

## REMCOAI Board of Directors Zoom Meeting

April 19, 2023

President Jackie Walther-Parnell set up recording in the cloud rather than to her computer to allow the meeting to be shared for the minutes. Secretary LaVon Justice had computer issues and was running security scans to clear her hard drive.

At approximately 9:40 AM President Walther-Parnell called the meeting to order with a roll call: President Walther-Parnell, Vice President Scott Johnston, Treasurer Lola Barnett, and Directors Eric Swenson, Jim Pacheco, Lori Norman, Mike Harris, Richard St. Marie and Bernedette Castaneda. Not present: Past President John Carlisle and Secretary LaVon Justice was late; Quorum met.

President Walther-Parnell stated that as Secretary Justice was not available to present the minutes of the January 16, 2023 REMCOAI Board of Directors Zoom Meeting, Treasurer Lola Barnett will present the Treasurer's Report now.

Treasurer Barnett reported that the summary of the MERC0 checking account as of April 15, 2023 for Fiscal Year 10/01/22 – 09/30/23 has a balance forward of \$163,384.76, deposits of \$29,919.00, expenses of \$19,62.58 and interest of \$42.36 for the current total of \$174,181.35 which includes about \$600 in outstanding checks that have not been deposited yet. The current value of the Pension Protection Fund is \$134,451.15. **\*M (SJ)/S (JP) /P.**

Director Jim Pacheco asked about the number of Scholarships given. Treasurer Barnett reported that REMCO provides \$5,000 for Scholarships annually and the fifth scholarship is at the discretion of the committee to be given to either Graduating Seniors or Continuing Education students and this year eight scholarship applications were received by the deadline of March 31, 2023. There are two from Graduating Seniors and six from Continuing Education Students. This year two scholarships are going to Graduating Seniors and three to Continuing Education students. She hopes to receive the remaining scoring sheets from three of the Scholarship Committee members by the end of the month to print the names of the Scholarship winners in the REMCO Newsletter.

President Walther-Parnell asked the status of the nominations for the Executive Committee composed of the President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. Director Richard St. Marie, Elections Chair, reported one nomination for Vice President and one nomination for Treasurer had been received by the deadline. Treasurer Barnett reported she had submitted a nomination for LaVon Justice to continue as Secretary. President Walther-Parnell asked the names of the two nominations. Director St. Marie reported that Lori Norman's name was submitted for Vice President and he had submitted his name for Treasurer. President Walther-Parnell stated she had hoped someone would have submitted a nomination for President as it has been a rough three months, still not where she thought she would be at this point of time. President Walther-Parnell asked Vice President Johnston if he is staying on the Board or stepping down. Vice President Johnston stated he will be stepping down. He remains the Retirement Board Representative until the end of the year when his and Director Harris' term as Retirement Board

Alternate will end. He is contemplating whether he will choose to enter his name or not for another three-year term. Treasurer Barnett noted that it was her understanding that she would be Past President after she steps down as Treasurer which was confirmed by President Walther-Parnell. President Walther-Parnell said that by June she would make a decision on whether to continue as President or to find someone to fill her position and step down.

President Walther-Parnell placed a call to Secretary Justice for an update on her status. Secretary Justice relayed that the security scans were not completed yet, but estimated that another five minutes or so should put her back online. President Walther-Parnell asked the Treasurer about the process of confirming the election of the new Officers who replied that the general members confirm the election at the General meeting.

President Walther-Parnell reported with Lori Norman as Vice President and Richard St. Marie as Treasurer, two names for Directors would be needed. As Secretary Justice has the Emergency Fill List and isn't available to report how many names remain on the list at this time, we will wait on whom to consider as Directors at a later time; as President she can appoint Directors. Approve Lori Norman to serve as Vice President and Richard St. Marie to serve as Treasurer as of October 1, 2023 and will be confirmed by the members at the September 12, 2023 REMCO General Meeting. \*M (LB)/S (SJ)/P.

President Walther-Parnell reported as no information from Committee Chairs at this time and a date hasn't been determined yet, will put on later Agenda.

Director Mike Harris reported the website is up and active, any content gets forwarded to our guy who gets it posted quickly and that he had received a lot of positive feedback on the new REMCO Merced website, with only one negative comment. Director Harris has worked with IMedia and they have responded well to requests for postings. President Walther-Parnell stated that almost all of the CRCEA Counties have an updated website, with possibly the exception of Imperial County.

Director Harris provided an update on the Facebook page of currently 198 members. President Walther-Parnell commented that about 1,000 members who aren't on Facebook would not receive information and access to pictures and forms if the website was not updated and available to them. President Walther-Parnell appreciated all the people who were involved in processing invites to join the Facebook page while she was unavailable. Treasurer Barnett noted that there are instances when people use an alias on their Facebook account that did not match the information on the master list of REMCO membership. She and Director Bernedette Castaneda had problems identifying a request to join and finally gathered enough information to identify the member's name to complete the invite process. President Walther-Parnell stated the form does ask if the name on their Facebook account isn't the same as their Membership name, they were to add that information on the form to facilitate the process.

Treasurer Barnett asked if the activities that she has responsibility for would all go to the new Treasurer or would they be delegated to others? Director Lori Norman stated that she would take reservations for June as she had done for March. Treasurer Barnett confirmed she would take reservations for June as well as she would still be Treasurer. Director Harris requested a short bio

from each of the new Directors for the Newsletter and the webpage. Treasurer Barnett asked when he needed the content to be in the Newsletter. Director Harris stated May 10<sup>th</sup> would be the deadline for the President's Corner, the bio's is on-space-available status.

President Walther-Parnell hopes to be at the June meeting but if not, Vice President Scott Johnston would be available. Director Harris reported that he may not be at the June meeting if a medical appointment is confirmed. Director Harris asked if Director Eric Swenson would handle the live-stream of the meeting for him and he can edit it down later. Director Swenson stated he would practice and they could work on it together before the meeting. President Walther-Parnell reported she still had the video from the December 2022 meeting on her phone but could not send it to Director Harris because it was too large to send. Director Harris stated he could supply a link that would go to his Google Drive and he would send the link to her. President Walther-Parnell asked Director Jim Pacheco if he would handle the registration who confirmed he would and Director Swenson reported he handled it in March and would do it again. Vice President Johnston stated if he is hosting in June then he would need Director Pacheco on ticket sales as he had handled that in March, with the agreement that everyone was flexible to shift their responsibilities where needed. Treasurer Barnett reported she could ask Karolyn Alvarez to help with registrations as usually she is available which will free Directors Pacheco and Swenson up to handle ticket sales and gathering lunch tickets or other responsibilities as needed.

President Walther-Parnell started to inquire about who was attending the CRCEA Conference for April when Director Castaneda reported that she would have to leave in about ten minutes and she was wondering if anyone was interested in an in-person meeting or were all to be Zoom meetings. President Walther-Parnell stated that she would need to use Zoom for a while as she is not able to drive yet. She suggested that the item to be on another Agenda to discuss for later. Treasurer Barnett reported that Vice President Johnston had mentioned that a conference room may be available to us for in-person meetings at MERCO's administrative office on 18<sup>th</sup> Street.

Vice President Johnston reported that Directors Richard St. Marie and Pacheco and himself would be attending the CRCEA Conference held on April 23-26, 2023. President Walther-Parnell reported that Wednesday will be for delegates to vote on items. Other attendees are welcome to sit in on the meeting but Vice President Johnston would be there to vote on upcoming issues. Discussion held on mode of transportation, acknowledging that Director St. Marie would be going down earlier as he has friends in the area to visit before the conference and Vice President Johnston and Director Pacheco would be driving together although nothing has been confirmed at this moment.

President Walther-Parnell asked about door prizes for the June meeting with Treasurer Barnett reporting that about \$800 is available to use for the meeting. She recommended gas cards and food cards and checks and queried if Director Pacheco wanted to provide for the June meeting as he had for March. Director Pacheco confirmed that he would handle that. Director Norman mentioned that something big to sit up front would get more interest in ticket sales. Discussion was held on the amount and agreed that \$400 would be available to Director Pacheco for the June meeting. Treasurer Barnett would use \$400 in gas and food cards and checks.

President Walther-Parnell asked about Scholarship winners. Treasurer Barnett reported that she didn't have the full tally as several scorers had not turned in their score sheets. There were eight applications submitted; two are Graduating Seniors and six are Continuing Education students.

President Walther-Parnell reported that Secretary Justice was on the phone, who reported that the link did not allow her to join the Zoom meeting and that she would try the phone connection and passcode to enter the meeting.

Treasurer Barnett continued that the scorers who had submitted their score sheets had found the applications to be of very good quality and expect to receive the last three score sheets by the end of the week. President Walther-Parnell asked if we would have two parents for each winner. Treasurer Barnett replied that a letter would be sent to the selected winners and request whether they would be attending and how many would be attending the June meeting or have their certificate sent to them. Discussion held on how many attending as REMCO pays for their lunches. REMCO members who are listed on the applications usually pay for their own lunches so if the winner brings both parents that would be three lunches per winner. Some winners come alone and are joined by the REMCO member who provided the Scholarship application. Discussion concluded REMCO would provide lunch for the winners who attend and two parents. President Walther-Parnell reported an update: her daughter had attended several years ago to receive her scholarship; she has graduated and she has her Master's Degree and the Board members congratulated her and her daughter.

Vice President Johnston asked if there will be speakers at the June meeting. Director Norman reported that she had two suggestions from the last meeting. One person said a fireman would come to their home to test their fire alarms. Director Swenson said that one of his friends had his checks washed and the amount changed. It would be good to have law enforcement or AARP who could talk about different scams. Treasurer Barnett reported that she had brought a Detective to a meeting on scams and would be happy to connect with the Police for Director Norman. Director Swenson reported he needed to leave.

President Walther-Parnell reported that Secretary LaVon Justice was on the phone.

President Walther-Parnell asked who was the winner of the \$50 quarterly draw. Treasurer Barnett reported that was Ruth Tomlinson. Discussion on the information not being on the agenda. Secretary Justice reported that information wasn't on the draft Agenda but Ruth Tomlinson, 168 Parkwest St, Merced was on the Final Agenda.

Director Bernedette reported that she had to leave the meeting.

President Walther-Parnell reported the last item was any other business: did anyone have something to add? Treasurer Barnett asked what happens if REMCO disbanded; what happens to the funds in our checking account and Pension Protection Plan and is it addressed in our By-Laws. It's something that we need to address and something for the Board to look at.

Director Norman reported that she had to leave the meeting. Treasurer Barnett asked her if she wanted Treasurer Barnett to call the police department for someone to come to the June meeting and Director Norman confirmed that action.

Director Harris suggested that we ajenized the item of what happens if REMCO disbanded.

Treasurer Barnett asked what duties that Director St. Marie would like to take on and if they can meet together. Director St. Marie concurred.

President Walther-Parnell asked Secretary Justice if she knew who was on the Emergency Fill List. Secretary Justice stated she would check on who was on the list.

No Other Business – meeting closed at 10:40 AM \***M** (LB)/**S** (SJ)/**P**

\*Motion/Seconded/Pass