



President: Lori Norman — ByLaws Cmte Chair	MercedCERA Ret Bd Rep ALT: Michael Harris
Vice-President: Dartine Solis: (LN) Healthcare Cmte Chair, ByLaws Cmte	Director: Mary Brooks:(RSM): Chair- Election/Nomination
Secretary Karen Rodriguez: Scholarship, Healthcare & ByLaws Cmtes	Director: Michle Burroughs (JP): Registration, greenTickets, Election Cmtes
Treasurer: Richard St. Marie: Audit, Scholarship Chair	Director: Vacant : (ES/BCar): Trips, Photographer/Facebook Live
CRCEA Delegate: Lori Norman — Alt Richard St. Marie	Director: Bernedette Castaneda: ByLaws Cmtes, Scholarship Cmte
MercedCERA Retirement Bd Representative — Scott Johnston	Director: Gloria Keene (LN): Events (speakers/Presenters)
Past President: Lola Barnett	Director: Vacant : (M H): Communication/Newsletter/Facebook

MINUTES

REMCOAI Board of Directors General Meeting

In-Person Meeting (690 W. 19th Street) – 07/30/2025 9:30 AM

Meeting started with Presentation from Omarr Guerrero Association Member Benefits Advisors (AMBA) and Stephen Pettee Pacific Group Agencies (PGA).

California Retired County Employees Association (CRCEA) – sent notice on 6/12/25 regarding the acquisition of PGA (current insurance provider) by AMBA – the member plans remain the same, PGA will still be the face for members, with the backing now by AMBA. AMBA forwarded an agreement that they want REMCO to sign to formalize the relationship between REMCO and AMBA.

Omarr Guerrero said that it will be transparent to REMCO members, they are an approved vendor of CRCEA. The offer insurance programs to retirees and oversees various retiree programs. The committee asked for an in-person presentation in either September or December. Omar Guerrero said they offer to help out with Facebook and communications for free on a temporary basis until we get a person in that position (see page 2, section B of the agreement). Omar said he sent references and encouraged us to check them out and sign the contract.

St. Marie will look into getting a legal review of the document and we requested that they do an in-person presentation in September.

CALL TO ORDER: Richard St. Marie called the business meeting to order after the presentation

ROLL CALL OF ATTENDEES: Attendees were Brooks, Burroughs, Justice, Keene, Rodriguez, and St. Marie were in attendance

SECRETARY’S REPORT: Minutes of 05/07/2025 Board of Directors Meeting – Secretary LaVon Justice indicated the May 2025 meeting minutes were finalized May 30th after edits. Justice moved to submit, Keene seconded.

TREASURER REPORT: Treasurer Richard St. Marie said that President Lori Norman filed the association’s taxes, and he will get the financial report by the end of the week. A treasurer’s report will be added to the newsletter.

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Business Items:

- Treasurer Richard St. Marie reports on CRCEA Conference to Board of Directors – CRCEA Conference in Sept 28 - October 1, 2025, at the Doubletree in Pleasanton – Treasurer St Marie will attend; asked if there was anyone else who wanted to attend – Gloria Keene indicated an interest in attending. St. Marie shared that CRCEA changed how they fund conferences. Previously each County Retiree Association was responsible for hosting a conference, but now they will be funded from a small percentage of membership dues. CRCEA changed to one annual conference, and one business meeting (which will be paid for from our dues to CRCEA) effective 2027. They created two groups of member agencies; REMCO is part of Division 1. Division 1 will be hosting the conference in 2027. St. Marie is the chair of the Division 1 conference committee. Next year's conference will be in Santa Barbara in the Spring – hosted by Santa Barbara Co – last one before the change to hosting.
- September 09, 2025– Stephen Pettee, from PGA an affiliate of CRCEA, was asked to be a Speaker on addition benefits for REMCO members, he previously indicated that he was not available for the September 9th meeting - Director Gloria Keene will verify if Steve Pettee will attend or if someone else will be attend.
- Discussion on increasing the costs for members for the quarterly luncheon from \$8 to \$10 and from \$12 to \$15 for guests. REMCO currently pays \$22.95 + \$4.13 (18% tip) for each plate. Gloria Keene moved to increase the costs effective 2026 to \$10 and \$15 respectively, Mary Brooks seconded. Costs for members will stay the same through the end of 2025.
Unanimously approved, 6 ayes
- The board discussed the option of finding a financial adviser or leaving the money in CDs held with MERCO. REMCO currently has five CDs with five-year terms with different maturity dates, each with approximately \$25 invested. Gloria will call an adviser to see if there is any interest from someone outside in proposing an alternative low-risk investment.
- Attendance prize for September 09, 2025, 10th Annual Business Meeting – group decided on \$100 cash prize
- Social Ideas discussed: Hunter Farms Pumpkin Patch was a hit - no action taken, but will plan to make sure members know of the opportunity
- September 09, 2025: REMCO will invite representatives from Merced County Human Resources (Amy, Mai) and from MCERA - information only
- September 09, 2025: Gloria Keene will ask someone to speak on estate planning and possibly someone from the City of Merced Airport to provide information on travel opportunities with

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our local airport. REMCO also needs to remind members at our September meeting of the assistance that HICAP provides for Medicare Supplement and Part D open enrollment.

- Dress for Halloween at September 10th Annual Business meeting (optional) and Christmas for December 9, 2025, meeting; entertainment for December meeting will be background Christmas music, Gloria Keene suggested an ugly sweater contest for December meeting and another activity where each attendee contributes to the story and passes it on to the next person.
- Winner of the \$50 quarterly draw for September 09, 2025, 10th Annual Business Meeting – Treasurer St. Marie/President Norman – information only
- September 09, 2025, Menu Pork, salad, sides, dessert – VP Solis/President Norman - information only
- September 09, 2025, 10th Annual Meeting: Lola Barnett reservations, Director Michle Burroughs registration and collect tickets, Cindy Ramirez door prize tickets,
- Local non-profit charity donation for December 9, 2025, meeting, deadline October 14- needs to be on the agenda for the Sept 9th meeting so we can vote.
- Volunteer of the Year submissions deadline October 14, 2025 – needs to be on the agenda for the Sept 9th meeting as well.
- Vacancies: two Director vacancies – the board discussed ways to get new directors, the board plans to pitch to attendees during the September membership meeting
- Communicating by text. The board members unanimously agreed to use text to communicate, but to still use email when sending attachments.
- Post cards/Newsletter mailed 2-3 weeks prior to September 09, 2025, 10th Annual Business Meeting. Anyone volunteer to be Newsletter editor? No volunteers at the meeting
- Michel Burroughs mentioned that the College is doing bus trips again – Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk, Apple Hill, etc. – Burroughs suggested putting announcements in the newsletter for trips planned by the college for REMCO members to enjoy
- No other business - meeting ended 11:02 am

Next Board Meeting: Oct 14, 2025

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