

## MID-JEFFERSON COUNTY RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL MINUTES

January 11, 2011

The regular meeting of the Mid-Jefferson County Retired School Personnel was held at the Ritter Senior Citizen Center in Nederland, Texas, on January 11, 2011, at 1:30 PM with 38 members present.

The meeting was called to order by President Dana Wasser.

The invocation was given by Richard Briggs. Pledges of Allegiance were led by Anita Harrell.

Richard Briggs introduced Judge Brad Burnett, Justice of the Peace, Pct. of 7 Jefferson County, who explained truancy problems and the beginning of self improvement parenting classes. Members were given a brochure entitled Active Parenting of Teens, presenting the objectives for each class session. He asked members for suggestions toward helping students and parents.

Refreshments were provided by Rose Reese (Chair), Linda Briggs, Olive Hall, and Becky Dungan.

Following refreshments, President Dana Wasser called the Business Meeting to order.

Secretary Ellen Thornton reported that minutes of the December 14, 2010, meeting were sent to members by email, and a few copies were available for reading on each table. One correction was made that memorials were sent for Edna Nixon and John Wasser instead of cards. The minutes were approved as corrected.

Wanda Borne, Treasurer, gave the treasurer's report, which was filed for audit. Balance for 12/31/10 is \$4,768.66. (See attached)

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Community Volunteers**-Jessie Howard reminded members to call or email their volunteer total hours.

Transportation time should also be counted by volunteers. Her report has a January 14 deadline. President Dana suggested members might be interested in the regional Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP).

**Health Care**-Helen Reynolds reminded members to email their steps to her before the January 14 deadline. She presented a program that Dr. Doug Lefton from Ohio formed with the Summit County Medical Society and the CEO of Pre Paid Lab in Ohio that allows patients to order tests through the Society's website and then take orders to LabCorp sites in 47 states. The CNN article further reported patients receive tests at a small fraction of normal cost by providing their doctor's fax number.

**Legislative**-Richard Briggs stated that there will be at least a 29 billion dollar shortfall, resulting in the possible lowering of the state's contribution to 6% to the TRS fund. This would make it far less likely to allow any kind of permanent raise to retirees. TRS-Care will probably stay the same. A retired teacher legislative rally is planned for Wednesday, March 23, in Austin at the Capitol. Retired teachers should wear red shirts. Details can be found on Tim Lee's website.

**Informative and Protective Services**- Linda Fong congratulated Lana Parker, president of the Port Neches-Groves Independent School District Board of Trustees, for being named the 2010-2011 School Board Trustee of the Year by the Texas Classroom Teachers Association, which will be presented to her in Austin on February 3. Linda sent get well cards to Janell Scroggs and Shirley Ramey. A memorial was provided for Violette Ladd.

**Membership**-Jean Butaud read a list of people who have paid the state dues, but not the \$10 local dues. She asked members to talk with any listed they might know and explain how much they are needed.

**Foundation**-Sylvia Ramirez informed members that memorials can be given to the Foundation, and that money is available for scholarships.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Becky Dungan, Nominating Committee Chairman, declared that the Nominating Committee members Patricia Allen, Kaye Barnard, Paula Kanasaw, Gail Krohn, Marie Redding, and she recommend the following 2011-2012 Officers: President-Dana Wasser, 1st V-P-Linda Briggs, 2nd V-P-Lynne James, and Secretary-Sue Croom. The nominee for Treasurer will be presented by the next meeting. Jean Butaud assumed the position of President, and asked if there were any other nominations. Richard Briggs moved (Lana Parker) for these nominations for 2011-2012 officers be elected by acclamation. Motion passed.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

President Dana confirmed that election of State Convention delegates for the April 12-14 in San Antonio needs to be made by March 1. With the membership total we have at present, the unit can send four delegates. If we reach 300 members, we can send a total of 5. The possible members attending were discussed. President Dana informed members interested in going to contact her before next month so a list can be developed at our next meeting.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- Turn in community service hours to Jessie Howard and steps in Walks-A-Million program to Helen Reynolds
- Newsletter will be assembled Wednesday, January 26, 10:00 AM, Hebert Library (PN)
- February 8 meeting - Brent Weaver - new county commissioner - Jefferson County issues in 2011
- February refreshments: Linda Fong ( Chair), Mary Loftin, Donna Lumpkin, Dixie Tucker

The business meeting adjourned at 2:57 P