

## ***RPEN Boulder City, NV***



### **A Message From the President**



Crowded hearing room for AB190 on March 3

I am going to try writing a column for each newsletter, and I will attempt to keep it brief and informative. This month I will concentrate on the Nevada Legislature session.

The Nevada Legislature is almost at the halfway mark of this session. There have been ten bill proposals dealing solely with PERS. RPEN lobbyists have been attending these sessions everyday and are following the bills that affect our members. RPEN members have attended and contributed to the overwhelming turnout in both Carson City and Las Vegas on AB3 and AB190 hearings.

AB3 would have changed the makeup of the PERS Board. It died in the Government Affairs committee.

AB190 would change PERS to a defined contribution plan. It was heard in the Government Affairs committee and has been referred with no recommendation to the Ways and Means committee due to possible fiscal impact. Hearing scheduled on Wednesday April 15, 2015. This bill would have an effect on all current members of PERS (active or retired).

The following bills would have no effect on current members of PERS.

- AB312 would change the retirement age to match the Social Security Act age and to lengthen the calculation factor from three to five years average. It has been passed in the Government Affairs committee on April 10.
- AB387 would alter the rules concerning the buying of time in PERS. It has been referred to the Government Affairs committee.
- SB356 deals with confidentiality of retiree information in PERS. It has died in the Government Affairs committee on April 11.
- The latest information on these and other bills are available on the RPEN Website ([rpen.org](http://rpen.org))

Your input on these bills is important. Please visit the Legislature website by visiting the following link: <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/Opinions/78th2015/A/> . That will bring you to a site where you can voice your opinion on any bill. Use the dropdown menu to select a bill and you can enter a comment if you choose (it is not required). Please give your input on the bills listed above.

# Minutes from January, February and March, 2015

Thursday, January 22, 2015

On Thursday, January 22, 2015, the Boulder City Chapter of RPEN conducted a membership meeting at The Homestead at Boulder City with a total of 14 members/guests attending. President Paolini reported the current chapter membership is 150.

Guest speaker was Yuri Graves, Manager of Emergency Services for the City of Henderson. Yuri presented a PowerPoint presentation and spoke about emergency preparedness. He distributed informational pamphlets with available resources.



President Paolini spoke about recent articles in the Las Vegas Review Journal and the attacks on PERS. He discussed information he received at the Executive Board Meeting in Carson City on January 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>. He informed the membership of meetings that were held with LVPPACE (Las Vegas Police Protective Association of Civilian Employees). He will participate with the Henderson RPEN President at the Henderson Farmers Market on February 5<sup>th</sup>.

The next meeting will be on February 26, 2015 at 11AM in the library room at the Homestead of Boulder City.

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Thursday, February 26, 2015

On Thursday, February 26, 2015, the Boulder City Chapter of RPEN conducted a membership meeting at The Homestead at Boulder City with a total of 10 members/guests attending. President Paolini reported current chapter membership remains at 150.

Guest speaker, Kim Reddin, Curator of Education, Boulder City Museum and Historical Association, gave a presentation of her background and her role and responsibilities at the Boulder Dam Hotel Museum. She completed her presentation and answered questions by the members.

President Paolini spoke about recent articles in the Las Vegas Review Journal and the attacks on PERS. He discussed recent letters to the editor in response to the attack on PERS and public employees. A discussion was held concerning AB3 (proposed changes to the PERS Board). President Paolini mentioned the outstanding turnout at both the Carson City hearing room and at the Grant Sawyer building in Las Vegas. Due to the overwhelming objections to the bill, it died in committee hearing on February 25<sup>th</sup>. President Paolini mentioned an upcoming hearing on AB190 (Changing PERS from a Defined Benefit to a Defined Contribution Plan) on Tuesday March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 8:00 a.m. He urged members to visit the Legislative Website and voice their opinion on the bill.

The next meeting will be on March 26, 2015

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Thursday, March 26, 2015

On Thursday, March 26, 2015, the Boulder City Chapter of RPEN conducted a membership meeting at The Homestead at Boulder City with a total of 16 members/guests attending. President Paolini reported current chapter membership is 149.

President Paolini introduced guest speaker, Kelley Ferrence from Right at Home. She gave a brief description of herself and her business. Kelley spoke about the care and well being of an elderly parent. She said that 24% of retired people have a parent still alive who may need care. Kelley mentioned “red flags” to watch for that might indicate assistance is needed. Some of these include unused medication, losing weight, stack of mail and avoiding of routine tasks. She said that the elderly deny that they need assistance. Kelley said to get other family members involved and to speak often to your elders about them and their needs. Stress with them that it “helps you” knowing that they are safe and happy. She said that there are four questions that need to be asked. What amount of help is required? Is skilled

## Minutes (continued)

nursing required? Does the relative want to remain in their own home? Is there a method to pay for the care? There are three main care giving options, Assisted Living, home care or hospice home care.

Kelley gave a brief outline of the type of care offered and closed the presentation by taking questions.

President Paolini spoke about a recent email he sent with the proposal to change the meeting date to the second Thursday of each month. He asked those present for their opinion and said no change would be implemented until the September meeting. He informed the membership about the upcoming nomination period for anyone interested in running for RPEN State Vice-President, Secretary or Treasurer. He also said that this was the time to introduce any proposals to amend the Policies and Procedures.

President Paolini gave a report about the hearing on AB190 (Changing PERS from a Defined Benefit to a Defined Contribution Plan) on Tuesday March 3<sup>rd</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. The bill was referred to the Ways and Means Committee due to the fiscal impact of the change. No date has been set for the bill to be heard in Ways and Means. He urged members to visit the Legislative Website and voice their opinion on the bill. He discussed the handout concerning the presentation by Professor Teresa Ghilarducci concerning changing Defined Benefit to Defined Contribution. President Paolini also discussed other bills that RPEN is following. He urged the membership to voice their opinions on these bills on the Legislature Website.

The next meeting will be April 23, 2015 at 11AM in the library room at the Homestead of Boulder City.




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## RPEN Legislative Update of March 31, 2015—Opposed by RPEN

### SENATE BILL 406—SPONSORED BY SENATE MAJORITY LEADER MICHAEL ROBERSON (DISTRICT 20)

Below is the text of SB 406. Voice your opinion on this bill by going to <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/Opinions/78th2015/A/>

“AN ACT relating to public retirement systems; providing that certain members of public retirement systems who are convicted of or plead guilty or nolo contendere to a felony forfeit, with limited exceptions, all rights and benefits under the relevant system; amending the amount of postretirement increases for persons who become members of public retirement systems on or after July 1, 2015; providing an additional benefit option for a surviving spouse of a police officer or firefighter killed in the line of duty or other member killed in the course of employment, judicial service or legislative service; amending the age of eligibility to receive retirement benefits for persons, other than police officers or firefighters, who become members of the Public Employees' Retirement System or Judicial Retirement Plan on or after July 1, 2015; revising provisions relating to the calculation of the years of service of certain members of the Public Employees' Retirement System, the Judicial Retirement Plan and the Legislators' Retirement System; providing generally that the purchase of service credit cannot be used to reduce the number of years of service a member of each respective retirement system must earn to retire with an unreduced benefit; limiting the amount of compensation that may be used to determine retirement benefits for persons who become members of public retirement systems on or after July 1, 2015; revising the formula for calculating retirement allowances for persons who become members of certain public retirement systems on or after July 1, 2015; clarifying that the term “spouse” includes a domestic partner for purposes of eligibility for survivor benefits from a public retirement system; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.”

RPEN also opposed AB 312 and AB 387. You can read the text of these bill by going to

<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/Opinions/78th2015/A/> and choosing the appropriate bill. Your opinion counts!



(775) 882-7832



**RPEN Statement of Purpose:**  
**The Retired Public Employees of Nevada**  
**is a 501 (c ) 4 federally tax exempt organization**  
**whose purpose is to promote social welfare**  
**by educational means in order to**  
**better inform the public on issues**  
**affecting retired public employees.**

**For information on the Boulder City RPEN Chapter, please call President Bernard Paolini at 702-294-0636 or email: [bernardpaolini@cox.net](mailto:bernardpaolini@cox.net) or VP Rose Ann Rabiola Miele at 702-347-9924 or 702-339-9082 or email: [roseannrab@hotmail.com](mailto:roseannrab@hotmail.com).**

**The legislature will be in Carson City soon and we need to increase our membership to show our strength. Talk to friends and relatives who are current public employees/retirees and encourage them now more than ever to join our ranks.**

### ***Useful Links***

Website for RPEN: <http://www.rpen.org>

Public Employees Retirement System: <http://www.nvpers.org>

Social Security: <http://www.ssa.gov>

Public Employee Benefits Program: <http://www.pebp.state.nv.us>

Nevada Legislature: <http://www.leg.state.nv.us>