



NORTH CAROLINA MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMISSION

Minutes of the 1st Quarter, January 22, 2018 Base Sustainability and Community Affairs Committee Meeting, Goldsboro City Hall, 200 N. Center Street, Goldsboro, NC

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Frank Bottorff, Chair
Sonny Roberts
Gen Robert Dickerson
Hon Chuck Allen

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES:

Ron Massey, City of Jacksonville
Robert Hosford, Department of Agriculture
Marc Finlayson, ACT
Will Best, Department of Commerce (by Phone)
Whitney Campbell Christensen, ACT (by Phone)
Willie Casey, DMVA
Kelly Jackson, DMVA

CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME REMARKS: CHAIRMAN FRANK BOTTORFF

Chairman Bottorff called the meeting to order at 9:40 am. The voting member in attendance were Frank Bottorff, Hon Mayor Allen and Sonny Roberts.

CONSENT AGENDA AND MINUTES:

Chairman Bottorff requested a motion to approve the agenda for the 1st quarter meeting. Gen Bob Dickerson made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Sonny Roberts and passed by unanimous vote. Chairman Bottorff requested a motion to approve the minutes from the 4th quarter meeting of the committee on Oct 16, 2017. Gen Dickerson made a motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Hon Chuck Allen and passed by unanimous vote.

DMVA UPDATE/GRANT STATUS/BUDGET: KELLY JACKSON

The Community Grants are obligated and moving forward. The Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMVA) has the procedures in place to execute the grants. Ron Massey asked Gen Dickerson asked about the Community Grants and did they die on the vine. The cost for those grants were \$1.3 million. Chairman Bottorff stated that there are Community Grants that have been approved. The North Carolina Military Affairs Commission (NCMAC) does have funds this year, within the 2-year budget and needs to start that process again, but we are not to that point yet. We will need to get with DMVA to ensure that we all agree on the acceptable process that we will advertise, compete and evaluate grants. Ron Massey stated that last year it was for budgeting purposes, to get it into the budget. We have needs so let's request it from the

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Legislature. Now that we have a budget we need to talk about this. Chairman Bottorff commented that the Legislature authorized NCMAC to use up to \$225K for Grants. In the proposed budget, the NCMAC at the last meeting approved \$220K for grants and that is from the 2017-2019 funding. That is \$200K for the 2 years. Our total budget was over \$2,180,000. We must make an adjustment to the budget. So \$200K is earmarked for the Grant Program. We may be able to increase that amount as time goes on. We do have funding in the budget that is not directly dedicated to a specific line. Kelly Jackson will check with Kim Mitchell to make sure that the 2 Community Grants are moving forward. Gen Dickerson commented that he thinks that the Community will bypass the NCMAC and go to their Community for a funding line for some of these other projects. A question is, does this Committee want to wrap their hands around this and include it in the budget process or just let it happen through their Communities? That is a conversation we need to have. Chairman Bottorff commented that we don't want to interfere with the individual Communities relationship with their elected officials or the Legislature in general. So, they will ask for what they need. I think our success with the funding the NCMAC gets from the Legislature will be dependent on how well we can show that we use the funding and the benefit that we receive from those funds. The metrics we show the Legislature will dictate whether the funding is increased. Gen Dickerson stated that he understood the intent for the budgeting process, and that if we got requirements from the Communities that would justify how the budget would be developed. That is how we could incorporate what the Communities are looking for. Chairman Bottorff commented that the last budget request was not specific. That will be the key. Hon Chuck Allen commented that if this process goes through the NCMAC it can make the request more legitimate. The key to success will be specificity. Gen Dickerson commented he is not getting any feedback from the local communities because that had stopped submitting requests. Gen Dickerson asked questions about the execution of the NCMAC funds. Chairman Bottorff commented that he felt there was a methodology of specific expenditures for the Military Preservation Funds. Ron Massey commented that it is important to have specificity when we are requesting funding. This will help the NCMAC identify the needs that are out there. Chairman Bottorff commented that there is a hierarchy of needs. Base Sustainability is #1 and Economic Development is #2. We need to review our hierarchy of needs. Robert Hosford asked the questions. Who is the mouth piece/tip of the spear? Gen Dickerson commented that it was the NCMAC Chairman and the DMVA Secretary. Since we have a new Chairman does this needs to be discussed? Sonny Roberts commented that our communications are lacking and needs to be addressed and improved. Gen Dickerson stated that it is important for everyone on the committee to be communicating with their local government what the NCMAC committees are addresses. Hon Chuck Allen commented that he thought the answer to Robert Hosford's question is that Chairman Martin and Secretary Hall should be advocating with the Legislature. Chairman Bottorff commented that the primary people doing this was the NCMAC Chairman, DMVA Secretary and the DMVA Staff person who represented the NCMAC

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and DMVA issues and would do the day-to-day liaison with the Legislature. Not sure that we have that relationship now helping the NCMAC. We need the NCMAC members to advocate the NCMAC issues to the Legislature.

Kelly Jackson commented that Assistant Secretary Joseph Kelly has changed job and is no longer a member of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs. We wish Joe the best in his new position.

BUDGET UPDATE: CHAIRMAN FRANK BOTTORFF

Chairman Bottorff discussed the NCMAC Budget. He talked about the Military Preservation Fund. All the NCMAC funds go into the Military Preservation Fund. There were funds remaining from last year. There were obligated and unobligated funds. We incorporated the unobligated funds of approximately \$180K into our budget. Since that time, we have been informed that there are several bills that have not been paid out of last year's funding, to include 3 Matrix invoices. We have been asked to approve the payment of those bills but we didn't include those payments since it was last year's funding and already obligated. We can't approve the payments unless it is in our budget. We will need to make a budget adjustment to take every penny that is in that fund, which includes last year's funds and this year's funds. Then we can approve the payment of the Matrix invoices. That is an additional couple hundred thousand dollars. Chuck Allen asked how this happened? Chairman Bottorff stated that in a prior agreement, they said they had the last year's money obligated so don't worry about it. He argued against that, that every penny in the fund is under the NCMAC. Follow on discussions with legal concluded that the NCMAC must approve the use of the funds. We should have included it from the beginning. Hon Chuck Allen asked if there was still the \$180K being brought forward. Chairman Bottorff answered that the \$180K will still be brought forward. We are not losing any funds. The Full NCMAC will vote the payment of the Matrix invoices. Economic Development Partnership North Carolina (EDNPC) Oversight Committee made a recommendation to the Executive Steering Group (ESG). The ESG will conducted a Non-Regular meeting (tele-conference) on Tuesday, January 23, 2018 at 1:00 pm to discuss that recommendation. The ESG has the authority to approve or disapprove the recommendation of the EDNPC Oversight Committee.

NCMAC PRIORITIES: CHAIRMAN FRANK BOTTORFF

Chairman Bottorff commented that we talked about the priorities at our last meeting. All the committees have been talking about the priorities. There is a new format. We are not going to discuss the priorities today. We will wait until the NCMAC finishes reorganizing. We currently do not have a Quality of Life Chairperson and a permanent Vice Chairperson. We are in a holding pattern until these positions are filled. Hon Chuck Allen asked about the status of the Request for Proposal (RFP). Frank Bottorff commented that the RFP had not been written yet. He is working with Kelly Jackson to coordinate with State contracting. The funds have been approved

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to move forward with the RFP. Once we understand the process we may need a small group to determine what are the main requirements and end-state.

SENTINEL LANDSCAPES: ROBERT HOSFORD

Robert Hosford presented for Sentinel Landscape. Robert Hosford asked the committee about a Military Appreciation Day that was supported by NCMAC. He said that is was a huge deal and he is asked by different legislative people if we plan to do that again. He said that Department of Agriculture had one last year. It was a great event. Something to think about. The last Military Appreciation Day was under Governor McCrory first year. We have two action items: 1) Grant Priority Matrix 2) Military Appreciation Day/Event. This is all part of marketing.

Items of Interest:

1. NC Sentinel Landscapes Committee meeting, Feb 13th at 1:30.
2. Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) award funding: \$9.2 Million Marine Corp and Air Force; \$800,000 went to the Army for an easement on property near Pre-Ranger training course. Total of \$10 Million
3. 20 Dec 2017 NC through our Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) partner awarded an additional \$7 Million through the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) for the 33 Sentinel Landscape counties to put easements on private property. The easements are normally for 20-30 years and hope that the land owner will later have the agreement go into perpetuity. Total from the Federal Government is \$17 Million for 2017.
4. Before the end of last year the North Carolina Department of Agriculture (NCDA) our trust fund and the US Air Force worked out a cooperative agreement where we can move money between the service (AF) and NCDA. We tied up 482 acres between inside their Tier 1 properties which is 11 properties in Eastern NC. We signed the contract with the land owner for 482 acres. This is right underneath their Military Training Route (MTR) and Dare Bombing Range (DBR).
5. North Carolina Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation (ADFP) Trust Fund (one page document): The ADFP Trust Fund works in conjunction with the military because working lands in agriculture are compatible with the preservation of airspace training routes. Approximately 90% of the land off installation is privately owned farms and forests which are harmonious with military training needs. Gives private landowners a new opportunity to have conservation easements, keeping tax base dollars in the equation.

Here is what NCDA is doing with its Preservation Trust Fund. We plan to go to the Legislature this session and ask for \$13 Million to match the other \$17 Million that we took down, REPI and the NCRS funds. That is going to protect 25,000 acres. That \$30 Million protects 25,000 acres that is Marine Corp, Tier 1 for the Air Force or something that the Army needs help with. What does that mean to the Legislature? Every \$1.00 they give the Trust Fund, is \$3.55 in Return on Investment (ROI). The request to the legislature must be solid and defendable. Our exact

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request is \$12,820,865 in matching funds for the protection of 25,000 acres of farmland and forestland. We have documents to support this request. We must have the \$13 Million to match the \$17 Million. All the organizations that he has talked about today must support and pass policies that support the request. Last week the Soils and Conservations districts passed policies to support this. NCDAs feel confident that they will get funding to support their request. They may not get everything that they request but they will continue to work to get the funding that they need. The \$17 Million that they received has a 5-year live span, and now it is 4 years but we can deploy that money in the next 4-5 years. This is a one-time request for \$13 Million. The request is going in the Short Session. NCDAs has asked Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMVA) (Sec Hall/Jeremy Collins) to get the request into the Governor's budget. Robert Hosford would like the support of the North Carolina Military Affairs Commission (NCMAC) on this budget request of \$13 Million. A letter of support to Mr. Troxler would be valuable. Chairman Bottorff requested a motion for support of this initiative. Sonny Roberts made a motion to support the initiative with a letter from the NCMAC Chairman and seconded by Gen Robert Dickerson with a unanimous vote. Robert Hosford will send a draft letter to the Chairman to use as an example. He also said that letters of support from Host Cities and Community Leader would be helpful also. NCMAC in the last budget cycle approved \$150K to NC State. The NCMAC approved \$150K in the 2017-2018 budget and Robert Hosford asked if the funds could be transferred to the Department of Agriculture, Chairman of Sentinel Landscape. Kelly Jackson will check on this request. Can this be done or does the DMVA finance personnel need additional information from the NCMAC on how the funds can be routed? Robert Hosford is also working with the North Carolina National Guard (NCNG) Camp Butner on the Machine Gun Range Issue.

WIND POWER UPDATE:

Chairman Bottorff gave the update on the wind power since Paul Friday was unable to attend the meeting due to the Government Shutdown. AECOM will want to come to the NCMAC to get our input. Not sure how this will happen. Their report is due to the General Assembly by May 31st. Chairman Bottorff stated that he will send the lead an email from Chairman Martin and himself to start a communication line. The hard part for the NCMAC is going to be what is our position on Wind Power in general. Gen Dickerson asked what is the military's position on Wind Power so the NCMAC can support the military? We need for the Military to give us their position so the NCMAC can make decisions and determine what our position will on Wind Power. Chairman Bottorff commented that the purpose of the study is an end-state with a refined granular military mission footprint map. Something we could participate in, if these areas are based on actual government properties, installations, ranges and specific training areas. Then we could say we don't want wind turbines within X miles from an installation, X miles from a non-contiguous range or X miles from the center line of a MTR. We would need some definitive information of why we picked certain numbers to make them defensible. It is going to be a military mission footprint map. There are some versions now but this one will be improved and

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more granular. Hon Chuck Allen commented that we should not get into whether the wind farms are good or bad. Chairman Bottorff stated that if we give input that it should be directly related to military mission footprint and the impact to the military. Robert Hosford commented that there was a previous study conducted by Matrix. There is a Joint Land Use Study (JLUS) for Seymour Johnson. The military has their map. Gen Dickerson recommended that they support what has already been developed as opposed to look for another initiative. Chairman Bottorff commented that he thinks that there are some problems, the military spent years making a military mission footprint map that included input from the services which was before all these other items. The problem came in when it was developed, and the clearing house was established they said we could not use it or show it to anyone. Gen Dickerson commented that we need to use what is already developed. Robert Hosford commented that at a Southeast Regional Partnership for Planning and Sustainability (SERPPAS) meeting in Atlanta and a question was asked who has the best processing program and the answer was NC. Hon Chuck Allen commented that it has never been challenged in court. Gen Dickerson commented that it is being challenged in the Western part of NC because they have no vested interest. Gen Dickerson commented that we need to support the military stance on wind power. Hon Chuck Allen commented that he is not sure that the military will be able to share with us their stance. Chairman Bottorff commented that maybe at the next North Carolina Commander's Council (NCCC) we could get the Military members to give us a briefing on their side of the process. So, we understand what they are allowed and not allowed to say. Gen Dickerson stated that he thinks they would only tell us what they are told that they can say. We need to do an off line and find out the real facts. Gen Dickerson will do some research on this matter. Chairman Bottorff commented that this State is already completing another map. That is what the AECOM is doing.

WRAP-UP: CHAIRMAN FRANK BOTTORFF

Sonny Roberts commented that the New Bern Military Alliance gave Religious Community Service (RCS) \$15,000 for a Homeless Veterans. They are going to build on to the facility where Homeless Veterans can stay and live. There was a total of \$100,000 raised for this project.

Gen Dickerson made a motion to appoint Hon Chuck Allen as the Vice Chairman of the Base Sustainability and Community Affairs Committee. The motion was seconded by Chairman Frank Bottorff and passed by unanimous vote.

Ron Massey commented on the Census. The rules have not been announced to Congress yet. The marketing video The City of Jacksonville is working with NC Business Center to get more facts.

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The NCMAC meeting this quarter are the following:

Economic Development, Jan 24th 11:00 am – 2:00 pm at the Havelock City Hall

Legislative Affairs, Jan 31th 11-00 – 11:30 am Tele-conference

Executive Steering Group (ESG), Feb 6, DMVA Main Conference Room, Raleigh, NC

Military Affairs Commission (NCMAC), Feb 20, Department of Insurance, Raleigh, NC

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Bottorff requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Gen Dickerson made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Hon Chuck Allen and passed by unanimous vote at 11:05.