



Sonora SIR Branch No. 136

**Branch Executive Committee Meeting  
January 9, 2024 Minutes  
In-person meeting at Elks Club**

**In Attendance:**

**BEC Officers:** Big SIR – Eddie Toews – Past Big SIR  
Little SIR – Mike Krom  
Secretary – Steven Holt  
Assistant Secretary – Gene Zanoni  
Treasurer – John Salmon  
Assistant Treasurer - Eddie Toews

**Not Present:** 2024 Big SIR – Rick Bronner - Ill

**Directors:**

1<sup>st</sup> Year

Jim Botto  
Bill Burnes  
Raul Santana  
Paul Squeri

2<sup>nd</sup> Year

George Cocores  
Stan Enos  
Mel Kutsch  
Marty Martin

**Not Present:** All Present

**Committee Chairmen:** Activities Director – *Position Open*  
Bowling - Don Banchero  
Bulletin - Jim Botto  
Car Club – Absent  
Chaplin – Absent  
Fishing – Absent  
Golf – *Position Open*  
Internet & Zoom – Jerry Bellefeuille  
Kayaking – Absent  
Lunch Tickets – Jerry Bellefeuille  
Lunch Drawings – Tom Neiderer  
Membership - George Cocores  
Photographer – Absent  
Pinochle – *Position Open*  
Propane - Marty Martin  
RAMP – *Position Open*

RV Travel - Eddie Toews  
SIR Item Sales – Position Open

**Not Present:** Car Club – Rick Bronner  
Chaplin – Steve Gregory  
Fishing – Chuck Simons  
Kayaking – Sol Robin  
Photographer – Steve Belochi  
Note: Dan Herzer to replace Jim Botto as Bulletin  
Director effective January 2024.

**Past Big SIRs:** Jim Botto, Dale Decker, Paul Squeri and Gene Zanoni.

**State SIR Pres.-Elect:** Dale Decker

**Call to Order** – Past Big SIR Eddie Toews called the meeting to order at 10:10 am.

**Roll Call** – Secretary Steven Holt took attendance and informed the board that a quorum was present.

**Approval of Agenda** – Big SIR Eddie Toews asked if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda. No additions, deletions or changes required for this meeting.

**Secretary's Report** – A hard copy of November minutes missing from this meeting. Big SIR Eddie Toews asked if everyone present had reviewed November's minutes. The group replied yes. Eddie then asked if there were any additions or corrections to November 14, 2023 meeting minutes. There were none and the minutes were approved as presented.

**Treasurer's Report** – Treasurer John Salmon provided the following financial report for November and December 2023.

In November, he reported a beginning checking account balance of \$15,232.02 and ending checking balance of \$17,399.08 with \$150.00 cash on hand. Luncheon profit \$188.00, Dues collected \$180.00, Bulletin ads for \$375.00, with a five-dollar overpayment, Christmas ticket sales \$2,400.00. Custodial Fund Receipts: Luncheon \$1232.00, New member badge \$24.00. General Fund Disbursements: Printing, Supplies and Taxes \$00, Postage \$00, Raffle expense \$42.00, Guest expense \$17.00, Award Frames \$33.74, Secretary supplies \$43.76, Rent, Setup, Cleanup \$300.00, Birthday lunch \$20.00, Sponsor lunch \$40.00. New Raffle tickets \$21.44, and \$500 cash withdrawal for Christmas. There were no additions or corrections to November financial presentation, thus the report was approved as presented.

For December's Christmas luncheon, checking account balance of \$17,399.08 and an ending checking balance of \$13,556.00 for December. Bulletin ads for \$375.00, Raffle ticket sales \$710.00, Christmas ticket sales \$480.00. Custodial Fund Receipts: General

Fund Disbursements: Printing, Supplies and Taxes \$226.27, Postage \$22.05, Award Frames \$145.56, Rent, Setup, Cleanup \$300.00, Birthday lunch \$20.00. Christmas luncheon expenses – Catering - \$3960.00, Table linens – \$393.49, Flowers - \$35.97, Wine - \$280.00, Member badges - \$15.12. There were no additions or corrections to December financial presentation, thus the report was approved as presented.

### **Big SIR Report – Eddie Toews**

1. Vision 2024 tabled for this meeting in Rick Bronner absents.
2. “Giving Back” – This was explained as an unseen benefit for Branch #136 membership where 90% of the money collected is given back in the way of raffle prizes, paying for functions, fees or expenses for this organization. It is estimated that for 2023, a total of \$4,000.00 was given back to the branch. At February’s meeting, the exact figures will be provided by Eddie as he didn’t have the documentation available for January’s meeting.
3. For 2024, a committee has been assembled (George Cocores, Eddie Toews, Gene Zanoni, Stan Enos) to work on the three major events held during the year. This includes the Mother’s Day Luncheon, August Picnic, and Christmas Luncheon.  
One comment mentioned is the committee will work on a revised menu for the picnic in hopes of reducing cost to a level that will allow this event to be free to Branch #136 membership.
4. Subsidized meals for the BEC has been tabled until Rick Bronner’s return.
5. Marketing progress – Recruiting flyers printed, with holders, have been placed at the Senior Center and Area 12 on Aging. Looking for additional places to put flyers.
6. Looking for two BEC volunteers to go table-to-table looking for members to volunteer for the upcoming year.

### **Little SIR Report – Mike Krom**

1. Max Wheeler and Mike Cagnetti are possible guest speakers for the future.
2. Todd Simonson, with Edward Jones, will be today’s guest speaker.
3. Questioning the monthly article requirement for the bulletin.

**Attendance/Membership Reports:** Presented by George Cocores – No gains or losses in membership for the month. One member did announce he will be resigning due to a relocation.

Big SIR Eddie recommended that all members should be actively recruiting for Branch #136 and it shouldn’t fall on just one person.

## **PROGRAM DIRECTOR REPORT**

**Bulletin Report** – Jim Botto will no longer be generating the monthly bulletin and his successor, Dan Herzer will take over in January 2024. Jim Botto will be moving out of the state in the near future.

## **ACTIVITY REPORTS**

**Bowling** – Don Banchero – No update

**Bulletin** – Dan Herzer – absent

**Car Club** – Absent

**Chaplin** – Absent

**Fishing** – Absent

**Golf** – Position Open

**Internet & Zoom** – Jerry Bellefeuille - No update

**Kayaking** – Absent

**Lunch Tickets** – Jerry Bellefeuille - No update

**Lunch Drawings** – Tom Neiderer – Discussed new tickets

**Pinochle** – Position Open

**RAMP** – Position Open

**RV** – Eddie Toews – Idle for January – Kick-off breakfast end of February.

**Note:** Stan Enos is looking to start a bocce ball club, in Twain Harte.

## **Old Business –**

The 2024 BEC Directors were approved by the general membership and sworn into office, at November 2023 meeting.

New badges were presented to Gene Zanoni (Honorary Life Member and Past Big SIR) and Mike Krom (Little SIR).

Eddie requested new badges for Steve Gregory and the new assistant Chaplin.

Raul Santana recognized as new director.

## **New Business –**

A letter was mentioned, by John Salmon, that assessments will be the same no matter how many active members the branch has registered. This fee will be paid every quarter.

John Salmon and Eddie Toews are putting together a 2024 budget. This is the first time a budget has been done for Branch #136 to present to the local BEC. Looking to present at February's meeting.

2024 Membership dues are \$30 and due by February 2024. Those that do not pay will be listed in the monthly bulletin.

**Next BEC meeting – February 13, 2024 starting at 10:00 am at the Elks Lodge.**

**Meeting adjourned at 10:43 am**

Steven B. Holt, Secretary

January 14, 2024