



Macomb County Retirees Association

P.O. Box 46593 · Mount Clemens, MI 48046

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

January 13, 2021

PRESENT: (By videoconference) George Brumbaugh, Wendy Fisher, Norm Gilmore, Mary Solomon, Carol Grant, Thomas Kalkofen, Walter Warfield,
Members: Tracy Howard

CALL TO ORDER

President Brumbaugh called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Carol Grant, supported by Tom Kalkofen, to approve the agenda as distributed. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Wendy Fisher, supported by Carol Grant, to approve the minutes of the October 14, 2020 Board meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Secretary Gilmore reported that as of Jan 1, 2021 the current membership is approximately 525; down about 250 members who have not yet renewed from last year. He further noted we have records for an additional 323 former members from 2014 through 2019. He explained how each year renewal reminder notices are sent though there are more this year because many members would have renewed at the annual luncheon that was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

A motion was made by Secretary Gilmore, supported by Carol Grant, to send renewal notice letters to all former members using email when possible or bulk mail letters for the remainder. The motion carried unanimously.

Additional discussion revolved around obtaining names and addresses of all retirees from Macomb County HR. The retirees will be sent a letter highlighting the MCRA, its directors and purpose while inviting them to join. George Brumbaugh agreed to speak with HR Director Andrew McKinnon to request the retiree data. George Brumbaugh will pass along the HR contact to Norm Gilmore to implement the details of obtaining and utilizing the retiree data.

A motion was made by Carol Grant, supported by Wendy Fisher, to obtain retiree data and send membership invitation letters to the retirees. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Mary Solomon, supported by Tom Kalkofen, to receive and file the Secretary's report. The motion carried unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Interim Treasurer Mary Solomon shared a thank you card and message from former Treasurer Jill Lezotte regarding the Board's recognition of her service. Interim Treasurer Solomon then presented former Treasurer Jill Lezotte's 4th quarter 2020 financial report. The Association incurred expenses in the amount of \$1,663.21 and deposits in the amount of \$3,064.35 for a total balance of \$19,039.99 as of 12/31/2020.

Jill Lezotte's written Treasurer's report was provided. Mary will be customizing the Treasurer's report in the future. It was asked that future reports show the previous quarter ending balance.

Motion by Norm Gilmore, supported by Walt Warfield, to receive and file the Treasurer's report and recommendations. The motion carried unanimously.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Brumbagh shared that the pension fund balance was over \$1.1 billion – the highest it has ever been. He remarked that in 1983 the pension fund had \$72 million. He continued with an explanation of the money management practices including the 5 year averaging method for determining of the County contribution.

Retirement Board meetings are conducted by videoconference via Webex. Gary Cutler has been elected as the employee representative. The election was conducted online. The makeup of the Board of Commissioners has changed somewhat but it is not expected to affect retirees. The pension and healthcare funds are fully funded.

Vision benefit coverage changed to Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan VSP vision care network. George also shared a few retirees did not return their annual County verification letter. He attempted to contact those retirees to facilitate getting them verified.

The board discussed the status of COVID-19 vaccine distribution. Tom Kalkofen shared some details of the procedure for calling or going online to make an appointment to get in line to get the vaccine. It was suggested to include an article about getting the vaccine in the newsletter.

President Brumbaugh mentioned we should continually try to think of opportunities to add value for our members. A question was raised regarding the Perks at Work program and whether it was officially available to retirees as well as how to sign up for it. George Brumbaugh said he would speak with HR director Andrew McKinnon about the program.

Motion by Walt Warfield, supported by Carol Grant, to receive and file the President's report. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

President Brumbagh surveyed the Vice President and Secretary as to their willingness to serve another year. He offered to continue as well. He also confirmed with Mary Solomon her willingness to serve as Treasurer.

A motion was made by Walt Warfield, supported by Wendy Fisher to elect George Brumbaugh as President, Wendy Fisher as Vice President, Norm Gilmore as Secretary and Mary Solomon as Treasurer to serve as the MCRA officers for 2021. The motion carried unanimously.

Mary Solomon shared that she met with former Treasurer Jill Lezotte and received the records as well as the spare PO Box key and check deposit stamp. She also received the \$500 petty cash funds. Mary Solomon will determine over the next few months whether she wants to maintain the petty cash fund or operate on an expense reimbursement basis.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Carol Grant, supported by Mary Solomon, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10: 32 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

