

COBB-MARIETTA RETIRED EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION

February 9, 2023

The meeting was called to order by President Carolyn Waters at 11:02 am. Ed Hullender led us in the Pledge, and Christine Wise provided the Inspiration.

Donations for Sweetwater can still be made via this website: <https://www.sweetwatermission.org/>

Announcements:

1. Leeann Sturtz of AMBA provided updates on benefits and policies.
2. Birthdays were recognized and celebrated.
3. Joe's Brag Jar saw a lot of action, lots of humor today!
4. Ida Dixon reminded everyone to continue to decorate bags during March and bring to the April meeting. We will be decorating bags during the meetings. Crayons and bags will be provided.
5. Anyone can go to the Annual Convention May 2-4 in Augusta where Joe Boland will become president of GREA.

The financial report was presented. The budget/minutes for December were approved.

General	\$4,959.37
Money Market	\$23,042.19
Ruby Wright Fund	\$20,808.71
McClure Fund	\$149,362.36

Everyone is encouraged to take paper lunch bags to decorate for MUST ministries. Please return to Ida Dixon in April. Decorate one side only. You can put puzzles from newspapers on them too or comic strips.

Membership: As of today we have 100 new members.

Speakers:

Joe Boland introduced Dr. William Sloan, GREA Executive Director and Johnny Smith, Director of Communications on the "State of our GREA". TRS is sound and the building is paid for. There are 33,000 members. Cobb is the biggest unit in the state and we just made our membership quota for this year. GREA dues are used to monitor legislative agendas. Liz Bouis has spent her four years as an area representative and will move onto something else with GREA.

HB385: teachers can go back to teaching and still receive full retirement benefits. It also expands TRS to cover custodians, bus drivers and lunchroom staff.

New bill: TRS only invests 5% now. There is a bill to increase it.

**Next C-MREA meeting for all is March 9th**, please look for the invitation and AGAIN...indicate if you would like a lunch.

1:15pm the meeting was adjourned by president, Carolyn Waters.