

SIR Minutes of Branch 159 Executive Committee  
January 9, 2025

The meeting opened at 10:15 am at Pardini's Restaurant. BEC officers present were Big Sir Mike Parker, Little Sir Duke Marshall, Senior Treasurer Bruce Corwin, Assistant Treasurer Keith Lovgren, Assistant Secretary Brett Bayley, and Secretary Robert Scott. Directors present were Russ Conrad (2025), Robert Ying (2025), Pete Openshaw (2026), Butch Evans (2026), John Briceno (2027), and Reg Salsman (2027). Robert Scott proclaimed a quorum was present (12 of 13), and Big Sir Mike Parker opened the meeting.

Next, a review of the November 2024 meeting minutes was conducted. Russ Conrad moved that the minutes be accepted, and Reg Salsman seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Based upon inquiries during the calls to members, we found 105 members who stated that they were planning to attend our luncheon today. Bruce Corwin ordered 95 lunches from Pardini's.

Little Sir Duke Marshall then announced that Gary Morgan, the Branch 159 Webmaster, would be our program for today. Gary is going to review the components of our branch website and answer questions about how our website can be utilized.

Next, the November 2024 and December 2024 Monthly Cash Report (Form 28) were reviewed. Bruce Corwin reported the General Account income on both reports were primarily from the receipt of 2025 membership assessments and our 50/50 drawing. The November report indicated luncheon income exceeded costs by \$346. However, the December report showed a loss of \$545 on our luncheon because attendance was lower than our callers had reported. Duke Marshall moved that both reports be accepted as submitted, and Robert Ying seconded the motion. There was unanimous approval.

The following agenda item concerned the membership reports. The December 2024 Membership Report indicated that today would be the 357<sup>th</sup> meeting of SIRs Branch 159. As of the end of December, we had 184 members. Therefore, during 2024, we inducted 33 new members but also lost 25. At today's luncheon, we have an additional two members that are eligible to be inducted upon approval of this report. Brett Bayley moved that the Membership Report be approved, and Keith Lovgren seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The Form 27 report was then reviewed. At our November luncheon, 56% of our membership was in attendance.

The first old business item involved securing officer signatures for our bank accounts. A meeting of our branch officers with our bank's representative has been scheduled for January 17<sup>th</sup> to complete this task.

The next old business item concerned our historical records. It was decided that the records will be retrieved and brought to our February luncheon. At that time, all members will be given the opportunity to review and evaluate each item.

The final old business item was a report on our attempt to find new prospects for membership in SIRs 159 through newspaper advertisements. The publication of our ad did not bring any new member applications. It was decided that we would not use this tool again.

The first new business item concerned a notification from state SIRs that they are increasing the state annual membership assessment to each SIR branch. The increase to our branch amounts to approximately \$160 for the year. The Branch 159 BEC voted to absorb this increase and maintain our local annual assessment at \$25.

The second new business topic was a report from Bruce Corwin about the standing of our collection of 2025 member assessments. Bruce reported that 133 of our 184 branch members have paid their 2025 assessment. Members have until our February luncheon to complete their payments.

Bruce also asked that he be designated as Senior Treasurer and voting member of the Branch 159 BEC while he is assisting Garry Elliott complete various treasurer duties. Brett Bayley moved that Bruce's request be granted, and Russ Conrad seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

It was then mentioned that since it is the beginning of the year, we need to complete two required audits. First, an audit of the Branch 159 financial status must be done. The golf financial information also needs to be reviewed. Brett Bayley volunteered work with Bruce Corwin to complete both audits and report the results at our next meeting.

It was announced that our next Dine Out dinner is next Wednesday, January 15<sup>th</sup> at the Lazy Dog restaurant.

Gary Morgan suggested that we begin visiting various retirement group luncheons. For example, he is aware of a meeting of retired county employees who meet once a month. Gary thought we might determine the 5 or 6 largest employers in the area and determine if they have a regular program for their retired employees. He volunteered to investigate the possibility of attending a Fresno County retired employee luncheon.

Microphone time at our meeting today will include Bruce Corwin and Pete Openshaw.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:54 am.

Secretaries Robert Scott and Brett Bayley