



North Carolina Military Affairs Commission

Legislative Affairs Committee
April 12, 2016

Call to order

A meeting of the Legislative Affairs Committee was held at the NC Department of Military and Veterans Affairs as well as via teleconference on April 12, 2016.

Attendees

Attendees included:

- Senator Harry Brown (committee chair)
- Representative George Cleveland (on committee)
- Mayor Chuck Allen (on committee)
- Jeremiah Daniels (on committee)
- Bud Martin (NCMAC Chair)
- Paul Dordal (NCMAC Vice Chair)
- Kelly Barretto (NC DMVA)
- Lacy Pate (NC DMVA)
- Jeremy Schmidt (NC DMVA)

Members not in attendance

Members not in attendance included:

- William Hatcher (on committee)
- Senator Wesley Meredith (non-voting member)
- Representative John Bell (non-voting member)

Approval of minutes

Chair called meeting to order at 9:31am and minutes were approved.

Reports

Topic: High Structure Wind Turbines

Discussion: Chair asked about adjustments to current statute. Mentioned a recent project that was changed from what was originally proposed causing a heightened level of scrutiny for permits. Rep. Cleveland stated Carteret County passed a wind ordinance that covers concerns regarding height and other issues. Ms. Pate briefed attendees on recent discussions regarding proposed changes to relevant legislation. In March, Ms. Pate, Secretary Wilson and staff from the Legislative Analysis Division, DEQ, and the President Pro Tempore and Speaker's Offices discussed potential technical corrections to 3 bills, which were signed into law in 2013: H484 [Permitting of Wind Energy Facilities](#); H433 [Land Use Surrounding Military Installations](#); and H254 [Zoning Changes/Notice to Military Bases](#). The proposed technical corrections would authorize DMVA to oversee the permitting process for wind energy development and tall structures projects. DMVA's role would help ensure that projects do not interfere with military installations and training routes. DMVA welcomes the opportunity to weigh in on potential

projects, but would need to ensure it has sufficient staffing and legal capacity to take on the responsibility.

Action Items: Ms. Pate will provide information on proposed legislative changes and names of General Assembly staff, who attended the meeting.

Resolution: Chair and Rep. Cleveland will engage with GA regarding wind turbine and tall structures legislation.

Topic: NC National Guard

Discussion: Requesting a dollar amount for the NC Guard armories. House appropriations meeting (scheduled Tuesday 4/19).

Action Items: Mr. Schmidt and Ms. Pate will research with NC Guard. *This is above and beyond the Bond.*

Resolution: These numbers will be carried forward to the budgets by the Chair and Rep. Cleveland.

Topic: 911 Call Centers

Discussion: This has been an ongoing issue for years on how to get the state dollars and 911 call centers on base to work more closely with the local communities. Mr. Dordal stated the last action to happen was that Mr. Jeff Sanborn would discuss the situation with the Fort Bragg Commander. The 911 board wants a single approach, but the bases are currently not in agreement to what the unified approach would be. Fort Bragg has not applied as of six months ago. Camp Lejeune does not want to go forward with an agreement at this time. Chair asked if there is any resolution. Mr. Dordal stated that if Fort Bragg does apply, then the 911 Board may apply. New Camp Lejeune Commander willing to readdress this. Mr. Paul Friday is researching this course of action. The end state is that they could be mutually supporting centers in case one would become inoperable. Mr. Dordal stated that part of the situation is whether there would be any reimbursement for crossover efforts.

Action Items: Rep. Cleveland will investigate whether this supporting ability is currently in place. Mr. Daniels will look into the capability at SJAFB.

Resolution: Continue engaging with bases to come to a mutual understanding. Installation approaches will need to be resolved.

Topic: Waive EMT certifications

Discussion: The NCMAC proposal to reinstate a fee waiver for annual certification training for federal Firefighters and EMTs on military installations in NC.

Action Items: Chair requesting Mr. Martin discuss this matter with the Governor. DMVA will provide background on the issue and estimated costs to Chair and Rep. Cleveland via email.

Resolution: Chair and Rep. Cleveland will take figures from DMVA to GA.

Unfinished business

Not applicable

New business

Topic: Improving communications between NCMAC and GA

Discussion: Mr. Martin mentioned a military caucus in the Senate and House as a solution for the NCMAC to talk with and educate GA members on military-related topics. Ms. Sally-Ann Gupta from the Chair's office could help with the coordination.

Action Items: Requested Chair and Rep. Cleveland to propose a GA joint caucus. Chair proposed a regular meeting with the caucuses and DMVA/NCMAC. Lacy would research schedule for the caucuses.

Resolution: Create a joint caucus or committee.

Topic: Reengage the \$86 million grant that was taken out of Bond

Discussion: Mr. Martin highlighted that other states are passing grants for military installations causing a gap in what NC is currently providing to bases. Chair asked about whether other states are using a dollar per dollar match approach. Mr. Dordal stated most are a 50/50 match. For example, TX is helping renovate a training building and life support (e.g. water) infrastructure. Previous justification was created for the \$86 million that was originally in the NC Bond Issue. Chair indicated a need for the justification to articulate what the ROI would be for the state.

Action Items: Develop a plan to bring to the next long session. Write a justification for how money would benefit.

Resolution: Proposals be presented to the GA during the January 2017 long session.

Topic: NC Military Hall of Fame

Discussion: Chair spoke with Secretary Wilson about the formation of a NC Military Hall of Fame. Rep. Cleveland asked about whether ongoing exhibits at the museum could be extended to a NC Military Hall of Fame. SC has a similar Military Hall of Fame. This is another way the state could highlight the military personnel and Veterans in the state.

Action Items: A nomination and selection criteria would have to be established. DMVA consultants and NCCC will also be brought on for this topic.

Resolution: Develop a proposal for a NC Military Hall of Fame.

Announcements

Topic: Communications strategy

Discussion: Ms. Pate stated DMVA has started outreach to the General Assembly and is working to schedule meetings for Secretary Wilson with key members. Mr. Allen mentioned a regional advertising approach. Ms. Pate inquired if a communications strategy was part of the Matrix/Roosevelt contract and Mr. Dordal confirmed that it was. Chair recommended that Secretary Wilson set up meetings with appropriations chairs and budget chairs. Kickoff meeting on 4/19 will discuss a communications strategy. The NCMAC should also reach out to businesses in other states that support NC installations to consider relocating to NC.

Topic: Defense Industry Adjustment Project (funded through OEA Grant)

Discussion: Ms. Pate briefed committee on the Defense Industry Adjustment Project, which seeks to help small defense-connected businesses in NC achieve strategic growth. The project includes a supply chain study to identify and respond to the needs of tier 2-4 suppliers and companies who support prime DOD contracts. As part of the project, DMVA is partnering with NC State, which will lead a pilot program for vulnerable defense-connected companies. The pilot will offer eligible companies a cutting edge tool to diagnose their specific vulnerabilities and provide direct services to assist them. The NC proposal was submitted on Friday April 8, 2016. Total project cost is about \$1.6 million. NC State has agreed to provide a significant amount of the non-federal match. It is a non-competitive grant program. NC State would be the primary organization and serve as the grant administrator. DMVA is asking for outreach by the GA and NCMAC to help educate and encourage participation by local businesses.

Topic: Community Leadership Meeting

Discussion: Mr. Martin discussed involvement with Governor's staff and specifically mentioned an invite be extended to Mr. Jimmy Broughton.

Topic: Trucking/ Transportation plan

Discussion: Mr. Martin is working with Goldsboro about DLA's long term plans to upgrade rail, tankers, and trucking. Asking Roosevelt to work with DLA and develop long term incentives and proposals to reduce highway trucking of jet fuel to reduce road damage. Mr. Dordal stated DLA's intent is also to reduce accidents experienced on roads throughout the country.

Adjournment

Adjourn at 10:30am