



President: Lori Norman – ByLaws Cmte Chair	MercedCERA Ret Bd Rep ALT: Michael Harris
Vice-President: Dartine Solis: Healthcare Cmte Chair, ByLaws Cmt	Director: Mary Brooks:(RSM): Chair- Election/Nomination
Secretary Karen Rodriguez: Scholarship, Healthcare & ByLaws Cmt	Director: Michle Burroughs- Registration, greenTickets, Election Cmt
Treasurer: Richard St. Marie: Audit, Scholarship Chair	Director: Kelly Pedrozo: Trips, activities, door prizes
CRCEA Delegate: Lori Norman – Alt Richard St. Marie	Director: Bernadette Castaneda: ByLaws Cmtes, Scholarship Cmt
MercedCERA Retirement Bd Representative – Scott Johnston	Director: Gloria Keene: Events (speakers/Presenters)
Past President: Lola Barnett	Director: <b>Vacant</b> : Communication/Newsletter/Facebook

## Minutes

### REMCOAI Board of Directors Meeting

**In-Person Meeting (690 W. 19<sup>th</sup> Street) – 10/14/2025 9:30 AM**

**Next Board Meetings:** (Jan 14, 2026, April 22, 2026, Jul 8, 2026, Oct 13. 2026)

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Lori Norman

**ROLL CALL OF ATTENDEES:** Check for Quorum – attendees are Lori Norman, Mary Brooks, Michle Burroughs, Bernadette Castaneda, and Karen Rodriguez

#### **SECRETARY'S REPORT:**

- Minutes of 07/30/2025 Board of Directors Meeting and the September 09, 2025, General Membership meeting
  - Action Item: Approve as submitted/sent (Motion made by Michle Burroughs and /second by Mary Brooks. Approved minutes will be posted on the website.

#### **TREASURER REPORT:**

- No treasurer's report as Richard St. Marie was unable to attend

#### **Business Items:**

- Report out on CRCEA Conference to Board of Directors –Richard St. Marie reported via email that the group made significant progress on the new conference committees (Division 1 and Division 2). As the chair for Division 1, he indicated that Division 1 is set to organize and plan the Spring of 2027 conference. The Division 1 committee is meeting monthly via zoom and is making great progress. They will have the location and other details worked out in the next month or so. Richard also has CRCEA Financial statements to share with anyone who may be interested, but overall, the organization is strong financially. There was a legislative update from our lobbyist and things are quiet at the state level in terms of any legislation that would or could affect retirements in the state of California.
- PGA/AMBA update: Per President Norman, we are still under old contract with PGA, Richard's email indicated that we are able to change any language in the contract that we don't want. The board has a draft with edits to the contract that we will ask an attorney to review to see if there is any additional language that we should change.

PO Box 3605  
Merced CA 95344  
(209) 769-5556  
[www.remcomerced.com](http://www.remcomerced.com)

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Tax-ID # 46-4225341



- Financial Adviser – possible proposal for an alternative low-risk investment (currently in CDs). Director Keene did not attend, so refer this to the next board meeting.
- **December 09, 2025, General Membership Meeting** –President Norman will look at a gift card to the mall as the attendance prize, if not, we'll stay with a \$100 cash prize.
  - With the December meeting, we typically increase the door prize budget. Mary Brooks made a motion to increase the budget from \$800 to \$1000 for the December meeting. Michle Burroughs seconded the motion. The motion passed.
  - Door prizes will be displayed in the extra room at the Elks and participants can place their ticket in the cup next to the prize they want. We will use multi-color tickets.
  - We will not have a speaker at the general membership meeting, but Lori Norman and Kelly Pedrozo will organize some fun games for the group. Bernadette Casteneda will be in charge of decorations. Lola Barnett reservations, Director Michle Burroughs registration, Cindy Ramirez prize tickets
  - Lori Norman will include a note in the newsletter and on Facebook asking members to bring a nonperishable item for a food drive donation and she will also include a note about an ugly sweater contest.
  - Representatives from Merced County Human Resources (Amy, Mai) and Merced CERA will be invited as our guests.
  - Winner of the \$50 quarterly draw for the December General Membership Meeting will be drawn in November and announced at the meeting.
  - Menu /President Norman (turkey, mashed potatoes, green beans, and dessert). Lori Norman will contact the Elks to confirm.
  - Recognition for Lavon Justice at our December general membership meeting – Karen will reach out to Lavon and confirm her attendance.
- Vacancies: one Director vacancy – President Norman will keep posting notice in the newsletter.
- Local non-profit charity and Volunteer of the Year nomination submission are due by November 15, 2025. Winners will be announced at the December 9, 2025, meeting. Bernadette Casteneda asked for a standard nomination form for people/groups. Bernadette will develop the form, and Lori Norman will share it on the website.



## New items:

- President Norman will start group texting for simple information to the board. Karen will send out a new contact list to the board.
- Lori will create a coupon to send to new members letting them know that the first general membership meeting after they retire will be free. The registration desk will need a list.
- Post cards/Newsletter mailed 2-3 weeks prior to December 9th General Membership Meeting. Lori will contact the printers and ask them to change the format of the newsletter to make it easier to read
- 2026 General Membership meetings dates: March 10, June 9, Sept 8, Dec 8 (second Tuesday of the month)
- 2026 REMCOAI Board Meetings dates: January 14, April 22, July 8, October 13.
- Program topic for the 2026 General membership meeting were discussed:
  - Having an attorney talk about retirement, wills, trusts, etc.
  - Disaster preparedness - Danielle Believeaus at HSA has developed a fun comedic presentation. [Danielle.believeau@countyofmerced.com](mailto:Danielle.believeau@countyofmerced.com)
  - Presentation to prevent falling for fraud/scam - FBI –Holly Peacock (916-508-9419) [peacock-hickey@fbi.gov](mailto:peacock-hickey@fbi.gov)
- Social Ideas/Activities – Director Kelly Pedrozo
  - Activities for next year - Hold for January discussion
- New Item – scholarships –We need to include an interview component and Mary Brooks volunteered to be on the interview committee
- Mary Brooks will look into arranging a General membership meeting in Los Banos to be inclusive of the members on the westside
- No other business – motion to adjourn made by Michel Burroughs and second by Lori Noman. Meeting ended at 10:46 AM