AEA-Retired Executive Board Meeting Minutes
January 11, 2011 10:00 AM – 2:30 PM AEA Headquarters, 345 E. Palm Ln, Phx

Attendance: L. Somo, F. Bing, J. Stephenson, J. Horwin, K. Campbell, M. Aicone, A. Aber, S. Austin, D. Barlow, S. Boswell, J. Campbell, K. Freed, S. Linder, G. Mehok, C. Michels, J. Moy, B. Pierce, S. Ramos, D. Swinford, J. Zuniga, Chapter & Committee Chairs: T. Coleman, S. Rosen, S. Sommer, R. Spitzer, S. Sain, M. Freed Guest: Jan Nichols
Absent: C. Peters, L. Thieken, B. Joseph

Agenda Item	Minutes
1. Call to	President Linda Somo called the meeting to order at 10:10 AM
2. Approval of Agenda	Moved/2nd by J. Horwin, S. Austin to approve agenda with flexibility and following additions: New Business Item – Shirley Boswell 6. D. Secretary report; AEA Gov. Relations & Leg. Task Force E. K. Campbell – ESEA report Guests: www.recallpearce.com Randy Parras, Lilia Alvarez PASSED
3. Approval of Minutes	Moved/2nd by K. Freed, S. Linder to approve minutes from January 11, 2011 PASSED
4. Financials	Treasurer J. Stephenson led a discussion of this month's financial statement. Moved/2nd by J. Horwin, D. Barlow to approve this month's financial report and file for audit. PASSED Treasurer J. Stephenson then introduced and explained the proposed Budget for the new fiscal year. Discussion and voting will take place during March 8, 2011 AEA Retired Executive Board meeting.
5. Member-ship	Shirley Boswell informed the board of present status of membership numbers. 1898 members. See her attached report. Shirley proposed a New Business item: Moved to have a committee of people who will act as buddies to those who have served before on the AEA Retired Executive Board. PASSED. Discussion, and a committee will be created in March meeting.
6. Officer Reports	Linda Somo: President's & NEA B.O.D. reports: ▪ NEA Retired West Regional update: Freeds not going (expecting second grandchild); NEA funded participant will be Danny Barlow; his wife Sylvia will accompany him; Carmen Peters will be funded by AEA-Retired, but needs a roommate; Carmen needs to make own room reservation; Danny's room will be booked through AEA/NEA; those going need to have booked rooms, registered online (including Danny), and made own transportation arrangements ▪ Grant money has been received ($5000); bid from Jim Paulsen at AEA, $382.67 for projector, & $490 for laptop; total cost $947.72; Jim will install Office 2007 when it comes in; will need to pay for virus protection program;; Grant Progress report for 2010 grant already submitted; will have half-page ad in next issue of Advocate due out April 4 paid out of this grant, as well as previous ¼ page ad in

	last issue (1/4 ad is $525, and ½ page ad is $735); 2011 grant proposal submitted, copy in your packet. ▪ Results of IMPACT fundraiser - $490; special thanks to all who submitted such wonderful raffle items, and to Jean & Frank for actually doing all the work. ▪ John & I will be traveling to DC tomorrow for the NEA Board of Directors meeting, and to meet some of our new Congressional Delegation. We already have five appointments for Thursday and will visit all the rest to drop off materials, so it will be a busy day on The Hill. Friday night is the big NEA Foundation Gala, and Rae Ann Rumery, AEA's nominee, will be honored along with the other 49 outstanding educators from around the country. Vice President: Frank Bing noted that the Conduit will be sent out this week. AEA Liaison Mike Aicone ▪ reported that over 30% of AEA Retired membership have contributed to the Every Member Option for political contributions. $5726 has been collected from 630 members. ▪ Committee Day Raffle netted $490.00 for a total of $4150 in IMPACT fund ▪ Membership in AEA has dropped over last 2 years by 5,000. ▪ 4 Bills in this year's legislative session which may impact union payroll, dues deduction. Affects all unions. This is a national push, and has been seen in Tennessee and Alabama. An AEA committee is looking into doing electronic funds transfers for ALL of AEA members in order to avoid the impact of such bills. ▪ Kathy Campbell reported that because ESEA has not been reauthorized, this is the longest sitting NEA committee. ▪ Julie Horwin reported on AEA Government Relations and Legislative Task Force committee which met Saturday, February 5. The AEA Legislative Agenda and the Platform was modified and will be sent to the AEA Board for approval. Added in Platform under QT&L are two items: 1.) AEA supports accountability measures for teachers that support authentic student learning without abusive actions utilizing student assessments. 2.) AEA supports gun-free campuses with the exception of law enforcement officers. ▪ AEA Lobby Day will consist of school districts conducting advocacy activities within their own legislative districts. AEA Retired members are asked to contact their local active chapters in order to find out how they can help and to actively take part in such activities. They are asked not to go to state legislature that day unless they have made appointments with individual legislators in conjunction with their active locals.
7. AEA Director	Judy Moy reported that the Western Regional Leaders Conference was in Salt Lake 3 weeks ago. Frank Bing and I manned the Retired Information table. It was slow! We had very few retirees at the meeting. The table included information on Soc Sec. and NEA-R pamphlets. I attended the workshop on Membership. They showed clips from the movie "Waiting for Superman". I had not seen it but was totally upset when the real actors spouted the facts about education that of course someone had fed them the info. Why would they care about all those facts? Many people at the conference did not like the new format of staying in the same session all day.

8. AEA Retired Elections	Juan Zuniga reported that there are 15 people running for the 9 open seats on the AEA Retired Executive Board. No one is challenging Linda Somo for President position and no one is challenging Jean Stephenson for her 2nd term as AEA Retired Treasurer. Nominations for the above positions may be made from the floor on the day of the election at the Annual Meeting. 56 people have been nominated to and have seats at the AEA Delegate Assembly. Letters regarding registration for AEA Retired Annual Meeting will go out to the members by the first of March.
9. ASRS	Steve Ramos reported the following: The ASRS External Affairs Committee met on Friday Feb. 4th. Lesli Sorensen, ASRS Government Relations, gave her report on legislative activity. Lesli spent an hour and a half testifying in the House and answering questions about Return To Work and the Alternative Contribution Rate, as well as other smaller changes to ASRS rules such as, transfers, employer collections, domestic relations orders, and survivor benefits. Lesli was surprised that all the same bills sailed through the Senate with no questions at all. Lesli provided a projected cost savings if the ACR is passed as introduced in the House with a 7/1/2014 start date. Assuming 4,000 RTW retirees (a rough estimate) are employed in 2015, and assuming a 2% growth rate, the saving to the ASRS fund through 2027 is approximately $218.3 million. The Senate RTW bill has the start date at 2013, and saves ASRS approximately $238.0 million. A bill to change the Elected Officials Retirement Plan would change the salary calculation from 3 to 5 years and increases the member contribution rate from 7% to 11%. Steve reported about the pension bills that have been dropped in this year's legislative session: ▪ HB 2574 Repeals RTW completely. Filmore is the main sponsor. The bill protects workers who work less than 20 hours and 20 weeks. ▪ SB 1340 would change ASRS to a Defined Contribution System. The sponsor is Antenori. - Closes DB Plan 1/1/2012. - Establishes DC Plan . - ASRS oversees program contracted out to third party. - DB Plan members can join DC plan. - Permits employees to contribute between 0 and 15% to the DC Plan. - Requires employers to contribute 100% of the employees' contribution up to **5%.** - Sets retirement age at 55. - First Read was 1/31 Next Stop Finance Committee. ▪ Adams Plan: Key provisions would: - Require ASRS employees hired starting in July to work until they were 62 with 10 years of service, or 65 with less than 10 years of service, before they could retire. - Force ASRS employers like cities and school districts to make payments into the pension trust when they rehired ASRS retirees beginning July 2012. Currently, no payments are made for so-called double-dippers.

	- End cost-of-living adjustments for pensioners beginning this summer. ASRS retirees have not received COLA raises in five years, but the other plans have. ▪ The speaker also had proposed banning retirees from returning to work. However, he said that could keep school districts from bringing back experienced teachers who are needed to teach specialty classes. ▪ He said creating an "alternative contribution rate" will discourage some employers from rehiring double-dippers. ▪ Sandra McClelland, founder of Smartschoolsplus Inc., which helps retired educators return to work, said the new contribution rate is part of a fair solution, although she would start the new rate in 2014 instead of 2012. In the past, her organization opposed legislative efforts to impose an alternative contribution rate. ▪ The proposal also calls for the Board of Investment, which reports to the Arizona treasurer, to complete a study by Dec. 31 on the feasibility and cost of moving public employees to a 401(k) retirement plan. ▪ Adams said that plan, which likely would affect only new hires, could be less costly than the current defined-benefit system, which provides lifetime annual pensions based on a formula that rewards those who work longer
10. AEA Retired Annual Meeting	Suzan Austin reported arrangements for 2011 AEA Retired Annual Meeting: Today we want you to sign up to help with the Annual Meeting for certain tasks and equipment. Good news! Chris Mayer negotiated a variety of choices for our lunch for the same cost as last year! We will have a choice of beef, chicken, fish, or vegetarian for $27 including tax and gratuity! We will charge $30 for registration to cover our costs. We will also make our usual meeting room, suite, terrace/gazebo requests that we have had in the past. We will send our request to AEA for a fundraising table and a membership table at the DA. As in the past, the Elections committee will coordinate with AEA for computer and duplicating capabilities for the elections. Hopefully, everything will work out. The registration form will go out in *The Conduit*'s next issue which will be out soon. The form should also be sent out with the delegate letter this month. We will be sending reminders to you as in the past about what to bring and things you have signed up to do. **IF YOU HAVE AN EMAIL CHANGE FROM THE ONE ON THE ROSTER WE WERE GIVEN, PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE ON THE SIGN UP SHEET. We will be sending reminders via email (or if no email via regular mail).** NOTE: All Board members are to bring to the Annual Meeting **1 wrapped item ($5-10) for a door prize and 1 unwrapped item ($10 - 15+) for the NEA Fundraising.**
11. AZ Alliance	John Campbell reported on Alliance activities and the last Coalition Meeting held in January.
12. AZ IMPACT	Ken Freed reported: Marilyn and I are going to the University of AZ to meet with about 90 students to recruit more proteges. They are planning a group

	meeting.
13. Chapter Chair Reports	▪ Aurora Aber, Tucson, next meeting on February 15 at 10:00 AM at TEA office ▪ Brenda Pierce, Metro Phoenix, reported that on March 27 they will hold their next meeting at MetroTech. Sue Sain, Steve Ramos spoke at their last meeting. 17 members were in attendance. ▪ Danny Barlow, Northern AZ, reported that 5 local districts met for the Reservation Task Force. Each took back information to their respective districts. ▪ Susie Sommer, Glendale/West Phoenix, reported that they used "robo-calls" to contact members. Frank Bing was their guest speaker last Thursday. John Campbell spoke about the Alliance and K. Campbell spoke about ESEA. ▪ Steve Ramos, Mesa, reported that guests from M.A.D.D. spoke at February meeting,. Next meeting is March 9. ▪ Suzan Austin, Scottsdale/Paradise Valley will hold next meeting on March 14. ▪ Sally Rosen, Southern AZ, met with 24 members. Their next meeting is St. Patricks Day in March, and they'll meet again in May. ▪ Ted Coleman reported that they met on Jan. 20, and will now meet every 2nd Monday of every 2nd month at the Chinese Buffet on Route 66. They have been educating themselves about Defined Benefit system vs Defined Contribution systems. They are delivering informational fliers to the individual school sites in their districts. ▪ Gary Mehok, Chapters Chair reported that he is looking for suggestions for guest speakers at the local chapter meetings. Suggestions were made for Tori Anderson from the Alliance for Retired Americans, and Sue Sain who has recently been trained to present information regarding the legislative redistricting process.
15. Raffle	$50 was collected by and Ken facilitated the drawing: Suzan Austin won, $25 to AZ AEA Retired, and $25 to her!
17. Adjourn	Pres. Somo adjourned the meeting at 1:55 PM Next Meeting: Tues., Mar. 8, 2011