



Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 8, 2018
Mississippi Gaming Commission, Jackson, MS

Welcome and Call to Order

The MRPEA Board Meeting was called to order at 10:06 AM by Ann Thames.

Members Present

Judy Clark	Robert McNeil
George Dale	Randy McCoy
Jane Dykes	Preston Ratliff
Howell Garner	J. Hoopy Stringer
Lucian Hill	Ann Thames
Joe Johnson	Sam Valentine
Ed Legrand	Evelyn Webb
Olin Lewis	Wynona Winfield

Members Not Present

Ronald Bell	Mike Lightsey
Virgil F. Belue	Thomas Loftin
Richard Black	Robert McNeil
Margo Bowers	Michael Myrick
Tony Byrne	Dale T. Sullivan
Alton Cobb	Billy Thames
James Cushman	Anita Toler
Lester Herrington	Wilma White
Wylma King	Marty Wiseman
Mike Larsen	

Guest

Emily Pote, MRPEA Executive Director

Invocation

Ann Thames called on Sam Valentine to give the invocation. Valentine led the prayer.

Agenda Approval

Ann Thames asked for the approval of the board meeting agenda. Judy Clark made a motion, Ed Legrand seconded the motion, and all approved.

Old Business

Treasurer's Report

Reporting for Mike Lightsey, Emily Pote reported that for the 2018 fiscal year, the organization had a deficit of \$8,370.10. She also reported that as of October 7, the Trustmark checking

account had a balance of \$35,096.69 and the Regions CD had a balance of \$45,088.23. Pote also presented the Expense report and Income report for August 1 through October 7, which included all expenses and income for this period. Expenses came to \$4,415.50 and income was at \$2,930.00. On the Profit and Loss Budget Vs Actual, Pote pointed out that total income for this fiscal year is \$2,930.00 and total expense is \$4,415.50. A motion was made by Ed Legrand and seconded by Preston Ratliff. Motion passed.

Approval of July 9, 2018, Board Meeting Minutes

Ann Thames asked for a motion to approve the July 9, 2018 board meeting minutes, which had been provided to the board members. Ed Legrand moved for approval, and Howell Garner seconded. Motion passed.

Executive Director's Report

Emily Pote presented her Executive Director's Report. She reported that the annual meeting went well and that she is already looking ahead to the 2019 meeting. She has also been and will be doing a fair amount of Exhibiting. In October alone, she is in Tunica for the MAPA conference, in Jackson for the MPHA conference, and in Hattiesburg for the DMH conference. She reported that the Fall newsletter is in the mail this week and she will be posting it online and on social media. She asked for any exhibiting ideas that the board had. She also noted that in 2017-2018 the number of new members was now. She asked the board to reach out to new people and encouraged them to use her as a resource.

Committee Reports

Networking Committee

Ann reported for Mike Larson that the Networking committee is actively looking for new partners and working hard to create relationships with other groups.

Legislative Committee

Ed Legrand reported that while the legislative session is over, he asked everyone to stay vigilant in the coming year. Ann reported that she and Emily Pote attended the Legislative Budget Hearing for PERS. She discussed the feel of the room and asked everyone to keep their ears open.

Communications

Wynona Winfield reported that she continues to work with the District Directors. She is continuing her grassroots efforts this year and encouraged all board members to find people in their districts to help with these efforts. She presented the Facebook statistics for the year. Currently MRPEA has 1042 likes on Facebook. She is working on a communication plan and getting the word out about what is going on in our retirement system and neighboring states. She is also working on a response to negative press and is looking for ways for us to find out what people are saying about PERS. She is working towards the association being proactive instead of reactive. To do that she is hoping to get our stance out there. She asked the association to let her or Emily know about what you see out there.

Membership

Howell Garner presented the membership report. Since the beginning of the year, we have had 57 new annual members, 901 renewals, and 17 life members sign up. He encouraged everyone to reach out to those who might be interested in becoming a member. Howell reported that Randy McCoy will be speaking at Co-Lin later this week.

New Business

Association Health Plans

Emily reported that the Trump administration has changed the laws regarding health insurance and associations. We as an association would be able to offer health insurance to our members under this new law. While she does not think this is for us right now, she will be watching as things unfold and will keep the board abreast of news.

FY 2019 Events

Ann Thames reminded everyone of our upcoming Board meeting and our MRPEA Day at the Capitol (all listed below). She encouraged everyone to come to the Day at the Capitol and to bring a member. She also reported that she has contacted MRPEA's sister association in Alabama and they will be attending our January Board Meeting. Finally, Ann asked everyone to begin thinking about our 2019 Annual Meeting. She suggests forming a committee within the organization to help Emily with the 2019 Conference. She is also working on a legislative survey for the 2019 election candidates.

Monday, January 14, 2019 – Quarter 2 Board Meeting
Flowood Library Building- 103 Winner's Circle Dr, Flowood, MS
Meeting – 10:00 AM, lunch to follow

Thursday, January 17, 2019 – MRPEA Day at the Capitol
Mississippi State Capitol
8:30 AM – 11:00 AM in the First Floor Rotunda

Monday, April 8, 2019 – Quarter 3 Board Meeting
Flowood Library Building- 103 Winner's Circle Dr, Flowood, MS
Meeting – 10:00 AM, lunch to follow

Monday, July 8, 2019 – Quarter 4 Board Meeting
Embassy Suites Ridgeland
Meeting – 10:00 AM, lunch to follow

Monday, July 8, 2019 – Annual Membership Meeting
Embassy Suites Ridgeland

Adjournment

Ann encouraged the board to stay for the Annual Meeting.

There being no further business, Ann Thames made a motion to adjourn the meeting at approximately 11:36 AM. Ed Legrand seconded the motion and all approved.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Emily Pote