

Brainerd Sub-Chapter MRSEA
June 16, 2011

Meeting opened at 1:00 pm with speaker John Ward. John thanked everyone for their years of service to the State of Minnesota. John reported that if there was a state shutdown TRA and MSRS retirement checks would continue. Not sure right now if PERA would be sent on time, but the belief is that they will also continue on time. John gave an overview of the Legislative session - \$6.2 billion deficit at the beginning of the session. No one wants a shutdown- they need to compromise. High unemployment-slow recovery in Brainerd area. There is a proposal that couples who make over \$300,000. and singles who make over \$180,000. would pay a higher percent in taxes. This would impact 246 in Crow Wing County. 8,000 are at the poverty level and the rest fall in between. John emphasized that the private sector is important, but so is the public sector.

The business meeting began at 1:45 pm . No new members or visitors at the meeting. President Peggy Hildebrandt welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Motion by Basil LeBlanc, seconded by Ione Konanen to accept the Secretary's minutes as read.

Treasurers Report: Beginning balance \$521.35. \$451.00 receipts for meal, expenses \$451.00 for meal. Ending balance \$521.35. Savings balance \$8.92. Motion - Rita Hamann, Second - Dennis Morgan to accept the report as given. Motion passed.

President Peggy Hildebrandt's report: Greetings from MRSEA President and Board. Dues cards were sent out towards end of April 2011. If anyone didn't receive their card, let Peggy know. Candidates to serve on the MRSEA Board are still needed. If you would like to serve, please contact Peggy. The MRSEA annual spring meeting was held May 11, 2011 at Jimmy's Banquet Center in Vadnais Heights, MN. Howard Ward was elected to a 3 year term. Dave Bergstrom, Executive Director of MSRS was the guest speaker. He reported that at the end of April 2011 the fund is approximately 85-86% funded. The study recommendation to the LCPR are to carefully analyze all financial impacts; consider the negative impacts which closing the DB program will have on future retirements and to analyze the benefits and the impact which decisions regarding plan designs have on Minnesota retirees. MRSEA dues will increase from \$15.00 to \$20.00 per year. Robert Lundahl of Duluth retired from the Board and was recognized for his 6 years of service. He was the board liaison to our sub-chapter for a short time. The fall meeting was discussed. A boat ride is a possibility as it was popular when done before. The date is not yet set - could be held later part of September because weather can be colder in October. Details will be available on the web site. Please check out the MRSEA web site if you haven't done so. It contains MRSEA board meeting and sub-chapter meeting minutes along with other information. The board is working on balancing the MRSEA budget. AFSCME sent out a letter to retirees which was confusing to people. There is a new retiree unit being formed by AFSCME. MRSEA is requesting that our members remain in MRSEA.

Old Business: Lunch today was served early. Peggy will talk with Bonanza to be sure that it is served at 12:30 in the future.

New Business: Thank you from the Salvation Army. Motion by Joan Simonson, seconded by Luverne Nichols to move our Food Drive from December to March so the Salvation Army can take advantage of matching funds.

Peggy shared a story - thank you Peggy.

Good and Welfare - none

The next meeting will be Thursday, September 15, 2011 at Bonanza. Social - 12:00; lunch - 12:30; meeting - 1:00 pm.

REMINDER: Election of Officers in September. The President and Secretary positions will need to be filled. Please contact Peggy Hildebrandt if you have nominations for these positions.

OUR SUB-CHAPTER WILL RECEIVE \$3.00 FOR EACH MEMBER ATTENDING AND SIGNING THE SHEET AT OUR SEPTEMBER MEETING.

Motion by Sherry Grieser, seconded by Linda Larson at 2:20 pm to adjourn the meeting.