

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING  
of the Board of Directors of  
REACT International, Inc.  
Held at Kissimmee, Florida,  
July 25-28, 2000**

The Annual Convention Meeting of the Board of Directors of REACT International, Inc., was called to order by the Chairman of the Board at 8:40 a.m. on Tuesday, July 25, 2000. A quorum was present.

**Directors Present:**

Frank Jennings, Chairman and Region 6 Director  
Harry Hawkins, President  
Fred Lanshe, Region 1 Director  
Dick Cooper, Region 2 Director  
George Holmes, Region 3 Director  
Jack Murrell, Region 4 Director  
Larry Fry, Region 5 Director  
Lee Bising, Region 7 Director  
Ron Faulkner, Region 9 Director  
Bob Stone, Outside Director

**Directors Absent:**

Jesse Mauk, Region 8 Director (arrived 11:10 a.m.)

**Officers Present**

Harry Hawkins, President  
Charles A. Thompson, Vice President & General Counsel  
Lee Bising, Secretary  
Fred Lanshe, Treasurer

**Guests:**

None

**1. Presidential Awards.** Discussion held about awards for persons who have been working hard as volunteers at the RI level. **Motion** Mr. Faulkner to create a new "President's Award" and to present this award to Stuart DeLuca (Tex.) and Wayne Barringer, Bob Leef, and Johnny Stowers (Calif.). 2nd Mr. Hawkins. Discussion held. **Motion tabled.** Mr. Jennings appointed Mr. Hawkins, Mr. Thompson, and Mr. Cooper to develop the criteria for this award and report their recommendations as soon as possible.

**2. RI Office Matters.**

a. *Employee needed.* Mr. Jennings reported that a replacement is needed for Beba Zevgolis who has given notice that she has sold her house and is moving out of the area. Discussion tabled until later. Additional discussion held regarding ideal person to complement Dora Wilbanks in the RI Office. Discussion tabled until later.

b. *Copier.* Mr. Lanshe reviewed the Minolta 4050 copier contract that is up for renewal on August 28. Board action is required by July 28. Currently paying an average of \$432 per month for supplies, maintenance and use of machine, plus toner replacement and paper. (Rent is \$219 per month, and a technician is paid separately for service calls and repair parts). **Motion** Mr. Faulkner, 2nd Mr. Lanshe, not to renew the copier contract and to begin a search for a new copier. Discussion held regarding what

features are needed in a copier in our offices. Discussion held about outsourcing larger print jobs and getting a copier with lower operating costs. Mr. Thompson suggested getting a contract with all parts & maintenance included, to limit our total costs. It was noted that no contract could be signed without review by the president and VP and approval of the Board. **Motion passed.**

c. *Office Lease.* The office lease expires February 1, 2001. Proposed new lease would increase monthly rent to \$720 the first year, \$740 the second year, and \$760 the third year. Mr. Lanshe investigated and found that RI already has the lowest rental in the building. Mr. Lanshe to contact landlord to try and get a frozen rate at \$700. **Motion** Mr. Faulkner, 2nd Mr. Cooper, to authorize Mr. Lanshe to negotiate the lease, not to exceed monthly costs presented to the Board. **Motion passed.**

**3. Credentials.** John Knott, on behalf of the convention Hosts, asked if a member of the Board is required to be present while credentials are being issued during the convention (answer is no). Discussion held about whom to appoint as the official Credentials Chairperson for this convention. It was suggested that Dick Gamble would be the ideal person, but Mr. Gamble was not known to have arrived and someone was needed now. Mr. Knott was asked to serve, and to delegate the duties as needed since he was already busy with other convention duties. He accepted and was directed that if the delegate or alternate does not have a membership card with them, to approve the delegate status, and bring the forms to the Secretary (Mr. Bising) for comparison with the official database.

**4. Policy Review.** The Board reviewed RI's published policies. Mr. Thompson offered to take the policies and organize them to reference and implement the appropriate part of the bylaws. **Motion** Mr. Murrell, 2d Mr. Fry, to appoint Mr. Thompson to reorganize the policies in compliance with the bylaws. **Motion passed.** Discussion on each policy is set out below (with current policy numbers).

a. *Policy 1.* This policy refers to RI's 501(c)(3) status, which applies only to US Teams and Councils. Minor corrections to errors in the policy.

b. *Policy 2.* Recommended to "suspend indefinitely" any Team which does not pay dues by the deadline, rather than dropping, and to allow Teams to renew or restart their Team status by paying their dues. "Suspended Teams may apply for charter reactivation through their Councils." Discussion held about need to have "former members" apply for a "reactivation," and the need to keep Councils involved in the decisions to approve, just like a new Team application. Concern about status of database regarding older Team charter information. Suggested that reactivation of former Team charters, with same charter number, be allowed.

c. *Policy 3-1.* Amend policy to remove reference to transfer fees for transferring members from one Team to another. Discussion on multiple Team memberships. Discussion on database including individual records for members belonging to multiple Teams. Mr. Bising displayed membership cards in two different Teams with separate records in the database because the names on the cards were entered differently (one had a middle initial and the other didn't). Strike line with vague language about debts and assessments.

d. *Policy 3-3.* Discussion held about minimum number of Teams in a Council or geographical coverage. Strike reference to "state" when referring to Councils in this policy. Discussion held about Councils with their own 501(c)(3) tax status and the position that Councils hold within the structure of REACT International.

e. *Policy 3-4.* Discussion held about need to involve Regional Directors and what place the Membership Committee plays in the conflict resolution process. Team goes to Regional Director who brings it to the Board, can be referred to the Membership Committee as needed. If a Director is directly involved in an incident/situation, the matter should be referred to another Regional Director.

f. *Policy 4.* Release of documents. No personnel records to be released without consent of the employee involved or a court order. Personnel and legal matters discussed by the Board are not public information until released by the Board.

g. *Policy 5.* Regional elections of Directors. Discussion on Director appointments being until the next annual election period rather than until that region's term expires. Mr. Thompson stated when the current bylaws were revised, it was intended that appointments be temporary until the next year's elections could be held, not until the end of the three-year term. Wording will be added to allow the Board to fill a vacancy in the situation where there were no candidates for the full three-year term. Discussion held about situations where there was only one nomination for a region, and need to publicize the need for nominations.

h. *Policy 6.* Charter of new Teams in areas where a Council exists. No major changes, but question about Council involvement and encourage Council recommendations with the formation of a Team. Mr. Thompson to clarify text to show steps where a charter application arrives at RI HQ with Council approval. Mr. Cooper asked that Item number "8" be enforced whereby the Board is to be notified of all new Team applications.

i. *Policy 7.* National projects to be undertaken by Teams or Councils. Mr. Thompson to rewrite this policy in a more positive manner.

j. *Policy 8.* Resolution of complaints with RI Headquarters. Remove the last paragraph that was basically a "gag order" placed upon anyone who brings a matter before the Board. **Motion** Mr. Fry, 2nd Mr. Lanshe, to direct Mr. Thompson to rewrite this policy and present to the Board for approval. **Motion passed**. Mr. Thompson reported back he was wording "or actions by a member of the Board of Directors" instead of "or actions by the Board of Directors." **Motion** Mr. Mauk, 2nd Mr. Lanshe, to approve the change in wording.

k. *Policy (no number).* Convention Site Locations. Remove reference to "of the country." Discussion held about rotation from east to central to west, to encourage local participation by having annual conventions in different areas.

l. *Policy (no number)* regarding reimbursement of Board expenses. No changes. The Expense Form will be copied and distributed to all Board members during the convention.

m. *Policy (no number)* regarding RI's website. **Motion** Mr. Cooper, 2nd Mr. Holmes, to strike this policy. **Motion passed**.

n. *Policy (no number)* regarding REACT mailing list. Accepted as printed.

**Meeting recessed** 12:30 pm.

**Meeting reconvened** at 2pm.

All Directors and Officers present; Dick Gamble, Life Membership Chair, was present.

o. *Policy (no number)* regarding individuals who are convicted felons or misdemeanor charges as REACT members. Mr. Thompson to revise the wording and make it a recommendation for Teams, on a case-by-case basis, not to accept persons with a felony background and carefully screen applicants with misdemeanors. Convicted felons are not eligible for Life membership. Add a clause to the Affiliate application to forbid a convicted felon from applying for membership. Mr. Jennings commented that there are no background checks performed on Affiliate or Life members. Only the office staff processes these applications. Mr. Gamble reminded that before to become a Life Member, an individual must have been a Team member for at least two years.

**5. Invalid Life Member Application.** Mr. Jennings reported about a non-member who found the paperwork from a disbanded Team (10 years ago) with money and submitted a Life Membership application for himself with the funds and was granted a Life Membership without having been a member. Referred to Life Membership Committee with recommendation to cancel. Question raised regarding funds paid to RI for this Life Membership since funds were from former REACT Team, not the individual in question. It was the opinion of many Directors that the money should have been donated to another REACT Team or like organization when the Team was disbanded, and therefore the funds should be kept.

**6. Election Committee report.** Mr. Fry reported that Fred Lanshe, Region 1; Jack Murrell, Region 4; and Lee Bising, Region 7, had been reelected. Total of 37 ballots were received from all three regions conducting elections.

**7. Officer Duties & Appointments.** Discussion held about operations of the office and the need for staff to work closely with the president. Mr. Hawkins stated that frequently Dora has been calling Mr. Lanshe and Mr. Jennings with questions concerning the office operations rather than him. Mail has been reported as being delayed or being sent by the office to the wrong persons. Discussion on status of current Officers, performance and learning curves, interfacing with office staff. **Motion** Mr. Faulkner, 2nd Mr. Cooper, to reappoint the current Officers for a one (1) year term: President. --Harry Hawkins; Vice President and General Counsel -- Charles A. Thompson; Secretary -- Lee Bising; and Treasurer - - Fred Lanshe. **Motion passed.**

**8. Office Inventory Adjustments.** Mr. Lanshe read from a letter from RI's accountants dealing with report of assets inventory and some items listed as assets (e.g., computer equipment) from 1995 would soon be dropped from the records as they were totally depreciated as of this year.

**9. Insurance Premium proposal.** Discussion held about Team Liability Insurance premiums and how the costs for this coverage are distributed. Teams have been paying a flat rate insurance fee of \$40 (US) when they renewed. Discussion on eliminating the lump sum Team payment and substitute an amount based upon the number of Team members. Changing the way insurance premiums are collected from the Teams will be presented during the first open session of the convention. Bonding Insurance coverage with a \$500 deductible is available for about a \$1,200 annual premium. The possibility of reinstating bonding insurance will be presented to the delegates during the first open session.

**10. Outside Directors.** Discussion held about approaching potential outside Directors. Candidate identities will not be released by the Board, due to pending action to fill these vacancies. Suggestions from the members will be encouraged.

**11. Combined Federal Campaign.** **Motion** Mr. Faulkner, 2nd Mr. Cooper, to have the Public Relations Committee write a letter to the editor of the various military newspapers to thank the military persons who donated to REACT International through CFCC.

**12. Convention Supplies.** Mr. Faulkner mentioned problem with shortage of ribbons for Life Member and other categories. This raised the question about who provides the ribbons for conventions. Mr. Jennings said that it was explicitly stated in the convention handbook that the host provided the ribbons. Leftover ribbons are passed from convention host to convention host, and apparently the 2000 Convention host did not order any additional ribbons to supplement what they received from the 1999 convention in Nebraska. Question was raised about feasibility of having RI stock the ribbons and resell them to the host committees in order to get better price breaks.

**Meeting recessed** at 5:05 p.m.

**Meeting reconvened** at 8:30 a.m., Wednesday, July 26, 2000

All Directors and Officers were present.

**13. Planning Details.** Discussed agenda for open session this afternoon and who would make what announcements, including MOU with ARRL, proposed Insurance changes (funding method and bonding), and other issues.

**Meeting recessed** at 8:45 a.m.

**Meeting reconvened** at 9:45 a.m.

All Directors and Officers were present. Continued discussion regarding this afternoon's agenda items and order of presenting them to the floor.

**14. ARRL Memorandum of Understanding.** Mr. Thompson presented to the Board the final draft of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the American Radio Relay League, Inc. (ARRL).

**Motion** Mr. Mauk, 2nd Mr. Holmes, to approve the MOU. **Motion passed.** Mr. Jennings asked Mr. Thompson to present the news to the convention attendees.

**Meeting recessed** at 10:05 a.m.

**Meeting reconvened** at 1:40 p.m.

**Directors & Officers Present:** Mr. Jennings, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Bising, Mr. Lanshe, Mr. Cooper, Mr. Fry, and Mr. Faulkner.

**Directors & Officers Absent:** Mr. Hawkins, Mr. Holmes, Mr. Murrell, Mr. Fry, and Mr. Stone.

**15. Resignation of W. Robert Stone.** Mr. Jennings announced that Mr. Stone had submitted his resignation as Outside Director and had departed the convention. The Chairman had presented a plaque of appreciation to Mr. Stone and thanked him for his years of service to REACT International.

**16. Improper Membership Renewals.** Mr. Holmes presented a matter involving two Team members in Florida where a third member had submitted their dues directly to REACT International without going through the Team. RI HQ issued the membership cards to the members directly. Matter referred to the Officers for handling since it involved office procedures.

**17. Credentials Question.** The Team #6005 delegate form was unsigned, but the two persons listed for delegate and alternate delegate were verified as being registered officers of the Team. After checking with Trinidad & Tobago Council delegate, **Motion by** Mr. Mauk, 2nd Mr. Faulkner, to approve their credentials providing their Council president signs off on the form.

**Meeting recessed** at 1:55 p.m.

**Meeting reconvened** at 5 p.m.

All Directors and Officers present except Mr. Mauk; J. H. Barr (N. J.) present.

**18. RI Office Management.** Mr. Barr presented an idea to the Board regarding office management and sources of employees to help run the RI office. Discussion held regarding pros and cons about past management techniques and experience. Discussion held about need to hire replacement for Beba Zevgolis. **Motion** Mr. Faulkner, 2nd Mr. Holmes, to authorize the Officers to hire a replacement employee and to ask Mr. Barr to assist in the process. **Motion to table** by Mr. Bising, 2nd Mr. Cooper, to allow additional discussion by the Board before taking any action. **Motion to table passed.**

**Meeting recessed at 6:20 p.m.**

**Meeting reconvened at 1:15 p.m., Thursday, July 27, 2000**

All Officers and Directors present except Mr. Lanshe; also present Pat Knight, Bexar County REACT #4950

**19. Office Management.** Motion to authorize Officers to hire replacement for Beba Zevgolis was taken off the table. **Motion** was by Mr. Faulkner, 2nd Mr. Holmes, to authorize the Officers to hire a replacement employee and to ask Mr. Barr to assist in the process. **Motion passed.**

**20. Election Ballots. Motion** Mr. Faulkner, 2nd Mr. Mauk, to destroy the election ballots. **Motion passed.**

**21. Definition of Chief Executive Officer.** Discussion held about the intent of section 6.5 of the bylaws. It was the consensus the Board, that the term "the president shall be the chief Officer of the corporation" was intended to mean "the president shall be the chief executive Officer of the corporation." **Motion** Mr. Mauk, 2nd Mr. Cooper, to adopt this interpretation. **Motion passed.**

**22. Cobra Electronics Corp.** Mr. Bising reported that he had talked at the convention with the Cobra Electronics Corporation's representative, William Thourling, and has a chance to reopen closer communications with Cobra. He asked permission to work this possibility with the help of other current or former Directors or committee chairs, such as Bob Leef, Mr. Jennings, and Ken Green. **Motion** Mr. Faulkner, 2nd Mr. Cooper, to authorize Mr. Bising to pursue this opportunity with the help of the three persons mentioned. **Motion passed.** A meeting has been arranged for Saturday morning.

**23. Eugene Goebel Award.** **Motion** Mr. Bising, 2nd Mr. Faulkner, to award the Eugene Goebel Award to Bob Leef (Calif.) for his outstanding work with the Public Relations Committee and to Johnny Stowers (Calif.) for his outstanding efforts to revise, rebuild, and maintain the REACT International database. **Motion passed.**

**24. President's Award.** **Motion** Mr. Bising, 2nd Mr. Mauk, to award David Moore (Ky.) the "President's Award" for his support of the computer services committee and the REACT-L e-mail list, to Wayne Barringer (Calif.) for his work in revising and maintaining the REACT International Web Site, and to Stuart DeLuca (Tex.) for his work in revamping the REACTer. **Motion passed.**

**25. Dues Structure for Trinidad & Tobago.** Discussion was held regarding the dues structures for Junior REACT members in Trinidad & Tobago. Mr. Faulkner presented a request by Trinidad & Tobago representative Philip Gardner, that the Board consider reducing the rate for Junior REACT members in Trinidad & Tobago because of financial hardship. Average income is less than \$3,700 (US) per year. **Motion** Mr. Mauk, 2nd Mr. Faulkner, to reduce the annual rate for Junior REACT members in Trinidad & Tobago from \$15 (US) to \$5 (US). Questions were raised about whether this would be setting precedent for other countries. Consensus was that this should be handled on a case-by-case basis. **Motion passed.**

**26. Membership Lead Program.** Mr. Cooper announced that his program to follow up with membership leads, *i.e.*, potential Teams or affiliate members, uses Microsoft Access, and is available on disk. The system can also be run using a word processor template document and a simple table. He plans to distribute a diskette to each Director.

**27. Posting documents on the RI Web site.** Mr. Thompson asked if the convention delegate form could be posted on the website for convenience. Discussion held about possible fraudulent usage, and past problems. Decision by consensus that this was no longer a problem with today's ability to verify names on the form using the RI database. This confirms a motion passed in February 2000.

**28. Annual Renewal Forms – Updating.** Mr. Thompson asked for permission to simplify the forms and the renewal process. Should be possible to print out from the computer database to prevent the need to write the same information on multiple forms. **Motion** Mr. Holmes, 2nd Mr. Bising, that the Officers simplify the renewal forms for the upcoming 2001 renewal. Question raised by Mr. Murrell regarding inclusion of the annual monitor report forms. **Motion passed.**

**Meeting recessed at 4 p.m.**

**Meeting reconvened at 8 a.m., Friday, July 28, 2000**

All Directors were present, vice president absent.

**29. RI Membership Committee Report.** Mr. Cooper reported on the actions of the Membership Committee. The different parties from Trinidad & Tobago reached a consensus, which should allow them to move forward as a Council and work together. **Motion** Mr. Cooper, 2nd Mr. Murrell, to approve the committee's recommendations and authorize a letter to be written to all parties summarizing the agreements. **Motion passed.**

**30. Election of Chairman & Vice Chairman of the Board.** Mr. Faulkner nominated Mr. Jennings as chairman. There were no other nominations and Mr. Jennings was elected by acclamation. Mr. Mauk nominated Mr. Cooper as vice-chairman. There were no other nominations and Mr. Cooper was elected by acclamation. Term is through July 2001.

**Meeting recessed at 8:30 a.m.**

**Meeting reconvened in the Open Session of The Board at 1:30 p.m.**

All Officers and Directors were present.

**31. Credentials report.** 14 Councils and 42 Teams, less one who was registered as both Team and Council delegate, 55 legal votes.

**32. 2001 Convention Site.** **Motion** Team #3153 to accept the bid from Trinidad & Tobago, 2nd by Pacific Northwest Council. **Motion passed.** **Motion** Mr. Mauk, 2nd Mr. Faulkner, to accept the bid from Trinidad & Tobago to host the convention. **Motion passed.**

**33. 2002 Convention Site.** **Motion** Team #4577, 2nd Team #6009, to accept the 2002 bid for Des Moines, Iowa. **Motion passed.** **Motion** Mr. Mauk, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Holmes, to accept the bid for Des Moines, Iowa, in 2002. **Motion passed.**

**34. Half Year Dues Structure.** The Team #3153 delegate asked for clarification of half year dues rates, because there had been some confusion expressed about whether the rate was \$5 off, or 50% off, the full rates. Mr. Besisng said that the Board had changed the dues structure in 1996 because of the financial situation of REACT International at that time. Mr. Thompson then read from the current version of the renewal form reflecting a \$5 reduction for half-year dues. However, RI's last published policy (dated 1990) stated there would be a 50% discount on new members who are registered after July 1. Mr. Thompson stated the discount does not apply to current/former members whose registration was simply delayed until after July 1. **Motion** Mr. Murrell, 2nd Mr. Faulkner, to establish half-year dues at 50% off in compliance with adopted policy dated 1990. **Motion passed.** This will be retroactive to July 1, 2000, and refunds will be made upon request. Question raised by Bob Leef of Crest REACT (Calif.), regarding the fees paid by Teams when first chartering or renewing. Response from Mr. Thompson was that new Teams pay a \$15 charter fee and renewing Teams pay a \$40 per year insurance fee.

**35. Insurance Fee Restructuring.** Discussion held about proposal to change structure to charge \$4 per person for insurance and the amount of funds this would raise. Discussion held about the types of coverage this would allow the Board to add to our insurance coverage. **Motion** #2503, 2nd C-10, that the membership concurs with the Board following through on the proposed insurance changes and fee structure. This would mean instead of a flat \$40, a Team with 5 members would pay only \$20, but a Team with 65 members would pay \$260. Joan Shrigley (Illinois) suggested a stepped rate for the larger Teams. Question about whether the fee applies to new members or just existing members. Lynda Stafford of Air Capital REACT (Wichita, Kans.) urged careful measures in the RI office to administer this fee to ensure it is applied equally. C.C. Roberts (Hawaii), C-10, raised question about dual

memberships, where dues are being paid for more than one Team. On the vote; 32 in favor, 9 opposed. **Motion passed.**

**36. FCC proposal #1. Motion** #6000, 2nd #4577, to direct the Board to approach the FCC or start the process to modify the rules either to reduce the GMRS fees or to increase the license period to 10 years like Amateur licenses. Discussion. Mr. Hollingsworth of the FCC previously stated he would help RI to the extent he could. On the vote; 24 in favor, 15 opposed, **Motion passed.** **Motion** Mr. Cooper, 2nd Mr. Fry, that the matter of reducing GMRS licensing fees or extending the license period be referred to the GMRS Committee for action. **Motion passed.** Mr. Cooper is the FCC liaison person and will work with the committee on this issue.

**37. FCC proposal #2. Motion** #6000, 2nd #4577, to approach the FCC to reinstate group licenses for Teams using GMRS repeaters so Teams could operate under a single license. Mr. Hollingsworth of the FCC suggested in the morning seminar that he would support such a change. When the GMRS rules were changed, and commercial companies were excluded from new licenses, REACT Teams were also excluded from applying for Team licenses. Mr. Thompson explained the nuances of a personal license versus a group license, and that there are no GMRS repeater licenses per se. Discussion held about repeater trustees versus group/Team licenses. On the vote; 33 votes in favor, 3 opposed. **Motion passed.** **Motion** Mr. Bising, 2nd Mr. Cooper, that the matter of group GMRS licenses and grandfathered GMRS license restrictions be referred to the GMRS Committee. **Motion passed.** Mr. Cooper is the FCC liaison person and will work with the committee on this issue.

**38. Regional Directors Concept Reviewed.** Mr. Cooper asked if the attendees were familiar with the new Regional Director concept. He asked what the primary reason for a Regional Director was, and asked for input from the floor. He felt that before a Director could be effective, Teams in the region had to know what a Regional Director does. He explained that the purpose of a Regional Director was to promote membership within the region, to promote Councils where there are no Councils, and to promote Teams where there are no Teams.

**39. REACT Chat Room – Schedule times.** J.H. Barr of New Jersey made suggestions that the Board try to establish dates and times for being in the REACT Internet Chat room so that members may approach Officers and/or Directors with questions or suggestions. A schedule needs to be published in the REACTer or listed on the website. He also stated that he felt the primary focus of REACT should no longer be on CB Channel 9 only. Mr. Bising stated that he has been working with members of the Florida State Council to develop a Chat room system using their IRC.

**40. Standing Ovation for Board and Convention Hosts.** John Fiskin asked the attendees for a standing ovation for the Board of Directors. And then he asked for the attendees to grant a standing ovation for the 2000 RI Convention hosts.

**41. Communications Committee Chairpersons.** Mr. Murrell announced that John Swaton was the new CB Chair, Dave Boone the GMRS Chair, and C.C. Roberts the Amateur Chair. He then discussed the change many years ago when from "Citizens" was changed to "Communications." He addressed the subject of CB radio usage in non-metro areas of our population, and the role CB can play in disaster because of the lack of repeater availability.

The Special Meeting of the Board of Directors was adjourned *sine die* at 3:55 p.m., July 28, 2000.

Respectfully submitted,

Lee W. Bising  
Secretary

## END OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES -- KISSIMMEE

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### Meeting by Board held with the Committee Chairs – 10:10am July 26, 2000

1. Convention Host: Walt Young announced small change of location for some meetings, mostly being held in restaurant in the back. Life member photo's will be taken after opening session because there will be four surprise life memberships presented during the opening session.
2. Publications Review: Stuart DeLuca presented 2 reports, one on Survey results and one on the committee in general. He gave verbal report about status of REACTer and satisfaction with the printers in Wichita, Kansas. He discussed the minor problems he had experienced with obtaining the US Mail periodical rate for mailing. The Post office needs to conduct an audit of our mailing list to verify that we are eligible for the permit. We are mailing at the commercial periodical rate inside the US and a special rate outside the US until the permit is approved. Once approved, we will receive a refund of the overcharges from the post office.
3. Awards & Recognition: Leland Johnson reported that he received the awards and money from K40 for 1998 and 1999 to be presented during the Banquet on Friday night. The K40 representative will not be present at the banquet, so he has asked the Chairman, President and Mr. Mauk to assist him in presenting the awards. The idea of a new pin for award recipients was turned down from K40, so alternate funding is being sought.
4. Life Members: Dick Gamble presented a written report. Gained 11 new life members since last year's conventions. Life membership cost is \$300 (US), approximately \$450 (Canadian).
5. Credential Report: Dick Gamble reported that we had delegates from 14 councils and 35 teams present at the convention as of this meeting with the board.
6. Junior REACT: Linda Faulkner passed out the proposed new Junior REACT program manuals. Mrs. Faulkner will be conducting a "Junior REACT" workshop Thursday afternoon, not only for the juniors present at the convention, but also for those teams with Junior REACT programs or interested in such. She has received very little input from teams and members outside the committee. Mr. Cooper asked if the manual included methods of recruiting potential Junior members.
7. Rapid Response: John Knott & Bob Lumpkin. Bob experiencing computer problems which has limited his ability to join in chat sessions discussing the program, but is keeping in touch via telephone and mail with interested teams and parties. He will be attending a meeting with FEMA on Monday morning after the convention. They have asked that we realign the regions for NDCAT to match up with FEMA's 10 regions.
8. Ways and Means: Sally Ann Knott was unable to get upstairs to the meeting room, but is available in hospitality room for consulting with the board or other interested persons.
9. VOLAG: Mr. Lanshe attended the American Red Cross's Disaster planning meeting in May 1999 to represent REACT International. A VOAD meeting will be held in October 2000.
10. Public Relations: Bob Leef presented written report with many items of concern, including FRS media release, the CNN News report mechanism for collecting news reports from REACT members from around the world and funnel them into CNN.
11. Membership Development: Mr. Cooper reported the committee has been working with inquiries from potential members via the Internet and has developed some guidelines for committee operations.

12. Computers: Lee Bising reported progress with the website and other issues, much had been already discussed during the board meetings.
13. Training: Written report received from Alf Fronefield in Germany.

**End of meeting with the Committee Chairpersons** at 10:55am on July 26, 2000

**Meeting held by Board with Council Representatives** at 11am, July 26, 2000

Councils represented were: MN, IL, FL, NE, NJ, PA, OH, NC, TT, WI, TX, MI, Ontario, And Pacific NW

1. **Florida:** John Knott, FL working on Rapid Response & convention.
2. **Minnesota:** Leland Johnson, MN working to recruit new members and teams. Working to build list of team emergency equipment so they know which team to call upon if they need resources during emergency. Mr. Johnson asked if RI required background checks by teams, and was told that RI discouraged persons with Felony convictions from being members, but that membership in a local team was up to the local team to screen.
3. **Illinois:** Bobby Cox no questions, no report given.
4. **Nebraska:** Ron Witherwax, no question, no report.
5. **New Jersey:** Dick Cooper, council working on getting more team participation in council level. New Jersey has some questions and suggestions to present to the board.
6. **Trinidad and Tobago:** Kenny asked that the directors introduce themselves. Asked permission to video tape and record this meeting (granted of course). TT has the largest REACT membership per capita of any country, and has over 10% of the convention attendees. He mentioned briefly the situation with the intra-team conflicts and asked to meet jointly with a representative of the "other side" and the membership committee to discuss the situation and try to reach a resolution..
7. **Pennsylvania:** Fred Lanshe, no question, no report other than what has already been presented in his capacity as director and treasurer for RI.
8. **Ohio:** Dave Boone spoke on purpose of councils and need for more support from the board. He asked for the council funding to be reinstated in the budget for REACT International. He asked for more PR materials from RI (brochures, tapes, etc.) that they could use to promote REACT at local level. He asked about what supplies (wearable items) are becoming available thru RI. Mr. Faulkner stated we were focusing on finding suppliers who would direct ship shirts, jackets and other items.
9. **North Carolina:** George Holmes talked on what councils do for teams. He said they were approaching local schools and recruiting potential junior members. State requirement for college entry requirements included volunteer service.
10. **Wisconsin:** Larry Fry added comments about purpose of councils, they depend upon money earned by interest on some CD's to support council activities. They have 8 teams and have been holding steady in membership. He plans to take some of the ideas from the other councils back home to implement and test in his state.
11. **Texas:** Lee Bising, Council joined a fund raising charity called Another Way Texas Shares (AWTS), which has raised thousands of dollars for the council and member teams to date. They have been supporting Special Olympics activities (summer games) and AWTS fund raising activities.
12. **Michigan:** John Swaton reported that the issue brought before the board previously with their council treasurer embezzling funds from the council and his local team, has been resolved and he is making restitution to the council and team.

13. **Ontario:** Ron Faulkner reported they lost 1 team (3 person) and gained 1 team (11 members). They have been working with local high schools because they are required to put in 40 hours of volunteer work before graduation. Have gained some new Junior members as a result.
14. **Pacific Northwest:** John Fisken, reported they were working with WAVOAD and COAD to develop new video and working with building local emergency organizations to coordinate (chapters of VOAD?) and he has been working with the RI Rapid Response program. Council has lost 2 teams (4-5 member). Council worked an event with the Hydroplane races to pick up aluminum cans after the races and used the money to fund the council.

**End of meeting with Council representatives, adjourned 12 p.m. July 26, 2000**

## General Session Minutes (2 sessions)

### **General Session #1 convened at 9:00 a.m. Thursday, July 27, 2000**

All Directors & Officers Present

Session called to order by Chairman Frank Jennings.

**1. Convention Credentials.** Dick Gamble reported that we had 13 Councils and 38 Teams with registered delegates, however one person was both Team and a Council delegate, therefore causing only 50 possible voting delegates during this session.

#### **2. Region Reports by Directors:**

**Region 1** report by Mr. Lanshe (NE USA). Contacted the remaining members of the Southern New York Council to try and reorganize that Council. Working with Bruce Talianian in Boston (affiliate member) on a PBS production and with some NE Radio Shack Stores.

**Region 2** report by Mr. Cooper. (Mid-Atlantic & Kentucky USA). Mr. Cooper said he sent out e-mail messages when he took office last year. He contacted Teams in West Virginia about forming a Council in that state. He attended Council meetings in some of the states within his region. He instituted a practice of sharing information with Teams about inquiries regarding membership or affiliates so they could contact the person locally.

**Region 3** report by Mr. Holmes (SE USA). Working with three potential Teams in his region. Suggested when a Team is in trouble and has not renewed, that a Council or the Director contact the individual members of the former Teams to see if there is enough interest from the non-Officers to keep a Team going.

**Region 4** report by Mr. Jack Murrell (IN-OH-MI USA). Handled a situation with a Team in northern Indiana where the charter was not renewed, former members wanted to renew and the Council helped them get started.

**Region 5** report by Mr. Larry Fry (Midwest USA). On the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend of October 2000, the region is having a mini-convention / workshop over the weekend, open to all REACT members, not restricted to just members from Region 5. Will be held in a Days Inn across from the Mall of America up in Minnesota.

**Region 6** report by Mr. Frank Jennings (NW USA). Reported that he worked with the Council and Teams in his area to review the charter requirements of forming a Team, and that many were surprised to find out what their predecessors had committed them to. They had no idea what a REACT Team was supposed to be doing. They held this as a Council wide training session.

Working with group in Wyoming to try and start a new Team in that state. He was asked how they handled the distance.

**Region 7** report by Mr. Lee Bising (South Central USA). Working with states in his region, reported number of members in REACT from 1999 and 2000, change in number of REACT Teams. Dropped some small Teams (3-4 members), picked up new Team in Texas, pending a couple of others in Texas and Oklahoma.

**Region 8** report by Jesse Mauk (SW USA). Has handled some intra-Team conflicts and solved some problems in his area. This has been keeping him busy.

**Region 9** report by Mr. Ron Faulkner (International). Approximately 15% of the attendees are from his region, representing two countries, Canada and Trinidad Tobago. He announced there was another country pending with a Team from Mexico City, Mexico. And there was a non-affiliated group in the Philippines. We do have a Team in United Kingdom and Germany.

**Outside Director.** Resignation of Mr. Stone. Mr. Jennings announced that Mr. Stone had resigned from the Board and has departed the convention. Mr. Stone cited health reasons for his resignation. The Board has presented a certificate of appreciation to him and reluctantly accepted his resignation.

**3. Membership Status Report.** Mr. Bising reported that in 1999, we had 4126 members and 346 Teams, and in 2000 we have currently 3973 members and 309 Teams.

**4. Financial Status Report.** Total income from January 1, 2000 through July 17, 2000 was \$96,494.63, total expenses was \$52,632.59. 11 new REACT Teams and 643 new members joined in 2000. We had 15 new Life members since last convention.

#### **Committee reports.**

**5. Awards Committee.** Leland Johnson reported we have plaques and certificates to pass out at tonight's ceremony. K40 rep was unable to attend so the Officers and one Director will pass out the awards. This covers retroactive to 1998 and 1999 for the awards. There is a contest in the hospitality room to guess who the recipients of the awards will be. They are considering approaching other associates or corporations, such as American Automobile Association (AAA) or Canadian Automobile Association (CAA) to sponsor / support a new "Radio Hero Award" to be presented to a deserving person or persons (non-REACT member) who had used a radio to save a life, on an annual basis. The proposed pins for the quarterly K40 award winners were not funded so the committee is seeking alternate sources of funding.

**6. Computer Services Committee.** Report by Lee Bising ... gave brief history about how the committee was formed, how it evolved to today's committee. He singled out attention to Ken Green of Wichita, Kansas (present at this convention) as the person who initiated bringing the database in house and was instrumental in getting RI onto the Internet while he was President of REACT International. Recent accomplishments included database conversions, website make over, improved communications via e-mail list server and direct e-mail for every Director, Officer and committee chairperson. Web store with expanded items from new suppliers that will accept credit cards should be ready within the next few months.

**7. Convention Site Selection Committee.** Report by Jesse Mauk. Chairperson Selma Dassa was unable to attend this year's convention because Morris, her husband, broke his leg shortly before the convention began. No announcement of a selection at this time, but will be made soon.

**8. Junior REACT.** Linda Faulkner showed the proposed Junior REACT program guide and asked for feedback from attendees at this afternoon's workshop

**9. Life Member.** Dick Gamble reported 551 life members, 15 new members since last convention, 251 were listed as active, 89 were known to be deceased, 61 were dropped (unable to contact), 6 were removed for cause, and 144 were unattached to any Team. Life memberships still cost only \$300 and Mr. Gamble has blank copies of the form, or you can order from RI HQ.

**10. Membership Development Committee.** Tom Currie chair. Report by Mr. Cooper. Working to develop ideas for membership development and the future of REACT. Collecting ideas from many sources via e-mail and website.

**11. Public Relations Committee.** Report by Bob Leef. Introduced members of committee who were present at convention. Showed a copy of National Communications magazine with advertisements for REACT and articles about REACT. Written copies of his report were in each attendee's welcome packet. Discussed new program with CNN to allow REACT members to get timely news reports into CNN for distribution. There will be a "gatekeeper system" with all Regional Directors and Officers, in addition to two members of the PR Committee. Info will be published in the next *REACTer*. Paul Oby working investigating possible associations with other not-for-profit organizations. Bob Kaster looking into Supporting Membership. Ken Collier & Sally Ann Knott working on professional fundraiser to help REACT International.

**12. Publications Review Committee.** Report by Stuart DeLuca. Summarized purpose of the committee and listed members of committee. Summarized changes to the printing and mailing of the *REACTer* and how the new periodical rate will save us money. Announced that most printed documents will be made available via the website in Adobe Acrobat PDF format rather than being stored in printed-paper format in the RI offices. All publications have been, or are in the process of being, reviewed and brought up to the standards set by the committee. A survey was conducted by selecting members from the REACT International database around June 1, 2000 and about 25% were returned by July 1, 2000. They took the list of members, sorted by Zip/Postal Code and picked every 19<sup>th</sup> member to send the survey form to. They are still analyzing the results, but some stats are available. Only 2% of REACT members are under age 18. Only 2% are between 18-24, 14% 25 – 39 years, 40% between 40-59 years old, 40% over 60 years old. 62% Are male, 50/50 single/married. 52% of our members had family income in the middle-income range (\$20k-\$60k). 72% of respondents stated they had recruited one or more new members.

Suggestion made from the floor, that we send complimentary copies of the *REACTer* to each FEMA district. Suggestion was made from the floor that the *REACTer* include some articles written in other languages native to the countries where we have Teams. An inquiry was made from the floor regarding Mr. DeLuca's (*REACTer* Editor) policy on editing individual articles for length, clarity and consistency. Mr. DeLuca pointed out that he does not write the articles in the *REACTer*, he only lays them out and edits them to fit the available space for each article. Mr. Lumpkin was concerned that an article was severely edited from the original and asked if the editor was contacting the author to confirm the changes. Mr. DeLuca asked for articles to be e-mailed to him direct, or mailed to the RI offices in time for him to contact the author if any changes were needed.

**13. Rapid Response Team.** Report by Bob Lumpkin. The other two co-chairs of this committee are John Knott and John Fisken. Reported that we needed to setup the NDCAT program (Rapid Response Team) with regions, which match FEMA's alignment. Training courses for members of the NDCAT will be established and 25 members will be selected for each primary NDCAT. Design of a new patch for NDCAT, quotes are being sought, sample was passed around for attendees to view. Mr. Lumpkin explained how this Team would respond to a disaster call in conjunction with FEMA and NVOAD. He asked for space to put up a website for NDCAT to keep folks posted on activities planned or happening

for NDCAT. Some planning is included on subject of Terrorism. Mr. Fisken reported they held a drill up in Washington State with WAVOAD and other agencies. They tested e-mail and phone for alerts and discovered e-mail did not work well for short notice events.

**14. Ways and Means Committee.** Mr. Jennings discussed how many persons have been cross linking between different committees and serving in multiple positions at the various levels. He reported that Sally Ann Knott, chairperson, was busy with the convention elsewhere and unable to be here to present a report at this instant. He reported on their progress in applying for grants and other benefits for the membership, and some sources are only available for organizations within a specific state.

**15. Supplies Store.** New REACT Flag (white background, colored logo) is available for \$35, rolls of 1,000 ft barrier tape with REACT on orange background. Other suppliers from Teams, Councils or companies are being sought to be included in the REACT Web store and supply catalog. Question raised from the floor about REACT shirts and uniform items being made available. The Board explained that we had tried supplying such items in the past, but it tied up too much money in inventory and there were many varieties of uniform shirts, jackets and caps by Teams in REACT. Therefore we were seeking supply partners who could drop ship orders upon request by REACT members ordering through the REACT Web store or direct from RI HQ via mail, phone or fax.

**Open Session #1 adjourned at 11:30 a.m. Thursday, July 27, 2000.**

**Open Session convened at 10:30 a.m Friday, July 28, 2000.**

**Open Session #2** – All Officers and Directors were present. No change in credentials reported.

**1. 2001 Convention Recommendation.** Mr. Mauk presented to the delegates, the recommendation of Convention Site Selection Committee to host the convention in Trinidad & Tobago. **Motion Team #3153, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Team #C-10** to accept the recommendation of the committee. **Motion made** to table the decision made by Team #4784, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ohio Council. Discussion followed regarding Roberts Rules of Order and length of time such motion would result in postponing a decision. **Motion failed.** **Motion Kansas REACT Council, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Team 2718** to postpone the decision of site location until the 1:30pm open session today. **Motion passed, original motion was postponed.**

**2. Minnesota Conference in October, 2000.** Presentation made by Paul Oby of Minnesota regarding their weekend conference being held next October in Bloomington, a suburb of Minneapolis. Attendance is open to any REACT member, regardless of region. Discounts at Mall of the Americas have been arranged for all attendees. The Region 5 Director, Larry Fry, and possibly President Harry Hawkins, will be in attendance at this conference.

**Open Session adjourned at 11:30 a.m. Friday, July 28, 2000**

Minutes of General Sessions and Special Meetings with Councils and Committee Chairs taken by Lee W. Bising, Secretary for REACT International, Inc.