

Minutes of the January 13, 2015, Base Sustainability & Community Affairs Committee Meeting

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Col. Joe Marm, USA, Ret.
MGen Robert Dickerson, USMC, Ret.
Brig Gen Paul Dordal, USAF, Ret.
Col. Frank Bottorff, USMC, Ret.

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT:

Joe Peel, Mayor, Elizabeth City (via telephone)
Col. Roger E. Williams, NCNG
Sebastian Montagne, NC DOT
Bryan Gossage, DENR
Will Lewis, Mayor, Havelock

OTHERS PRESENT:

Ron Sutherland
John Chafee
James Norment
Richard Woodruff
George Miller
Dan Oliver
Bill Meier
Paul Friday
Matthew Gunnett (via telephone)

Vice Chairman Dickerson called the meeting to Order and called the roll noting that Chairman Sonny Roberts could not be in attendance.

A motion to accept the minutes from the 11-21-14 Base Sustainability & Community Affairs meeting was made, seconded and unanimously passed.

LETTERS FOR THE FULL COMMISSION

Firefighter/EMS Letter - Col. Bottorff briefed on the status.

- Waiting for information from installations on how many courses they have taken in the past. Expect data within a week or so, or will get a list or spreadsheet from NC Community Colleges of courses offered and their cost to be able to draft legislation.
- NC does not require training for certain aspects of firefighting and firefighters are presently able to fight on-post fires without further credentialing, while EMS has a distinct path toward certification. The level of firefighter training affects costs of training as well.
- As soon he has obtained information, Col. Bottorff will draft a revised letter to include a specific cost to submit to the Committee and then to the Executive Steering Group. Legislative Affairs is looking at this, as well.

Sentinel Landscapes

Gen. Paul Dordal briefed on letters.

- Brian Gossage of DENR is following up on this letter with DENR.
- Per Paul Friday, Gordon Meyer and the Secretary of Ag are aware of the letter and he suggests seeing what comes from the meeting of the Working Lands Group.
- Per the recommendation at the full Commission meeting, separate letters went to Secretary John Conger of DoD, the US Department of Interior, and Secretary of US Department of Agriculture. Responses to correspondence will be discussed at the next ESG meeting.

Military Basic Law Enforcement Training Recognition

Vice Chairman Dickerson briefed on the topic of credit for MP training.

- Difficult for MP to reintegrate as a fully-certified, civilian public safety officer which requires 640 hours' worth of BLET training. No credit is received for on-base training and work.
- Recommend drafting a letter or proposal for military-trained law enforcement to receive credit for training, reduce the 640-hour training requirement.

Mapping

Mr. Paul Friday briefed on the status of the mapping effort.

- There is one outstanding request for data pending with one service.
- The GIS Office, Construction Office and Department of Administration, Department of Transportation, and others will have access to that data making sure that local officials have what they need, e.g., a 5-mile radius in order to follow the tall structures and wind energy bills.
- The goal is to get agencies working together to look at this and leverage scarce dollars.
- A user workgroup and a GIS workgroup will be put together to interpret the data.

Support is needed from landowners in the outlying areas.

Hofmann Forest

Vice Chairman Dickerson briefed on the status.

- The lawsuit to stop sale of Hofmann was dismissed. NC State University needs to raise revenue in amount of \$5 or \$6 mil. They had buyers who withdrew their bid.
- Ron Sutherland of the Wildlands Conservation Network gave a power point presentation to the Committee on the importance of conserving the area from a military and environmental perspective. (See power point slide presentation "Hofmann Forest – R. Sutherland" on nccommerce.com/mac.)
- If we can get all services to come up with a delta to preserve this land, and determine the cost to see what the State can do, it would be valuable.

Food & Fuel for the Forces

George Miller used power point slides to present on market based conservation, Sentinel Landscapes and need to protect lands like Hofmann Forest. (See Presentations & Handouts: George Miller presentation, 1-13-15, on ncommerce/mac.)

- Food & Fuel for the Forces program aligning base demand with local growers so that NC farmers are feeding our warriors; and, fuels.
- Key sectors focus on workforce development and agriculture. Healthy bases initiative, Farmer's Market, have been successful.
- Program links veterans to agricultural entrepreneurship.
- Committee support requested: asked if a letter of support of FF4F could be written by the Committee.

Vice Chairman Dickerson announced a 15-minute break and asked voting members to remain. A closed session of voting members was convened.

- Nominations of a new Committee Chairman and Vice Chairman were discussed and made.
- Committee brings its top three issues to the Executive Steering Group.
- Need a Committee member for Working Lands Group.

The voting members adjourned the closed meeting and Chairman Dickerson reconvened the regular Committee meeting.

PEDRO

James Norment of ACT presented to the Committee on the statewide county of commissioners Association which had no military priorities before it, concerns about the impact of elimination of PEDRO.

- Pedro directly impacts sustainability because it is a part of the mission set that makes Cherry Point valuable to the USMC and is a source of goodwill with the local community. See Handouts and Presentations: PEDRO, J. Norment on ncommerce.com/mac.
- ACT is working with CoDel's.
- Vice Chairman Dickerson will look more into what happened to the mission and what replaces the 46's.
- Mr. Norment and Mayor Lewis will prepare more information on the Havelock Bypass for inclusion as a MAC priority.

At 1211, following a request for questions or comments, Chairman Dickerson adjourned the meeting.