

MISSISSIPPI RETIRED PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

MINUTES

JANUARY 9, 2017, BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

MISSISSIPPI HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION – CLINTON, MS

I. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

President Becky Cade called the meeting to order at approximately 10:00 a.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance.

Board members in attendance included: Becky Cade, Ann Thames, Mike Lightsey, Bob Rhoads, Howell Garner, Virgil Belue, Billy Thames, Sam Valentine, Jane Dykes, Mike Larsen, Ed LeGrand, Ann Homer Cook, Lucian Hill, Hoopy Stringer, Margo Bowers, Dale Sullivan, Curt Thompson, Wynona Winfield, Tony Byrne, Marty Wiseman, and Preston Ratliff.

Guests included: Don Hinton, executive director of the Mississippi High School Activities Association; Ricardo Hunco, director of application development for BFAC; Davetta Lee, counsel and policy advisor for the Public Employees' Retirement System of Mississippi (PERS); and Deirdre McGowan, president of Insight, Ltd. and executive director of MRPEA.

II. INVOCATION

Cade called on Howell Garner to deliver the invocation. Garner led the prayer.

III. WELCOME FROM MHSAA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Don Hinton, executive director of the Mississippi High School Activities Association, welcomed everyone in attendance and made a few brief remarks.

IV. AGENDA APPROVAL

Cade asked for approval of the board meeting agenda with one amendment. A motion was made by Ann Homer Cook to accept the agenda as amended, and the motion was seconded by Curt Thompson. Motion carried. The agenda is attached to these minutes as *Appendix A*.

V. BFAC

Cade asked Ricardo Hunco, director of application development for BFAC, to describe the services offered by BFAC (BFAC = Buy From A Christian). Hunco provided a brief background on BFAC and his history with the company. Hunco explained that BFAC offers a texting option and a mobile application (app) that would offer MRPEA additional tools for communicating with its members. Members would have to opt-in to the texting option and would have to download the app to their mobile device to gain access. BFAC would develop the app tailored to the organization. Hunco suggested that board members visit bfac.com to learn more.

VI. PERS UPDATE

Cade asked Davetta Lee to provide an update on PERS. Lee provided a report on select facts and figures from PERS Facts & Figures publication. Lee reported that the projected funded ratio in 2042 is currently 62.6 percent, which is the first year in which the projected funding ratio in 2042 is below the 75 percent benchmark. If the projected funded ratio in 2042 remains below the 75 percent benchmark for a second year, a contribution rate increase will be triggered at an amount sufficient to bring the projected funded ratio in 2042 to at least 85 percent.

Lee reported that PERS 2017 legislative initiatives include minor technical amendments bills for PERS and the Mississippi Deferred Compensation Plan. Lee stated that PERS would not be moving forward with legislation to change vesting from eight to four years for all members.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Treasurer's Report

Cade called upon Mike Lightsey to present the Treasurer's Report. Lightsey reported fiscal year-to-date (Aug. 1 through Dec. 31) income of \$14,597.00 and expenses of \$13,684.77 with net income of \$912.23. Lightsey reported that, as of Dec. 31, the reconciled Trustmark checking account balance was \$39,874.85 and the Regions CD balance was \$44,970.20. A motion was made by Mike Larsen to accept the Treasurer's Report and was seconded by Sam Valentine. Motion passed.

A brief discussion ensued relative to adding a donations module to NeonCRM; however, it was decided that the additional cost of \$30 per month for the module would exceed the amount of donations currently received.

B. Secretary's Report

Cade called upon Bob Rhoads to present the Secretary's Report. Rhoads asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the October 10, 2016, board meeting, which had been provided to board members in advance of the meeting today. Garner moved for approval; Thames seconded. Motion carried.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Update on Commercial General Liability Insurance

Cade asked Deirdre McGowan to provide a report on her efforts to obtain commercial general liability insurance for the organization. McGowan reported that she had obtained a quote for \$4,728.65 from Western World Insurance Company to provide the organization liability insurance coverage at MRPEA-sponsored meetings and events. A discussion ensued. Cade and McGowan will pursue other options, including, but not necessarily limited to, obtaining liability insurance coverage for each meeting rather than blanket coverage.

B. BFAC business texting and mobile app

Cade reported that BFAC had provided a quote of \$1,200 annually to provide (1) unlimited business text messages through the BFAC texting portal to up to 5,000 unique customers who opt in by texting and (2) a customized mobile app with unlimited app downloads. A discussion ensued. Following the discussion, Ed LeGrand made a motion to enter into a one-year contract with BFAC to begin on or about May 1, 2017, and for the executive committee to evaluate whether to continue the contract for a second year and bring a recommendation to the Board after one year of experience with the service; Thames seconded. Motion carried.

C. Resignation of Rhonda Yates

Cade reported that Rhonda Yates has resigned from the Board because she has moved out of District 3. No formal action was required.

D. New district director appointment(s)

Cade reported that she did not yet have a district director replacement for District 3. She stated that she welcomes recommendations from board members. Cade also reported that District 4 (Hinds, Madison, Rankin) remains without a district director.

E. Contracting for marketing services

Cade sought input from board members about potentially hiring an individual or a firm to assist with marketing the organization to potential members. A brief discussion ensued. A decision was made for Cade and McGowan to research options and bring back a recommendation to the Board. No formal action was required.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Networking

Cade called upon Larsen to present the Networking Committee report. Larsen stated that a meeting of representatives from the partner organizations would follow the board meeting and that board members were welcome to stay for the meeting. The purpose of the scheduled meeting is to provide an opportunity for representatives from the partner organizations to gain a better understanding of the relevant facts concerning PERS and to discuss ways that the organizations can work together in support of PERS. Larsen read the names of the 19 partner organizations. Larsen reported that his committee will continue to work to identify organizations interested in partnering with MRPEA.

Cade asked for a motion to approve the cost of providing lunches to the representatives from the partner organizations, which had previously been approved by the executive committee. LeGrand made the motion to approve; seconded by Thames. Motion carried.

B. Legislative

Cade called upon LeGrand to present the Legislative Committee report. LeGrand reported that a letter was mailed to the members of the Mississippi Legislature and statewide elected officials in November 2016 requesting support for leaving PERS as it is today.

LeGrand reported that select members of the Legislative Committee met with Speaker Philip Gunn Friday, December 16, 2016, at 10:30 a.m. at the request of Speaker Gunn.

Thames reminded board members that we cannot become complacent.

LeGrand reported that select members of the Legislative Committee are scheduled to meet with Lt. Governor Tate Reeves Wednesday, January 11, 2017, at 3:30 p.m.

A brief discussion ensued relative to the possible need for a paid lobbyist.

Cade reminded board members about MRPEA Day at the Capitol scheduled for Wednesday, February 8, 2017, at 10:30 a.m. in the Rotunda at the Capitol.

C. Communications

Cade called upon Rhoads to present the Communications Committee report. Rhoads stated that, for the sake of time, the written report of activities provided in advance of the meeting would serve as the Communications Committee report. The Communications Committee report has been made a part of these minutes as *Appendix B*.

D. Membership

Cade called upon Garner to provide a report of the Membership Committee. Garner reported that MRPEA added 107 new members during calendar year 2016 and that there are now 2,277 active members on the membership rolls.

X. OTHER BUSINESS

Cade solicited from board members email addresses for retiree representative candidates to the PERS Board of Trustees. Cade reported that she wants to send surveys to the candidates, but she does not have contact information for most of the candidates.

Virgil Belue stated that the Board needs to rethink the name of the organization if it wants to attract new members. Belue noted that, although active members may join, the name of the organization suggests that membership is limited to retirees.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Bob Rhoads
MRPEA Secretary



AGENDA

MRPEA BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING

January 9, 2017

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|-------|-------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| I. | WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER | Becky Cade |
| II. | INVOCATION | Howell Garner |
| III. | WELCOME FROM MHSAA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR | Don Hinton |
| IV. | AGENDA APPROVAL | Becky Cade |
| V. | BFAC | Ricardo Hunco |
| VI. | PERS UPDATE | Davetta Lee |
| VII. | OLD BUSINESS | |
| | A. Treasurer's Report | Mike Lightsey |
| | B. Secretary's Report | Bob Rhoads |
| | a. Approval of Minutes from October 10, 2016, Board Meeting | |
| VIII. | NEW BUSINESS | |
| | A. Update on commercial general liability insurance | Becky Cade |
| | B. BFAC mobile app and business texting | Becky Cade |
| | C. Resignation of Rhonda Yates | Becky Cade |
| | D. New district director appointment(s) | Becky Cade |
| | E. Contracting for marketing services | Becky Cade |
| IX. | COMMITTEE REPORTS | |
| | A. Networking | Mike Larsen |
| | B. Legislative | Ed LeGrand |
| | C. Communications | Bob Rhoads |
| | D. Membership | Howell Garner |
| X. | OTHER | |
| XI. | ADJOURNMENT | |



Communications Committee Report (1/9/2017)

1. NEWSLETTER

- A. Fall issue posted online/emailed October 31 and mailed early in November
- B. Winter issue to be distributed in late January/early February

2. WEBSITE

- A. Updates to pages and links
 - i. Updated About tab/page following adoption of 2016/2017 Strategic Plan
 - ii. Updated Committees page based on new committee assignments
 - iii. Posted approved July 11, 2016, meeting minutes to Meetings & Events tab/page
 - iv. Updated PERS Know the Facts page based on updated figures released by PERS in November 2016
- B. Will continue to make website updates/revisions when and as needed

3. SOCIAL MEDIA

- A. Posting about weekly to Facebook @ <https://www.facebook.com/MississippiRPEA/>
 - i. Facebook page is slowly and organically gaining more likes (837 as of December 27, up from 317 a year ago)
 - ii. Most popular recent posts include:
 - 1. *PERS releases 30-year projection report (posted December 14)*
 - 2. *Jeff Amy AP article related to PERS projection report (posted December 16)*
- B. Posting less frequently to Instagram account @ MyMRPEA
 - i. About 105 followers as of December 27
 - ii. Will take time to grow a significant following on this platform

4. OTHER

- A. Assisted with selected communications as needed