



NORTH CAROLINA MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMISSION

Minutes of the 3rd Quarter, July 24, 2018 Base Sustainability and Community Affairs Committee Meeting, Goldsboro City Hall, 200 N. Center Street, Goldsboro, NC

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Frank Bottorff, Chair
Hon Chuck Allen
MajGen (R) Robert Dickerson
Sonny Roberts
Steve Ratti (by phone)

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES:

Ron Massey, City of Jacksonville
Robert Hosford, Department of Agriculture
John Nicholson, Department of Environmental Quality
Will Brooks, League of Municipalities
Paul Friday, MCI-EAST
Jamie Norment, ACT
Bob Coats, Census Bureau, (by phone)
Kelly Jackson, DMVA, (by phone)

MEMBERS ABSENT:

CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME REMARKS: CHAIRMAN FRANK BOTTORFF

Chairman Bottorff called the meeting to order at 9:35 am. All voting member were in attendance for this meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA AND MINUTES:

Chairman Bottorff requested a motion to approve the consent agenda and the 2nd quarter meeting minutes. Bob Dickerson made a motion to approve the agenda and minutes, seconded by Sonny Roberts and passed by unanimous vote.

DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS (DMVA) UPDATE: KELLY JACKSON

Kelly Jackson said that the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs had hired a couple of new employees. The Inter-Agency Coordinator was Mr. Ariel Aponte and the Installation Coordinator was Mr. Robert Johnson. We are staring the new fiscal year and the North Carolina Military Affairs Commission (NCMAC) will be approving their budget at the Aug 21st meeting. Frank Bottorff asked if there had been any progress with the review of the Community Grants Application Process or the Lobbing Contract? Kelly Jackson responded that she had no new information on either of those items. Frank Bottorff asked if either of the new people had been appointed to assist? Kelly Jackson said no.

BUDGET/LOBBING/BY-LAWS:

Frank Bottorff reviewed the new budget document with the committee. See the attached FY 2018-2019 budget.

Administration Costs: Only spent \$10,663.17 last year. He did not add \$10,663.17 from the 17-18 budget to the \$40,000 for 18-19 budget.

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Conference: We did not spend any of the conference \$ from last year. He did not add the \$40,000 from the 17-18 budget to the \$40,000 for 18-19 budget.

Contracting Services: \$480,000 for 18-19 budget.

Other Stabilization Initiatives: The unspent funds, \$909,336,33 for 18-19 budget. Non-committed funds.

NC4ME: \$80,000 for 18-19 budget. The \$40,000 from 17-18 budget have been committed. The 17-18 funds should be paid out soon so that will leave \$40,000 for 18-19 budget.

Kelly Jackson said that the Purchase Order (PO) for the NC4ME had been completed and an invoice for the \$40,000 had been received. She was working on processing the payment of the \$40,000. Bob Dickerson asked who responsibility was it to get the PO for the next year. Kelly Jackson said that she did not have an answer for that question.

EDPNC: \$120,000 for 17-18 budget. \$150,000 for 18-19 budget.

OEA Grant: \$14,000 for 18-19 budget. We are in the last 6 months of this grant. We have asked Ms. Burns to give us an update at the next NCMAC meeting.

Sentinel Landscape: \$150,000 for 18-19 budget. We will talk about this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) later in the meeting.

Community Grants: Spent \$200,334 in 17-18 budget, \$205,566.00 for 18-19 budget.

Total: 2,083,002.83

Bob Dickerson asked if we need to get someone to execute the contracts? Frank Bottorff said that is part of the discussion right now. There is an ongoing discussion of what in the law administrative support means? The other part of the discussion can we hire administrative personnel? In the law, administrative personnel are to be covered by DMVA. That will be up to the Commission how we go forward with this item. Chuck Allen said that we don't have things done that we have been talking about for the last year. We have not gotten a lot done this past year. The question is how long do we plan to let this go on until someone says it is time to do something? Just look at the consultant, we need to get someone on board soon. We can't even get a check written. I think this is sad. I don't think that this was the intent of the legislature. Do we need to go back to our legislators and talk to Senator Brown and Senator Bell? The ones that suffer is the NCMAC and the military because of the disconnect. Frank Bottorff said that for the past 6-7 years we have been a non-partisan organization. Bob Dickerson said that we had not done much in the last 18 months and we are going to continue be in this maze for another 12 months. Maybe we need to go back to the original construct of the Commission where we worked with the Secretary of Commerce. We can talk to Senator Brown and Representative Cleveland to see if that is an option. Frank Bottorff said that in the first few years that the NCMAC had a budget, although the NCMAC had decision making authority over the budget, Commerce paid the checks and executed the contracts in their name. The contracts were not in the name of the NCMAC. They were under the supporting arm of the Administration. The next few years is when they stood up the DMVA and then the DMVA technically owned the money and paid the checks in concert with the NCMAC. Now there is an argument over what the language in the legislation means. From my standpoint, I look at the amount of personnel that has been funded Military Affairs and that has remained constant. The personnel are still being funded in Military Affairs. Sonny Roberts asked the question, what is the problem? Chuck Allen said that the problem is that we have only Kelly Jackson and no one else to support the NCMAC. Frank Bottorff said that we have contracts that need to be reviewed and there is no one to walk those through, make corrections and make sure that they meet the state rules. Then

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it needs to be posted, managed, questions answered and applications collected. Currently there is no one standing up to do that work. The NCMAC is made up of volunteers and only meet quarterly. The legislation does say that the management and responsibility to the NCMAC. Chuck Allen asked if Sec Hall and Chairman Martin are engaged at all. Frank Bottorff said yes that are engaged. He thinks that Chairman Martin is trying to discuss with Sec Hall the perceived issues to see if we can get a resolution. Sonny Roberts said that he hears about the legal issues and wants to know why we can solve that? If we need legal help, can't we get legal help? Chuck Allen said that maybe we need to talk to Senator Brown and Rep Cleveland, they have got to be aware of some of this. I don't see Sec Hall doing anything to fix this. Frank Bottorff said that there are two entities that can fix this. I don't think that they are going to understand why we need to hire another person. I think their interpretation of the legislation is that they have funded those positions. Chuck Allen said that is it reasonable for us to sit down with Chairman Martin and Sec Hall? Bob Dickerson said I think this needs to be a topic at the next NCMAC meeting in a public forum. Then we can see if we need to reengage our legislators. Frank Bottorff said that we need to add to the Full Commission agenda the level of administrative from the DMVA to the NCMAC. Are there any questions on the proposed budget? Bob Dickerson asked if this would be presented to the Full NCMAC? Frank Bottorff said yes. Economic Development Partnership for NC (EDPNC) payment for Apr-Jun 2018 has not been paid since the MOU has expired. We will be reviewing that to get that resolved. All documents that we have currently are between an agency and the DMVA will be reviewed. We will need to see how and if this will change in the next session.

SENTINEL LANDSCAPES: ROBERT HOSFORD

Robert Hosford presented for Sentinel Landscape. Robert Hosford presented a funding proposal to this committee. Funding Proposal submitted to the North Carolina Military Affairs Commission by the NC Sentinel Landscape Committee, dated July 24, 2018.

Summary: The proposal is for \$150,000 in funding builds upon existing efforts to support the North Carolina Sentinel Landscape Committee (NCSLC) and expands activities within the Eastern North Carolina Sentinel Landscape (ENCSL). The proposal includes activities and objectives to be completed by three organizations already active in the NCSLC: the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (NCD&CS), North Carolina State University (NCSU), and the Foundation for Soil and Water Conservation (Foundation).

Purpose:

- Three positions with the NCD&CS dedicated to outreach, technical assistance, legal services, and administrative support for Sentinel Landscape programs. \$75,000
- NCSU will expand coordination and improve shared communication to sustain linking military readiness, inclusion of working lands, and conservation through publications and landowner outreach. \$40,000
- The Foundation will expand outreach efforts at the community level in the 33-county area of ENCSL. The Foundation, in partnership with local conservation district and the NC Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (Association), will facilitate five landowner outreach meetings and five community meetings. \$35,000
- Total: \$150,000

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There are more details about the MOU in the handout. We know that there are requirements to get this document approved. That is this Committee, the Executive Steering Group (ESG) and the Full NCMAC. We wanted to get this information to this committee timely. There is one change we would like to bring up. NCSU was initially going to take 20%, then 10% and finally 0%. They are going to manage their overhead costs. My boss, Secretary Troxler does not like overhead so he had a conversation with the Dean at the College of Natural Resources and said it is either 10% or you are not going to get any funding. So, they decided to take 0% and will get that funding out of administrative funds from their Department. The Soil and Water Conservation will be doing the same. We support NCSU with a Department of Defense (DOD) grant from Readiness and Environment Program Integration (REPI) funding also. What and how do you want a reporting mechanism to look like? Do you want an annual report? A report from us will look like this. We met with 10 land owners and we took down 11 deeds and signed 4 deeds. We can report that quarterly or annually? I need to know what the Commission requires because I will need the same information from all the groups involved. Frank Bottorff said that he thinks that we need to get reports quarterly from all our Grantee. Robert Hosford said that I think we could vote on this with an addendum of the reporting period. Frank Bottorff said that he thought that we needed to figure out the contractual method. I assume that this point it would be NCMAC to NC Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services (NCDA&CS)? Robert Hosford said that it would be one contract, and they would sub-out to NCSU and the Foundation. It will be one contract between Department of Agriculture and NCMAC or DMVA. Bob Dickerson asked the question, who will the quarterly reports go to? Frank Bottorff recommended that the reports go to this Committee and they can share that information with the Full Commission. Robert Hosford said that Sentinel Landscape has an Annual Report that is given to the General Assembly (GA) every September and that this information will be part of that report as an addendum. We want to illustrate the partnership between NCDA&CA and the NCMAC. This MOU supports the disbursement of REPI dollars. We must have people to do that. Chuck Allen asked how long will it take to disburse the REPI dollars? Robert Hosford said that \$10 M must be gone in 3 years, \$7 M (United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) dollars) has 5 years. The \$13 M from the GA did not have a time limit. The \$13 M from the GA can be married up with DOD and USDA funds so all the money could be gone in 5 years. Frank Bottorff asked if any service executing on a term easement. Bob Dickerson said that the Air Force had. Paul Friday commented on the question had any service executed on a term easement under the ADFP? They are just putting their toe in the water on the Marine Corps and Navy side. I think it will be a very useful tool. Frank Bottorff asked if there were any other questions about the Sentinel Landscape MOU proposal? Steve Ratti said the he reviewed the information that had been provided and it was very comprehensive. Do we have someone at the NCDA&CA that will have oversight on this project? Robert Hosford said yes. That the NCDA&CA has a trust fund with 4 employees currently and they will put these three additional employees to accomplish this work. The Paralegal will be a part-time employee. Steve Ratti said that he just wanted to be sure that the overall coordination of looking at the implementation of each of these subcategories is being done by someone that is on the staff. Robert Hosford said that was correct. Frank Bottorff asked for a motion to support the Funding Proposal submitted by Robert Hosford, NCDA&CA? Robert Hosford commented that there would be modification with a report quarterly to NCMAC and DMVA with information added to the Annual report to the GA. Bob Dickerson made a motion to support the Funding Proposal from NCDA&CA with the reporting modification and annual report to the GA, seconded by Chuck Allen and passed by a unanimous vote. Kelly Jackson asked about the invoice

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processing? Robert Hosford said that he did not have optics on that part of the MOU. Kelly Jackson said that she needed to get the invoices so they could be processed for payment. Robert Hosford said that was good information. There still needs to be a conversation of who the two parties will be listed on the MOU.

He also said that in the last National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) that was signed by President Trump there was language in there that recognized and codified the Sentinel Landscape as a National Program (Agriculture, Interior and DOD) working in a collaborative fashion. This is now law. My next effort at the federal level is to get support language added into the new 2018 Farm Bill. The language is still in draft form but we are getting good vibes that this makes sense. I will be attending the Sustaining Military Readiness Summit on Aug 13-16 in St Louis, MO. I will be presenting on behalf of the state and Will Best, Department of Commerce will also be attending and presenting on behalf of Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA) and Joint Land Use Study (JLUS). Chuck Allen asked who he was working with on the language for the Farm Bill and he said he was working with David Rouzer and Mike Conaway (TX). The State has 4 people on the Farm Bill conference committee. No further discussion.

COMMUNITY GRANT OVERVIEW: ROBERT DICKERSON

Frank Bottorff asked if there were any updates on the 2 grants that had been awarded. Ron Massey and Chuck Allen gave a quick update.

Frank Bottorff talked about a form that he had developed for community grants. He recommends that the NCMAC use this form as a quarterly report from each grant as a progress report. This can be used for current and future grants.

Bob Dickerson said that they had looked at the Grant Process and made some recommended changes. The new process has been submitted and they are waiting for Chairman Martin and Secretary Hall to decide where we go from there. There was a lot of good work from members of this committee and that was completed in the Mar/Apr timeframe. We still do not have anything back. I talked to the Chair a couple of weeks ago and the only thing that will need to be changed are a couple dates that were in the document. The dates are modifiable. Frank Bottorff agreed that the dates are modifiable. We will need about 30 on the market and 30 days for review. So about 60 days. Chuck Allen asked if we had the Grant process from the past year. Frank Bottorff said that we did but it was held up for 1 ½ years under administrative review due to some of the document not meeting state requirements. We do not know what those shortfalls were. We have developed the new grant process and we don't know if everything was incorporated properly. We have asked DMVA to ensure that the new Grant process meets the state requirements. We have not gotten anything back on the review from DMVA. Chuck Allen asked if Kelly Jackson could get a status on the Grant process review. Frank Bottorff said that the information that he had received from Kelly Jackson was that the documents were still with Sec Hall. Frank Bottorff said that he would try to get an update on this topic prior to the ESG meeting. No further discussion.

WRAP-UP: FRANK BOTTORFF:

Jamie Norment made comments that could not be heard by the administrator.

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Paul Friday made comments that could not be heard by the administrator.

Robert Hosford asked about the MOU for Sentinel Landscape. Frank Bottorff said that the more information that is ready for the ESG and the NCMAC meeting the better.

John Nicholson said Bob Dickerson had share the 2nd Quarter minutes with him and the questions about Wind Power. DEQ are the permitters and no one is knocking on their door. We are hearing that something is going on in Chowan County so we are having our staff check into this. Our department has received a lot of questions so our Secretary has asked me to reach out to the Goldsboro Military Affairs Commission (MAC) and Allies for Cherry Point's Tomorrow (ACT). We want to hear directly from the Communities on what their concerns are and where they fit in this process. In addition to that, the Rother report came out and had a discussion about that. That turned into a follow on discussion with the clearing house. I asked a couple of questions Rother and also about off shore? They think there will be an impact so we are going to commission a study to off shore in NC. What about the area around Cherry Point? They have not figured that out yet but it is on their scope. I was curious where the Chowan County Timbermill Sight is. We know that there is cross over and bleed over between everything.

Sonny Roberts said I have a lot to say but now is not the time. I will talk to the Chairman directly. Communication is a big problem throughout the whole commission. We are not getting things solved. I have been here for 15 years and this is frustrating. There are many things that we need to correct from the top to the bottom. We continue to procrastinate and that is not solving anything. This has got to stop. I had a meeting with Stuart Ruffin and it was a great meeting and good information. We need to talk now and get things resolved.

Bob Dickerson asked about the NCMAC appoints to the Commission. He had been reviewing the Commission list and said that the Governor appointments for Bob Dickerson, Jeremiah Daniels, Steve Ratti and Frank Bottorff expire in 2018. Had anyone received any information on new appointments? He said that without any official notification one way or another we are exempt from attending the next Full Commission meeting. Frank Bottorff said that the members continue the Commission until they are officially replaced or they desire to not continue. Unless someone has told you that you have been replace you can continues as a member. There are 6 Governor and 2 Speaker of the House appointee positions that will expire. Kelly Jackson will review the list of members whose terms will expire.

Chuck Allen talked about Reciprocity Licensure.

Ron Massey talked about the Census. They are continuing to watch the preparation for the 2020 Census. The local communities are doing their addressing updates. The local communities do not have visibility for addresses on the installations that are within the city limits. We are continuing to work with our counter parts on the bases to ensure that the housing units are on the list. That the information that the Census Bureau has is valid. We are working with Bob Coats and the Census is 1 ½ years away.

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Frank Bottorff said that he had already talked about the Community Grant budget but he planned to make a change on the budget from \$205,566 to \$225,000. We are also required to update the Strategic Plan this year. We will need to figure out how we get a consultant for complete that item.

Steve Ratti had no additional comments.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Bottorff requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sonny Roberts made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Bob Dickerson and passed by unanimous vote at 10:24 am.