

**Minutes**  
**Retired State Employees Association of Texas**  
**Meeting of Board of Directors**  
**RSEA Office**  
**6901 North Lamar Boulevard, Austin, TX 78752**  
**January 19, 2017**

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 p.m. by President Bill Hamilton.

**Board Members in Attendance**

Bill Hamilton, Justine Martone, Tom Griebel, Diane Thomas, Willie Piña, Dona Medlock, and Ed Dolzel. Marie Moore joined the meeting at 12:55 p.m.

**Board Members Absent**

Bill Dally, Lillie Gilligan, Don Raschke.

**Others in Attendance**

RSEA Staff: Deb El-Bathy, Celia Lovett

Guest: Catherine Melvin, prospective candidate for a seat on the ERS Board.

**Introductions**

Dona Medlock was recognized as the new RSEA board member; introductions were made by the board members and staff in attendance.

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes for the November 17, 2016, regular monthly Board meeting were presented by Bill Hamilton. Willie Piña made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted; Tom Griebel seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report and Related Financials**

Tom Griebel presented the Treasurer's reports for November and December 2016. Willie Piña made a motion to accept both reports; second by Justine Martone; motion passed unanimously.

**Standing Committee Reports**

**Communications**

No comments/new information was presented.

**Membership**

Justine Martone had no new information to share with the group.

**Office Administration**

Discussion was deferred.

**Insurance**

No comments/new information was presented.

## **Legislative**

There appears to be less revenue available than previously expected. *Note:* The Legislative Budget Board (LBB) acts *only* as an interim committee. Edits/adjustments were made to the budget by the Lt. Governor after it was received from the LBB. *Note:* The House has provided additional funding for education; the Senate did not. The revenue shortfall is attributed to the reduced income from oil & gas production.

HB 265 has been filed by Representative Ana Hernandez. The bill is regarding the composition of the board of trustees for the Employees Retirement System (ERS) of Texas, stating that one member of the board may be a retiree. {note from MM-moved this from sunset review tab}

## **Consider Creation of New Standing Committee – Board Nominations and Development**

Bill Hamilton stated he was considering a committee to be focused on board nominations and board development. He circulated the following book for review by the board: *The Ultimate Board Member's Book*.

## **Review Standing Committee Membership and Chairs, consider changes**

Due to time constraints, discussion was deferred.

## **Updates on: Newsletter, Capitol News**

The January 2017, Volume XXXVII, Number 1 newsletter, had been sent to RSEA members via postal service. Capitol News (#6) was distributed via email and web posting.

Bill H. shared an article written by Timothy W. Martin in the January 23, 2017, edition of *The Wall Street Journal*, “401(K) Pioneers Lament What They Started.” We will investigate the option to share the link for this article with the RSEA membership when the next Capitol News is prepared.

## **Update on ERS Sunset Review**

The Sunset Advisory Commission's report was finalized in January and has been made available to the appropriate legislative committees.

## **Planning Process for 2017 Annual Membership Meeting – date TBD**

St. Louis Catholic Church no longer allows use of their meeting facilities by external groups. Celia Lovett will explore other venues. Date is to be determined but preference is during the last two weeks of September and will be driven by availability of cost-effective meeting space plus catering costs.

## **Possible Volunteer Workshop Day**

Bill H. asked board members with calendar availability to meet on Tuesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 AM in the RSEA office for a brainstorming session regarding RSEA volunteer opportunities.

## **Updates regarding AMBA and Texans for Secure Retirement**

Bill H. noted that new management-level staff had been employed at AMBA.

**Social Media Discussion Points**

Deb El-Bathy reviewed the notes she prepared for the board regarding Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn, as well as the 80/20 rule of information sharing/distributing – 80% of the general info should appeal to a broad base of consumers; 20% of the information should pertain to RSEA. The board will review and consider media options.

**Guest – Catherine Melvin**

At 2:00 p.m., Ms. Melvin joined the meeting. She introduced herself and fielded questions regarding her quest to be elected to the ERS Board. Ms. Melvin asked for endorsement by RSEA.

**Executive Session**

The board went into executive at session at 2:45 p.m. and reconvened at 2:55 p.m.

**Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m. upon motion by Marie Moore and second by Justine Martone.

**Next RSEA Board Meeting**

The next board meeting is scheduled for February 16, 2017.

A meeting of the ERS Board of Trustees is scheduled for February 22, 2017.