

**MISSISSIPPI FEDERATION
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI
OCTOBER 20, 2005**

Call to Order: President Mary Pierson at 10:30am.

Prayer: Russell Tucker offered prayer.

Present: Those attending were President Mary Pierson, First VP Noel Summral, Second VP Pat Sheehy, Treasurer Roy Stewart, District One Representative Tucker Russell, District Two Representative Jewell C. Lockhart, District Three Representative James Chester Sawyer, District Four Representative Ellawese McLendon, Past President Ray Sheehy, Region III Field Vice President Robert S. Harrell, Past President Viola Harrison, Nominating Committee Chair Thomas Price, Ruth Lockhart, and Kenny Harrell.

President Pierson welcomed the group and mentioned that Mazine Winstead NARFE PAC Chair was in Florida and Helen Thomas FEEA Coordinator/ Historian/ Parliamentarian, Jesse McDonald Alzheimer's Chair and Diane Moore Secretary were unable to attend. Diane may be moving to the Atlanta area to be closer to her daughter. The Federation will need a secretary.

The Iowa - NARFE College of Knowledge gave Mary Pierson a check for \$700 dollars, which she donated to the FEEA fund.

Mary stated that one fourth to one half of the membership on the coast were affected by hurricane Katrina and may have relocated to other areas of the state. Some may be out of the state. Mary received five hundred (500) plus calls and messages regarding NARFE and concern about the safety of members and families. Jeanette Brown, former federation

secretary's, house was gutted during the hurricane. She is making plans to move with her daughter in Alabama.

Some of the national only membership now wants to join local chapters as a result of the hurricane.

Region III Field Vice President Robert S. Harrell talked about the importance of support for the FEEA Disaster fund and that each member applicant will receive \$500 dollars.

Ray Sheehy shared information on flood areas on the coast and indicated Diamondhead is in the flood C category. Ray continues to work with Red Cross and will go back to work for FEMA again.

Public Relations: Ray is getting NARFE information to newspapers and other media outlets using the listing in the BellSouth media booklet, which each chapter's Public Relations Chair should have as a resource.

Kenny Harrell, chapter 670 member, attended the meeting. In his comments he stressed the fact that members need to get involved in politics, attend town hall meetings, local, state and national level activities. We must let people know who we are and what NARFE is all about.

Chapter Management: Chapter & Federation Management Development Symposium in Macon, Georgia was attended by President Mary Pierson, First Vice President Noel Summral, Second Vice President Pat Sheehy, District Representatives Russell Tucker, Jewel C. & Ruth Lockhart, James Chester Sawyer, and Ellawese McLendon.

FEEA Report- Helen Thomas- see report attached.

Noel Summral, First Vice President, reported that the annuity increase for 2006 will be four (4) percent. The change for Social Security will be from 12,000 to 12,480 before tax start on money earned. Noel mentioned that the base in Columbus will remain open and planes will be added to the fleet. The first responders providing help on Mississippi to hurricane victims did an excellent job while FEMA's response was slow. Chapter 1388 Columbus is doing well with Alzheimer's fund raising.

Viola reported that she just returned from the state fair where the chapter sold tickets in support of Alzheimer's.

NARFE PAC – Mazine Winstead – no report.

Mandatory Chapter Membership (MCM): See report attached. This report is a proposed position statement of chapter 670, Mississippi Federation of Chapters.

District Representatives Reports:

District I Tucker Russell- no real action since the last meeting.

District II Jewel Lockhart- see report attached.

District III James Chester Sawyer

District IV Ellawese McLendon- see report attached.

Mary Pierson announced that Tate-Desoto chapter has a new president. There are some chapters without a president and the federation needed to start grooming members to become officers.

Federation Training: Ray Sheehy is in charge of the training to be held in 2006. Speakers will focus on the role and responsibility of officers, chairs and committee chairs. The need to keep officers and chairs active when they leave positions. Speakers will be asked to emphasize a positive attitude and expression of thanks for a job well done.

Region III Field Vice President stated we must continue to recruit and legislation is very important. He mentioned 12 chapters had no membership chair, 8 no legislative chair and 7 chapters had neither chair position. In 2005, 17000 new members were recruited, 4000 are current employees, 34,000 non-payments of dues, 6000 re-instated. Major portions of lost members are lost in the second year of membership. Some chapters are not contacting dropped members form the report. Mississippi has a potential for 62,430 members and there are 23,998 federal workers in the state. Consolidation of chapters sometime causes loss of membership due to distance and mandatory chapter membership. Fifty percent of members dropped said, the chapter did not contact them.

Name Change Banner: A company in Georgia is making NARFE name change banners for \$50. This information was provided by Region III Field Vice President Robert Harrell.

Health Insurance Savings Accounts: These are a failure in the United States. Medical insurance payments increased to 30.5 percent for retirees. Social Security modification is down for this year. Good public relations are very important to NARFE.

Mary Pierson is working with AFGE to help them understand NARFE's role in maintaining benefits and that NARFE is not a union.

Resolutions: Chapters are encouraged.

The newsletter will go out in February.

The next board meeting will be in January.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 pm.

Ellawese McLendon
Acting Secretary