

NORTH CAROLINA MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMISSION
Minutes of the February 3, 2015, ESG Meeting
116 W. Jones Street, Raleigh, NC 27603

Mabry Martin, NCMAC Chairman
Paul Dordal, NCMAC Vice Chairman
Cornell Wilson, NCMAC
Joy Thrash, NCMAC
Bob Dickerson, NCMAC (via phone)
Darryl Black (for Senator Brown)
Robert Anderson, NCMAC
Bobby Lumsden
Gary McKissock, NCMAC
Ron Massey
Sal Nodjomian
John Fitzsimmons

At 10:06 AM Chairman Martin called the meeting to order, welcoming all.

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES

General Wilson briefed the Group on administrative updates:

- State of State speech on February 4 at 7:01 PM – the Governor will have an announcement of significance to the Commission
- Listening Session takes place on February 5 – key personnel will be making comments on proposed Army personnel cuts
- NCMAC budget request has been submitted in the amount of \$1.6 million
- The Governor is working with budget office on a general bond referendum packaged with commerce and transportation
- Governor's budget should be ready in mid-February

Major Lumsden briefed on the proposed NCMAC budget. Chairman Martin recommended a meeting following the upcoming full Commission meeting to further discuss disposition of funds remaining in this fiscal year's budget.

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

Quality of Life Committee:

Chairman Robert Anderson informed the ESG that the 911 Board and child care letters were approved by the Committee to be sent to DHHS and the 911 Board as written.

There was discussion about additional coordination on the letters to ensure the letters were fully informed and accurate.

- ESG recommended that Major Lumsden coordinate a conference call on February 13 between Mr. Taylor of the 911 Board, and representatives from Jacksonville and Fort Bragg to get a clear

understanding and concurrence of how each installation's and municipality's goals can be attained with policy changes or whether legislation is needed.

- Licensing child care centers: installations want federal licensing criteria to satisfy state licensing criteria.
 - ESG recommended that Committee Chairman Anderson talk to Major Lumsden's point of contact and prepare a recommendation or letter for presentation at the full Commission meeting.

This concluded the Quality of Life Committee report.

Legislative Affairs Committee:

Darryl Black briefed the Executive Steering Group on behalf of Committee Chairman Harry Brown on legislation on which he is working:

- A bill to extend from 90 days to 1 year before taking CDL for truck drivers with a military driver's license
- A bill directing the Secretary of State's office to meet reporting requirements tracking number of vets being hired
- In-state tuition (pending)
- Exempt military retirees' pay from tax; assessing a shortfall that may require addressing this issue after April
- NC Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund – allows State opportunities to provide funds with or without federal matching funding
- Commission make-up – agreed to maintain as is noting that mayors as ex-officio members of standing committees can vote on issues that come to Commission
- Extending height restrictions in military training routes being considered pending receipt of state maps
- Recommend that appropriations-related, budget request items be included in the Governor's recommended budget

This concluded the report of the Legislative Affairs Committee.

Economic Development Committee

Chairman Gary McKissock briefed the Group on recent activities of the ED Committee.

- Dr. George Millsaps briefed the Committee on a report recently prepared by NC Community Colleges, getting credentialing underway, transitioning veterans into employment
- Stu Ruffin of NC Military Foundation briefed on newly created NC Veterans Foundation, looking at software solutions
- Geoff Cramer briefed on the Futures platform of Futures, Inc.
- Hiring event at Camp Lejeune – thinks Futures software will be used there
- Military Host Cities presented
- Recommend that Kimberly Lindsay give update at full MAC meeting

- Recommend a meeting between F-35 supply chain executives and EDPNC

This concluded the report of the Economic Development Committee.

Base Sustainability & Community Affairs Committee

Committee Chairman Bob Dickerson briefed the ESG on recent developments:

- Sonny Roberts stepped down as Committee Chairman. By unanimous vote, Bob Dickerson was elected Chair and Frank Bottorff was elected Vice Chair
- Discussed firefighter/EMS letter
- Working with Community Colleges and receiving good input from MCI East on certification pathway for EMS workers. Obtaining more definitive information on costs. Will send letters to Commission for consideration;
- Sentinel Landscapes – correspondence prepared, sent; one response pending
- Military basic law enforcement training recognition: drafting a letter with a recommendation to pare down 640-hour training requirement to be fully certified and lower training cost. Would like recognition for 276 hours and reduce cost by half. 54 hours of PT should not be required following return from federal service. Pilot program under way certifying mp vets and NG mp's
- Hofmann Forest – not a top priority for the Marines Corps. Vice Chair recommended a JLUS to look at value of maintaining Hofmann for the other Services.
 - Vice Chair made a motion to recommend to the full Commission to look into a study or sponsor a JLUS to make a recommendation on the military value of Hofmann Forest, which was seconded and unanimously passed.
- Havelock/ PEDRO – CH 46's scheduled to be retired first quarter of FY 16 and when phased out no replacement designated. Over the water is being phased to CG. Navy mission platform is UH-60 Seahawk. A letter from Congressman Jones and Sen. Tillis to Dept. of Navy about status of replacements in mid-January. Waiting for response. Talked to CO at Cherry Point and Coast Guard is taking the mission.

KEY COMMITTEE ISSUES

Vice Chairman Dordal briefed on key issues from the Top Ten Priorities power point brief.

1. Develop strategic plan to reduce risk (and mission set enhancement)
2. Assist NC Working Lands Group to preserve lands near installations (next meeting 2/26)
3. Support in-state tuition for military-connected students (mandate applies to post 911GI Bill and Montgomery GI bill – UNC wants broad discretion to determine eligibility)
4. Develop economic development opportunities associated with logistics and supply chain support for military aircraft, e.g, JSF and aviation equipment
5. Threat to military training, i.e., ensure routes and ranges not adversely affected
6. Maintain value of Hofmann Forest (military evaluation/assessment or JLUS, agreed at this meeting)
7. Transportation infrastructure issues. Working with NCDOT and obtaining Sebastian Montagne's list of strategic planning/priority list showing military value vs an installation project list – Chairman Martin will contact Sebastian Montagne) we also asked for a list of completed projects
8. Integrate vets, guard, reserve, military into NC workplace

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9. NCNG legislative requests for state support for programs, facilities
10. Coordinate state funding for 911 programs
11. Child care centers
12. Waive fees annual certification FF/EMT's

OLD BUSINESS:

- Mapping Status: waiting for information; considering where to house end product; need to meet to discuss cost of maintaining it.
- Education Summit Update: Maj. Lumsden is overseeing the Summit with Doug Taggart of DPI and Quality of Life Committee to determine exact data to bring to CoDels on educational needs/failing schools

NEW BUSINESS

- Military Advisor Recommendations – to be announced
- “Payday Loans” – Consumer Finance Act of NC is more accurate (Vice Chairman Dordal referred to handout – see Handouts on Documents section of ncommerce.com/mac) ESG agrees to recommend giving Al Ripley of NC Justice Center 5 minutes to speak at full Commission meeting.

At 1:22 PM Chairman Martin adjourned the meeting.