

**Rio Grande Valley Chapter – TASO Basketball  
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes  
May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

Meeting called to order by Vice President Mario Lopez, McAllen, at 7:00 pm.

**Present:** Mario Lopez, Arnold Garcia, Fernando Garza, Blanca Tello, Carl Contrata, Carlos Guerra, Rocky Cheshire, David Ralph, Tom Nieland, Don Young, Cindy Herrera. **Absent:** Gary Molina and Ron Alcantar.

**Approval of 5-3-2010 meeting minutes:** Motion made by Rocky

**Emergency Meeting Minutes**

- a. **Viper Rep Appearance:** Muthyala Shulmith, Vipers Director of Business Development, appeared to address an outstanding RGV Chapter all-star games debt. He stated \$1225 is owed because 175 tickets were not returned at the agreed time by all-star chair Burt Holloway. Instead of returning the unused tickets immediately after the last all-star game so that the Vipers could sell them that night, Burt kept the tickets 2 additional weeks. Without the printed tickets, the Vipers lost income. The game in question was nationally televised. It was sold out. The Vipers consequently lost \$1225 in ticket sales. Mr. Shulmith added that Burt knew the Vipers written agreement very well. It was the same agreement last year when Burt incurred a \$500 debt in exactly the same manner. The Vipers, however, did not file a claim for the debt. Mr. Shulmith presented several e-mails and invoices sent to Burt Holloway explaining the situation and requesting payment. He has not received a response from Mr. Holloway to date. Mr. Shumith added the Vipers refuse to ever again deal with Mr. Holloway.

- b. All-Star Report: Burt Holloway.** Absent. This was the (4) fourth meeting requesting Burt Holloway to attend. A reminder phone call by Secretary Fernando Garza was made to Burt but Burt responded he had other commitments and was not able to attend. One member commented that Burt refs basketball games in Pharr every Monday night and is too busy to attend. Burt has stated he would attend the next scheduled meeting on May 24<sup>th</sup>. The Board agreed to initiate due process procedure to suspend Burt if he fails to attend the next meeting.
- c. RGVBCA Rep Appearance:** RGVBCA Secretary Lyrissa Molina appeared with her father Mo Molina. She immediately said she came to pick up the all-star check owed to the RGVBCA by the chapter. She reported Burt Holloway had informed her that the check would be ready. Fernando responded the Board was not aware of any such communication with Burt. He was not authorized by the Board to make the call or the (misleading) statement. A Vipers payment claim for \$1225 has not been decided. The so called agreement between the Chapter and the RGVBCA to evenly split the all-star profit as brokered by Burt Holloway is being questioned. She was reassured that as soon as the Board reaches a decision on this issue we would contact the RGVBCA.
- d. Special Events Review:** The Board discussed the following items: How Burt has mishandled the 2010 All-Star Game and Golf Tournament; his complete lack of expenditure documentation, lack of documented paper/cash trail, his abrupt managing of volunteers, and causing harm to the chapter relationship with RGV Vipers organization. The Chapter president's involvement in the all-star decision-making process was questioned. How much did the president know or do? Manage? His involvement in this chapter event is essential.

**e. Conflict of Interest Concerning All-Star Games in Relationship between Burt Holloway and Gary Molina:**

Mario said he had been in contact with Gary. Gary has agreed not to participate in any discussion or decision-making involving the all-star event. This decision was prompted by his close daily work/business relationship with Burt.

**f. Board Grievance Process:** Carl distributed an email received from TASO Volleyball Division Immediate Past President and District 6 Director Robert Cantu. The email answered several questions. The email stated the Board has the ability to address, discuss, and act on alleged violations and/or complaints filed against a fellow Board member by a chapter or fellow Board member. The Board has the ability to reprimand other Board members. The e-mail answers are in direct opposition to what the president stated on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mario asked Fernando to email TASO for an opinion on the issue.

**g. Complaint Against Gary Molina by Don Young:** Don stated he had 2 grievances to lodge against President Gary Molina. The first involved a phone call received from Gary. In the call Don was cautioned by Gary that he better attend the Sunday emergency Board meeting because the absence would count against him. Gary explained the absence may cause Don the forfeit his Board position. Don didn't like the threatening manner in which Gary made the comment nor the comment itself. Don later discovered the statement Gary made was misleading. The RGV Constitution & By-Laws state no absence can be charged when a Board member misses an emergency meeting.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> grievance charged Gary with attempting to coerce Don to attend the Sunday emergency meeting recently called by President Molina. Gary obtained Don's Vipers payment from

Celso Gonzalez. Gary called Don telling him he had the check. When Don asked when he could obtain the check, Gary responded "you can pick it up at the Sunday meeting." Don asked if Gary could mail the check. Gary responded "no, you can pick it up at the Sunday meeting." Don is considering criminal action against Gary for refusal to surrender Don's check. Discussion will continue at the next meeting when Mr. Molina is present to respond to the allegations.

**Rocky motioned to adjourn. The motion carried.**