

**OCTOBER 17, 2007 OMAHA LUCENT/AVAYA/CSM PENSIONERS  
ASSOCIATION MEETING  
AT THE AMERICAN LEGION POST #374**

**WELCOME:** President Lyle Nicholson welcomed everyone and opened our meeting.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:** Present were Lyle Nicholson, Dan Kovar, Pauline Lieth, Andy Barges, Jim Filipiak, John Barnes, Bill Love, Bev Opfer, Everett Peterson, John Pinkerton, Mary Jo Pinkerton, and Edie Riester. Absent were Howard Clark, Martha Ross, Ray Sempek and Cheryl Todd. Changes in the PM meeting, present were Howard Clark and absent were Everett Peterson.

**DECEASED:** The list of deaths since our August special meeting was announced and we all stood for a moment of silence.

**MINUTES:** A summary of the minutes were read by Pauline Lieth. A motion to accept the minutes was made, seconded and carried.

**DONATION BUCKETS:** John Barnes passed the donation buckets.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Beginning balance as of October 1<sup>st</sup> was \$1728.33; payments out, office supplies - \$171.38, Web maintenance - \$109.45, Legion Hall rental - \$300.00, Post Office fees - \$68,00, Interpreters - \$240.00, Deposits - \$1232.50, leaving a final balance of \$1972.00. Treasurer's report approved.

**MEMBERSHIP DUES PROPOSAL:** Our President, Lyle Nicholson requested the need to go to membership dues. His reasons we need to go to dues was:

- A. Meeting room runs about \$600 dollars a year for 4 meetings and this year we have had 6 meetings counting the two extra special meetings, which made the rental for the year \$900.00.
- B. Interpreters for the hearing impaired are \$1040 to \$1560 dollars this year.
- C. Printing - \$1200 dollars.
- D. Office Supplies - \$200, or doubled, or tripled.

Now these are the rough estimates for expenses for the local association's meetings. In the next two months we will need to start to support the LAANPA, your national organization, which we voted to start a year ago.

The officers will be meeting in November and will vote on the bylaws. The dues for each of the local associations will be set at this meeting. We could be left in the hole, so that is why Lyle is asking you all to vote yes on paying yearly dues, so we can carry on the work that is in front of us to keep our healthcare and other issues.

Lyle was asked to attend the meeting in Oklahoma City, OK of the Pioneers, LRO and NRLN. The last two asked us to join with them, but the answer was no, we do not want to fall under their umbrella. They did say since we were part of a national group we could use their lobbyists. We want to remain solvent so we can continue forward.

**INTRODUCTION OF AFL-CIO PRESIDENT:** Lyle introduced Ken Mass. He gave us an overview of what others do in our state. He suggested for us to set down and get a solid budget before we set an amount for dues. Some questions were taken from retirees: There is nothing in the contract that says

they must represent retirees. Now the JRHC group does negotiate explaining their involvement for us retirees' healthcare and how they negotiated with Lucent's representatives.

If you retired before March 1, 1990 you don't have to share the premium cost of healthcare, but you are subject to contract changes.

**REASONS WHY WE SHOULD NOT GO TO DUES:** In the 1 PM meeting Howard Clark gave reasons why we should not go to dues. It has been working with donations and the way we do it now, if it isn't broken, don't fix it.

**BALLOTS:** Ballots were passed out. Results for collecting dues were: 131 – For and 22 – Against. Approximately \$24 dollars was the average annual fees.

**ANNOUNCEMENT:** Flu shots are being given at different locations: where and when.

**EVENING MEETING:** Dan Kovar mentioned that we had discussed having an evening meeting at our E-Board meeting. He asked for a raise of hands to see if anyone there would be interested in having one. Only 2 raised their hands.

**OPEN ENROLLMENT PACKETS FOR LUCENT AND AVAYA:** Lucent and Avaya's packets were mailed out.

**CSM'S OPEN ENROLLMENT:** Edie Riester gave the proposed dates and reported on the death benefit. The death benefit is no longer there. They got rid of it during the last contract, but never notified anyone. Edie filed an appeal and lost the appeal. It is now in the hands of the lawyers because they say they are complying with the laws. Because they did not notify anyone of this change Edie believes they should grandfather everyone on this, but we have to see what the lawyers come up with on it. This has to be resolved.

**SOCIAL SECURITY:** Payments will go up 2.4% in January.

**AVAYA NEWS:** Andy gave report on what is happening with Avaya stock options.

**INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER:** Lyle introduced our speaker; Donna McGrath, secretary of the Nebraska Alliance of Retired Americans. This organization fights for retirement security. The E-Board has voted to join this organization in 2008.

**QUESTION:** Did everyone get a new contact information flyer with the 2008 meeting schedule on back?

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** Motion was made to adjourn the meeting, seconded and carried.