

## **Representative Council Meeting January 13, 2009**

**A motion to approve the minutes dated December 2, 2008 was made by Dave Weaver, second by Marc Sanders. Motion approved.**

### **President's Report, Gene Smith**

Gene Smith advised that notices from the District might go out to non-permanent teachers in March; these notices are a state requirement and will not necessarily result in a loss of employment. Several board members have expressed a desire to keep budget cuts away from the classroom. There is over \$18,000,000 in categorical funds that the district has held which could ease the budget crisis. Increasing class size by one student per class would also save the district \$1,000,000, but would reduce the number of teachers needed. AVTA will ask that any cuts made would be across the district. All of this discussion hinges on having a state budget in place.

CTA has a proposal to put an initiative on the State ballot to raise the sales tax by .01 to fund education in the State of California. **Joe Stouch moved to reject the sales tax initiative and Dave Weaver second. Motion passed.** AVTA State Representatives, Christine Van Allen and Gary Roberts were instructed to vote no at the January State Council meeting.

**An MOU with the District was presented by Gene Smith to delay class balancing until February 2, 2009, to account for the (snow day) delay in the start of the spring semester. There will be no make up days required. Dave Wright moved to approve the MOU and Winston Parkinson second. Motion approved.**

### **Vice President, Political, Gerald Fairman**

Gerald discussed the contract voting procedures. Ballots must be returned to the AVTA office by Friday, January 16, 2009, by 5:00 P.M.

### **Treasurer, Beatriz Sztain**

**A motion to approve the balance sheet dated, January 13, 2009, was made by Terry Vernor and second by Ray Hart. Motion approved.**

Last year AVTA spend \$7000 on legal expenses for RIF(reduction in force) teachers. This year, expenses of \$14,000 are anticipated due to Probationary 1, 2 and 0 notices that may go out.

A \$10 gift certificate will be given to new members that sign up. A suggestion was made that we buy a second set of ballot boxes for each site, (one for the envelopes and one for ballots).

A check for \$11,132 was received from CTA and \$25,000 will be put into a certificate of deposit at Edwards Credit Union as soon as possible, per a motion approved by council on November 4, 2008. The Auditor said 1099 forms would be sent out by January 31, 2009. Also AVTA state and federal taxes are due and the accountants will either have them paid on-time or file for an extension.

### **Grievance Chair, Gary Roberts**

We are checking with CTA lawyers on the grievance settlement for SPED. The District Office has agreed to cease and desist using admin interns during prep periods as of January 12, 2009.

### **Negotiations, Dan Shy**

A survey will be distributed to all members and input is requested for the 2009-10 contract negotiations. The whole contract will be open for negotiations. Please encourage members to fill out the survey.

Miscellaneous discussion: Dave Wright said the district couldn't freeze money in club accounts. The removal of textbooks from Palmdale High School classrooms for the Sage Program was questioned. Gene Smith will look into it.

A motion to adjourn was made by Ray Hart. Motion approved.