion regarding Filmore PD who is seeking to contract out their law enforcement services with either Ventura S.O. or Santa Paula PD.

V. President's Report – Dave Wareham

President Wareham spoke on the Manager's perspective for the formula used by POST to staff law enforcement services.

President Wareham participated with Scholarship Committee was done electronically due to conflicts in scheduled meetings. There were four successful applicants from our Region. If you have a high school senior next year and they are going off to college, please encourage them to apply for the PORAC Scholarship. Applicants must follow the restrictions and directions to the letter or they will be disqualified. We had over 50 applicants who were instructed to write a one page hand written essay, 48 were two pages and were disqualified. PORAC has over 200 applicants every year. We lost a lot of good applicants but were disqualified for not following the directions. If a child has lost a parent in line of duty they automatically will receive the stamp of approval for a scholarship. Gabriel Aguirre Ryan Fleming with VSO and Brittany Alves and Steven Villanueva with SBSO. They will be here at the next meeting and they will be presented with the plaques and scholarships. The scholarships were \$1,500.00 each.

VI. Committees

Insurance & Benefits – Bill Daniels reported that there will not be any rate increases. They will look at it again in January. Next week they will meet and

discuss and work on the health insurance rates for 2012. The rates should be out by the next meeting.

Eric Swartz with Myers, Stevens and Toohey was present and available for questions and assistance. He is working with the groups for LTD coverage.

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. He informed members to stay with AFLAC because they can stay locked in at your age and premium. Vice-President Corbett thanked Gary for his service.

LDF - Director Roger Stephenson reported membership at 90,484, 942 associations in 32 states as of May 5, 2011. Net assets \$6.44 million in reserves as of May 5, 2011. LDF did a clean up of critical incident language. They have picked up a lot of former COPS members. They are not in the Tri-County Region. There is a delay in the Desert Hot Springs case. He spoke on the BART Police Officer appeal. They are receiving sex and internet cases. He spoke on the issue that there is no privacy rights for the use of the department's computer, cell, phone and pager. Each association should have received their new rate notices that are effective in July.

Roger advised chapter members to contact him with questions or concerns regarding rate increases.

Roger is required to give up his position as LDF Director due to his retirement. He has held the position for the past 8 1/2 years. He requested that members know of anyone interested in the LDF Director position to contact him. He advised that there are 24 plus days that is committed to LDF related meetings, along with conference calls. He also attends 7 to 8 chapter meetings a year.

RMT – John Snowling was not present.

PAC – John Snowling was not present. President Wareham requested that any members who are interested in politicians that are running for office as guests and are seeking an endorsement to have them please contact him

VII. Directors' Reports

Tri-Counties' Director John Snowling was not present.

Executive Board Director Randy Watkins had nothing further to report.

VIII. Vice-Presidents' Reports

San Luis Obispo Vice-President Dale Strobridge not in attendance. It was reported that he is no longer employed with SLOSO and they are looking for a new Vice-President for the north county.

Santa Barbara County Vice-President Chris Corbett reported that three sworn positions were lost in the contract of City of Carpenteria due to their budget. He also reported that five Santa Barbara County Detective positions are also being cut. He also discussed cuts of 17 Deputies pending June 17th budget hearing. Santa Barbara County is requesting labor unions to go back 2008 wages and give up the pay increase which is 3%. The SBCDSA elected him as President and Dave Brookshire was elected Vice-President. He advised that the Deputies and Custody Deputies were not going to split from their union.

Ventura County Vice-President Ryan Bates reported that on Thursday at 10:00 am for Peace Officers Memorial at the Government Center. VCDSA President Findlay spoke and said that thankfully we don't have anybody going on the wall. We give a flag to the survivors of name going back to CHP Officer Reed from 1957 the flag from the memorial a flag that flew over the nation's capital and given to either the survivor or the department. He attended the Medal of Valor dinner and because of the government budget they were allowed to use Air Force One instead of the Presidential Café. 550 people attended.

IX. Unfinished Business

None discussed.

X. New Business

Gary Fletecher with RaSports spoke and informed the members that he is a distributor with 511. He provides a 10% discount to their associations for referrals for new business. Sacramento and Alameda County department approved apparel that the associations can sell. Sacramento sold 200 hats and generated funds for their association.

Santa Maria POA President Martinez spoke and said that his department is not cutting any positions. They currently have 98 sworn and are allotted 114. He complemented PORAC Vice-President Durant for returning his phone calls. He spoke on the good service he received from Christine with LDF and LDF Attorney Ed Fishman.

XI. Good of the Chapter

No discussion.

XII. Adjournment

President Wareham adjourned the meeting at approximately 07:55 pm.
Minutes submitted by: Rene' Smit, RAM Member for James Meter Chapter
Secretary