

October 20, 2021

Dear Fellow RPEA members,

Thanks to all who responded and signed our first petition to recall six members of the RPEA Executive Board who were actively involved in the late July/early August ouster of then President Sharon Hoffbeck and removing Executive Vice President Brad Owens of authority provided under RPEA Bylaws. The Executive Board members identified in that petition were accused of multiple violations of RPEA's Bylaws, and in some instances violations of state, federal, and APEA-AFT local chapter rules against discrimination and creating hostile work environments. We regret to inform you that the Executive Board rejected the submission of over one-hundred member signatures and voted on August 20, 2021, that the petition did not meet the current RPEA Board members' interpretation of RPEA Bylaws under Article VII, Section 12.

Specifically, the Executive Board decided that the Bylaws precluded submittal of more than one named individual on a petition and further determined that their actions could not be found to be in violation of the Bylaws because they determined that their actions were legal. The Executive Board voted that only they could interpret RPEA's ByLaws and that those named in the petition had no conflict of interest and therefore could vote on the petition's validity. Only two Executive Board members not listed on the original petition voted against these motions. All six members subject to the recall petition voted to absolve themselves of wrong doing.

Consequently, we are once again circulating more defined and targeted recall petitions for your signature. We have focused on the ring leaders most responsible for this string of illegal activities. To avoid having the petition once again rejected, two separate petitions have been prepared. The first one you will receive is for Secretary Stephanie Rhoades. The second, to follow shortly thereafter, is for President Randall Burns.

As provided by RPEA Bylaws, after a Recall Petition is submitted:

- The Executive Board shall address the matter within 15 days.
- The officer subject to recall then has 15 days to respond in writing.
- The Executive Board shall take appropriate action within forty-five days from receipt of the officer's response.
- Should the Executive Board decide to recall an officer, the officer has the right to appeal to the membership.

When the President is the subject of a Recall Petition, the APEA/AFT Constitution provides the controlling directive for local chapters, stating:

In the case of a Local Officer, the Local President shall be responsible for verification of the petition, conducting the election and notifying the accused of the results. If the President is the accused, a neutral third party shall be appointed by the Vice President of the Local (Article XXII.7).

We will inform everyone as soon as possible, what the RPEA Executive Board member response is for this second effort.

Please send your signed Signature Page(s) for these recall petitions to Carrie D. Longoria, RPEA retiree in good standing. You can also ask her questions regarding these recall petitions and/or how to best return your signed Signature Page. Call her at (907) 830-1593 for questions.

To send your signature:

Email – Scan or take a digital picture(s) of your Signature Page(s), and attach to an email that will go to Carrie D. Longoria, longoriacd@gmail.com; or

Mail – Please contact Carrie D. Longoria by phone (907-830-1593) or email (longoriacd@gmail.com) if you prefer to mail your signature pages.

Regards,

All RPEA Members Deserve to Know

Please feel free to share this recall petition and signature page with other State of Alaska retirees you may know who might not be on our initial_email distribution list. We no longer have access to RPEA's membership roster and must rely on word of mouth to get this call to action out to all affected RPEA members.

Cover Letter 10-20-21