

Mid-Jefferson County Retired School Personnel Minutes
Tuesday, March 14, 2023

The business meeting of the Mid-Jefferson County Retired School Personnel was held at Effie & Wilton Hebert Public Library in Port Neches, Texas on Tuesday, March 14, 2023. The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by President Charlie Jehlen. President Jehlen also led us in the invocation and pledges of allegiance. The minutes of February 14, 2023, meeting had been emailed to members. There being no additions or corrections, the minutes were approved by committee and floor as printed. Lynne James presented the treasurer's report which stated that the total balance on hand as of February 28, 2023, was \$14,395.56 (which includes scholarship money). The report was filed for audit.

Committee Reports

Health – Chair Helen Reynolds shared that in 2024, we will have a new pharmacy plan with Express Scripts that will be establishing web sites for finding information about our new plan. Be sure to read all regular mail and emails from Express Scripts because they will contain valuable information about the new plan, and health fairs to sign up for will be available in the fall. TRS worked hard to get us the best plan they could, so we should take advantage of all it offers. Helen also shared a handout entitled "What Does this Mean for You?" which gives a brief overview of ID cards, pharmacies, prescriptions, upcoming communications, and health fairs.

Membership – Chair Becky Dungan reported that our TRTA statewide membership increased to 95,000 this year which is the first increase in membership since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. The membership drive for our chapter for 2023-2024 began March 1st. Current membership forms went out with the March newsletter. Money and membership forms are to be sent to Lynne James. Many members have already renewed their membership for the coming year.

Programs and Book Project - Chair Cathy Purgahn stated that 211 books were distributed to 4th graders at Groves Elementary and all were very appreciative. Cathy also asked for any ideas for programs for 2023-2024.

Nominations – Immediate Past President Lynne James nominated Tricia Kimball to serve as treasurer for the next chapter year. Helen Reynolds seconded. The motion passed by acclamation.

Legislative – Chair Richard Briggs urged members to read *The Inside Line* for information regarding bills to be voted on in the legislature. Richard stated that all bills have been filed and all "looks good." He also encouraged members to write to Speaker Dade Phelan to thank him for his support for COLA.

Safety - Chair Mary Sue Carter shared a handout entitled "Safety Tips" which included cover up, sunscreen can help a lot, common skin cancers – and what to look for, basal cell carcinomas, squamous cell carcinomas, malignant melanomas, and using the UV Index.

Community Volunteer Services – Chair Candye Martin shared that our chapter had 36,976 volunteer hours with 88 members contributing for 2022 - 2023.

Newsletter and Historian – Chair Jolene Lemaire asked that news items for the April newsletter reach her by March 24th.

Scholarship – Chair Linda Briggs shared that the Awards Night at which scholarships will be awarded will be April 12, 2023, for Nederland and April 21, 2023, for Port Neches – Groves.

Hospitality – Refreshments for the March meeting were provided by Brenda Philyaw, Helen Reynolds and Donna Lumpkin.

President's Report

President Charlie Jehlen stated that the goals for our unit remain as before excepting that he is raising MJCRSP member goal to 350 members by December 31, 2023. Charlie also stated that Bonne Vie will host our luncheon on November 14, 2023.

2023-2024 Goals

- Maintain and increase membership enrollment. TRTA Goal is 100,000 members. MJCRSP goal is 350 members by December 31, 2023
- Increase active teacher contact and encourage participation
- Establish personal contact with government representatives at every level.

Unfinished Business:

None

New Business:

- **Lynne James:** reminded members to "Tell Your Story."

Program:

Donna Lumpkin introduced our guest speaker, Lisa Boler, founder and CEO of Harvest House, who shared information regarding sex trafficking in Southeast Texas. She was joined by Hannah Moore and Jennifer Cha Ruch who gave additional information.

Announcements:

- **April Newsletter deadline:** Submissions to Jolene Lemaire by March 24, 2023
- **NO MJCRSP Meeting in April**
- **TRTA Day at the Capitol:** April 12, 2023
- **TRTA District 5 Spring Conference:** May 5, 2023, First Baptist Church, Nederland, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.; hosted by MJCRSP; lunch \$10 payable to MJCRSP; Session selections to Charlie by April 19, 2023
- **Next MJCRSP meeting:** May 9, 2023 at PNGISD Administration Building, 1:30 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m. with 18 members and 4 guests present.

Donna Lumpkin, Recording Secretary

Charlie Jehlen, President
