



## **PONY EXPRESS BRANCH 69**

Minutes of the BEC Meeting on Thursday, March 13th, 2025

### **BEC MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

BS Lieutenant Coopwood, LS Bob Schrupf, Treasurer Hal Copperberg, Secretary Bernie Moreno, and Assistant Secretary PBS Alan Weinel. Directors: Doug Bailey, PBS Connor Chin, and Bob Clanton.

### **MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

James Aylett, PBS Tom Costello, Gregg Hess, Rick Hom, George Langford, PBS Tom Page, John Popadak, Allen Riker, PBS Jerry Schroeder, PBS Lennie Silva, and PBS Mark Steffens.

### **GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE**

‘Member to be’, Rick Matthew (sponsor Allen Riker) and visitor Michael Cobbold (friend of PBS Jerry Schroeder) were present at this meeting.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

BS Lieutenant Coopwood called the meeting to order at 10:03 am. Secy Bernie Moreno confirmed there was a quorum (8 of 12). BS Lieutenant Coopwood mentioned the upcoming observances till our next meeting. He also welcomed the guests.

### **PRESENTATION OF MINUTES**

There were no corrections/additions to the February minutes. BS Lieutenant Coopwood moved to accept the minutes as is and was seconded by Doug Bailey. Minutes were unanimously accepted.

### **TREASURER’S REPORT**

Treas Hal Copperberg said the cash in the bank is \$3,856. This is a decrease of \$884 from last year. Dues/other income is \$2,864. Last year it was \$2,931. Expenses are at \$1,642. An increase of approximately \$500. Membership is currently at 139 compared to 134 last year this time. Secy Bernie Moreno moved to approve and BS Lieutenant Coopwood seconded. It was unanimously approved.

### **BRANCH OPERATIONS**

- BS Lieutenant Coopwood will be filing the Caterer’s Insurance Form 63 to the SIR State Insurance Chairman and State Rep.
- BS Lieutenant Coopwood solicited proposed amendments to the SIR Bylaws and did not receive any.
- LS Bob Schrupf does monitor compliance of the Schedule of Branch Operations and report issues as they arise. This is achieved by the Secy listing the tasks per the SIR State Schedule of Branch Operation on the monthly BEC Agenda. LS Bob Schrupf did contact the Web Site Chairman, Ross Martin, to update the Branch’s activity info on the web site. He said there was confusion on submitting the changes as the Web Site Chairman requested it be sent in ‘pdf’ format. LS Bob Schrupf will get clarification.

- Secy Bernie Moreno did electronically submit the 2025 Branch 69 Membership Roster to the Area Rep prior to the end of February deadline.
- Secy Bernie Moreno reported no correspondences received and any required submittals are addressed in the section, Branch Operations. He did mention the monthly State SIR newsletter 'The Rooster Crows!' is being electronically distributed to the members by the Membership Chairman.
- Audit Chairman George Langford sent Branch Audit Report Form 29 to Secy Bernie Moreno at his request in an attempt to obtain expedited approval online to avoid further delay. The delay was due to getting some info from an activity chairman. Unfortunately, only three BEC members responded. He forwarded the reports to the State Rep anyways informing him of the situation. We had to resort to BEC approval at today's meeting. Secy Bernie Moreno moved to accept the reports. It was opened for discussion with no concerns brought forth. LS Bob Schruppf seconded and it was unanimously approved. Secy Bernie Moreno will notify State Rep that the Audit report was approved as is.
- Treas Hal Copperberg confirmed Form 28 Branch Cash Report (includes Branch Membership Status Report) has been submitted.
- Membership Chairman did submit online the Branch Membership Status Report Form 65 a while back.
- Secy Bernie Moreno submitted the February minutes to State Rep and Web Site Chairman.
- Nominating Chairman, PBS Connor Chin is still searching for a 2026 Little SIR. Director Ron Peters term will soon be up and PBS Connor Chin said he will fill that vacancy.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Program Chairman: LS Bob Schruppf. Today's speaker will be Jan Whitney from the Parkinsons Association of Northern California (PANC). She brought a director/volunteer, Tom Cadman, whose wife has Parkinsons to provide a personal side.
- Sunshine Chairman: James Aylett. A birthday card was sent to Jose Fernandez for his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday which was on March 4th. An anniversary card was sent to PRD/PBS/HLM Warren and Jewel Senegal for their 70 years of marriage on April 3. No other updates to report.
- Newsletter Chairman: John Popadak. He said there is a section in the Branch Newsletter noting the future speakers.
- Membership Chairman: John Popadak. Started with 138 members, 3 new members, lost 2, and ending up with 139. John Popadak has a soon to be member, Rick Matthews present today. His sponsor is Allen Riker. Secy Bernie Moreno moved to induct Rick as a member and Asst Secy/PBS Alan Weinel seconded. He was unanimously accepted.
- Roster Chairman: Asst Secy PBS Alan Weinel. He said not much going on at this time. He will not be attending the May 8<sup>th</sup> BEC Meeting. He will bring two cases of wine at the April's luncheon to cover both April and May's luncheons. He needs someone to handle the extra case until May's luncheon. He has also found someone to assume the Book Club activity. Recent new member, John O'Neal has graciously assumed this responsibility.
- Recruitment and Public Relations Chairman: PBS Tom Page. The District Manager of Mission Oaks bi-annual magazine has yet to respond to PBS Tom Page regarding the \$30 per member per year rate to renew advertising in the magazine. PBS Tom Page said the next bi-annual publication of Mission Oaks is coming out shortly. He is hopeful they'll keep our advertisement in the upcoming publication despite their increased advertising charge which we're not willing to pay. He brought up the subject of having the Branch use Facebook to reach out to prospective members. This originated in the January's BEC Meeting. He was to work with Robert Edwards on setting it up. John Popadak said Branch 69 already has a Facebook site. The address is noted at the top of the Branch Newsletter along with the website address.
- Picnic Chairman: PBS Jerry Schroeder. It will be Wednesday, June 18<sup>th</sup>. Last year we had extra prime ribs which were sold afterwards. We had volunteer contributions of pies and ice cream valuing about \$250. Not sure if these will be donated again this year. Only a few children attended. The watermelon eating contest was well enjoyed by the kids. We broke even at the last event. Actual cost is estimated to

be \$12 per meal. Last year we charged \$10 for adults and \$5 per children. The cost of the meals does impact participation. Average attendance is about 65. We had 95 attendees when the Big SIR at that time, Mark Steffens, lowered the cost to \$7 per person. It was suggested we continue with the \$10 adult and \$5 children charge. It was so motioned by BS Lieutenant Coopwood and seconded by Secy Bernie Moreno. It was unanimously approved. PBS Jerry Schroeder asked for suggestions for new picnic activities. As mentioned earlier, it was mostly adults. No one played the Horse Shoes. Some suggestions were Bocce (our Branch has equipment for use), Left/Right Card Game (Todd Davis says he has the large dice we can use), Closest Golf Ball to the Pin, and Trivia Pursuit. As for the prizes, they didn't go over well. Recommendation is to present ribbons or pins as awards.

- Audit Chairman: George Langford. Refer to sixth bullet item in the above Branch Operation section.
- Meal Cost Recovery Committee: Secy Bernie Moreno. He moved to approve the proposal presented at last BEC Meeting to establish a more detailed process to be implemented immediately. It will be open to modifications as approved by the BEC. It was opened for discussion with no comments brought forward. LS Bob Schrupf seconded and it was unanimously approved. Refer to the attachment.

### **ACTIVITIES REPORTS**

- Bowling Chairman: PBS Tom Page. He'll give a full report at the General/Lunch Meeting.
- Dining Out Chairman: PBS Mark Steffens. Next dinner is on March 24<sup>th</sup> at the Buckhorn BBQ & Grill.
- Bocce Ball, Poker Chairman: LS Bob Schrupf. Poker/Texas Hold 'Em is scheduled this Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup>. Discussed earlier, Rod Lukins and Jim Luttig are involved with Bocce on Thursdays prior to the meeting. LS Bob Schrupf will check with them for more details. Also, Branch 112 has an active Travel Program and has trips already planned. Our Branch is welcome to participate. More details in the upcoming bulletin.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- John Popadak revisited the 'emergency contact info' from February's BEC Meeting. He says it is doable but questions how the information will be accessed/used. For example, the information is not readily available if you're out in a remote area. PBS Mark Steffens suggested setting up an online access to the roster. There was some concern on the access to confidential info online. Guest Michael Cobbold says he has an emergency app on his phone that can be accessed by others. It was suggested we come back to this topic in the future as we're going over our meeting time.
- No other old business brought forth.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Caller/Secy Bernie Moreno made an appeal on behalf of Larry McLeod committing but unable to attend last month's luncheon. Larry requires oxygen tanks and uses a wheelchair. February's luncheon experienced heavy winds and rains. He felt unsafe to be out in those conditions and did notify caller in advance he may not be present depending on the weather. Secy Bernie Moreno moved to excuse his meal cost obligation for February's luncheon. BS Lieutenant Coopwood seconded and it was unanimously approved. Secy Bernie Moreno also informed in advance that Ted Nishio committed to today's luncheon but may not be able to attend. He is a volunteer and on call with the Red Cross.
- No other new business brought forth.

### **MEETING ADJOURNED**

**The meeting adjourned at 11:05 am. The next BEC meeting will be at 10:00 am on April 10, 2025.**

***Bernie Moreno***

Branch 69 Secretary