

Minutes of the First Quarterly Meeting of the NC Military Affairs Commission, February 23, 2016
150 Fayetteville Street, Raleigh, NC

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:

BG Bud Martin, ARNGUS Ret., MAC Chairman
Cresswell Elmore, Econ Dev CMTE (by phone)
Paul Dordal, Vice Chairman
Gary McKissock, Econ Dev. CMTE Chair
Rep. George Cleveland, House
Hon. George Breece, Quality of Life CMTE
Maj. Gen. Jimmy Stewart, USAF Ret. (At-Large)
Pat Walker, Base Sus & Comm Affairs CMTE

Bob Dickerson, Base Sustainability CMTE Chair
Joy Thrash, At-Large
Jeremiah Daniels, Seymour Johnson AFB
CDR (Ret.) Bill Lehmann, Coast Guard EC
Col. (Ret.) Kirk Warner, USAR, Quality of Life CMTE
Hon. Chuck Allen, Goldsboro
SgtMaj Bill Hatcher, Camp Lejeune

EX-OFFICIO AND ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES

Ron Massey, City of Jacksonville
Yori Escalante, Dep. Cmdr. for MCI-East/MCBCLJ
Bill Meier, GMCI-East
Paul Friday, MCI-East
Robert Hosford, Dept. of Agriculture
Scott Dorney, NCMBC
Liz Ponder, NCMBC
Brian Gossage, Dept. of Cultural & Natural Resources/DENR
Tina Paulson, Regional Liaison, MCI-East
Stewart Cox, Seymour Johnson AFB
JR Gorham, Dept. of Public Safety
Sen. Norman Sanderson, Senate
Doug Taggart, Dept. of Public Instruction
Bryan Ayers, MCI-East
Stuart Ruffin, NC Military Foundation
Dave Myers, Fort Bragg
Bryan Fox, Rep. Ellmers' Office
Sebastian Montagne, Dept. of Transportation
Will Best, Dept. of Commerce
Booker T. Pullen, DEQ
Marc Finlayson, ACT
Rhonda Murray, Naval Support Activity NW Annex
Robert Bush, Naval Support Activity NW Annex & ROTHRA
Jimmie Edmundson, Seymour Johnson AFB
JJ Johnson, ACE Wilmington District
Bob Coats, Governor's Census Liaison
Tom Bowlin, NCNG
Col. Todd Hunt, NCNG
Jason Lowry, Congressman Jones' Office
Jon Chase, Fort Bragg
David Hayden, NCDBA
Denny Lewis, NCMBC

Mark Cooney, Dept. of Natural & Cultural Resources
George Miller, Food Fuel 4 Forces (by phone)

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance - At 1235 NC Military Affairs Commission Chairman Brigadier General Mabry Martin, ARNGUS Retired, called the meeting to order and thanked all for attending. The Chairman apologized for missing the last meeting due to a family surgery. Thanked all for their support during that time. Attendance was taken of those dialing in to the meeting, and the Chairman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Introductions/Welcome – Chairman Martin welcomed new MAC members E.T. Mitchell and Kirk Warner. Col. Warner represents the Reserves, however, Ms. Mitchell does not represent the National Guard but will serve in an At-Large capacity. Chairman Martin will act as representative for the National Guard. He introduced and welcomed Jeremy Schmidt of Department of Military and Veterans Affairs thanking him for his work on the Strategic Plan and By-Laws. Lacy Pate who works legislative issues for the Department and is working on the OEA grant for an industry study in the state was also introduced.

Chairman Martin recognized the Commission's military affairs awareness coordinators: Brian Gossage for Department of Cultural and Natural Resources/DENR, Darryl Morrison of Department of Revenue, Ilario Pantano for Division of Veterans Affairs, Jason Simmons for DHHS, J.R. Gorham for DPS, Mark Cooney for Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, Robert Hosford for Department of Agriculture, Sebastian Montagne for DOT, Will Best for Department of Commerce and Doug Taggart for DPI; a coordinator for DIT is to be determined.

Attendees introduced themselves, noting respective Committee assignments and community affiliations. Kirk Warner of Smith Anderson and Commission member made welcoming remarks as host of the meeting. Mr. Warner served with Chairman Martin on the Board of USO NC.

A quorum of voting members is present. A 2/3 majority is not present to vote on by-laws. A vote will be taken electronically if needed. The Chairman has been asked and will leave to meet this afternoon with the Governor and his Chief of Staff regarding signing the consultant contract update in order to move forward with the second phase of work.

Administrative/New Department Update – Jeremy Schmidt of Military and Veterans Affairs provided the update:

- Budget – migration of the budget to the Department is in progress; consultant contract is included, travel reimbursements
- Website – Mr. Schmidt will collect updated photos and bios for the website and will update the MAC site
- Strategic Plan – content has been updated. One goal in its development was for the Plan to be easily understood by the layperson. Gary McKissock suggested a one-pager with economic impact statistics to serve as an elevator brief. Col. Escalante pointed out that language should be included that notes that data is current at the printing of this Plan. Some members suggested that an Executive Summary with talking points would be ideal to include with the Plan. Vice Chairman Dordal stated that input on the Plan has been inclusive of all throughout the process.

Chairman Martin requested a motion to approve the Strategic Plan as written. Mr. Breece so moved and seconded by Gen. McKissock. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously without further discussion.

Mr. Breece emphasized the importance of the document and developing the talking points in it for communication to the public, editorial boards, local MACs, and ensuring that local legislators get a copy

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to read. Ms. Pate and Mr. Schmidt added that there would be a press release. There was discussion about consultant contract extension to include talking points to the CoDel, General Assembly, and the Governor. General Dickerson noted the number of military dignitaries that have retired to North Carolina that could advertise on behalf of the State as well.

- By-laws: Mr. Schmidt displayed the by-laws with highlighted changes on a power point slide. The working group worked to incorporate many changes reflected in the General Statute, the new Department; electronic votes, Chairman's authority to appoint a chair to a Committee. Committees are being revised to have a representative from each military community on each Committee.
- Consultant contract: Vice Chairman Dordal updated the Commission based on a recent briefing by the consultant group on the status of the mapping effort, part of the work in the first carryover contract with information being gathered through MCI East and the end result being an interactive computer model. The next step is to coordinate with other State agencies to have Department of Administration serve as central repository for all Agency maps. The Regional Land Use Study encompasses information not found in the JLUS. The RLUS should be delivered in the next week or so. This data will be helpful to take to DC to message about the value of training spaces and ranges in the State.
- REMI: Power point slides were used to display data from the economic modeling impact study.
- Grant: Lacy Pate briefed on a proposal for a planning grant from DOD Office of Economic Adjustment. The purpose is to help communities adjust to impact of cutbacks and budget changes. This is a non-competitive grant and we can work closely with the program manager to obtain the grant. There is a 10% non-federal match requirement. This will include the provision of better visibility to small businesses that are vulnerable, identify types of risk, establish a stakeholder group to identify assistance available through outside organizations and the state, a pilot with NCSU. Narrative is near complete and we are seeking quotes through vendors to conduct that analysis and working with NC State to find creative ways to meet the 10% match. Eligibility requirements are being developed during this planning process. NC State's role is minimal – their pilot is one piece. We have a long term plan to match companies with a menu of services, diversify, improve, market, strategically plan, to make them better companies. The grant seeks to look out for organizations that are assisting small businesses. The grant manager will identify partners that can assist.

Discussion: Gen. McKissock asked about the community grants and when the MAC will be ready to accept requests. Gen. Dordal discussed the coordination with Dept. of Administration that has to take place, the development of criteria for the grants, etc. He asked for volunteers for a working group on grant application criteria to be presented to the Executive Steering Group for approval. Mayor Allen commented that the Commission should use the funds for communications and marketing in order to be relevant and raise awareness about the Commission. The fiscal year is expiring and funds need to be expended. Vice Chairman Dordal and Commissioner Walker will

work together with Jeremy Schmidt to develop this. Gen. McKissock suggested that communities should have input into how they would like to see the process work.

Consent Agenda: Vice Chairman requested a motion to approve the last quarter's MAC meeting minutes, which was so moved by Gen. Dickerson and seconded by Jimmy Stewart. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments: None.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Base Sustainability & Community Affairs

Committee Chairman Bob Dickerson briefed the Commission on the Committee's activities. The Committee met on January 27.

- The CMTE discussed the Census rules for the 2020 census. Bob Coats and Ron Massey were thanked for their input to the Committee on the issue. Ron Massey briefed on issues with the 2010 census and how inaccurate accounting affected Camp Lejeune. Host Military Cities has been working with Mr. Coats. Mr. Coats discussed the federal register notice and responses to it. The Census Bureau is presently working with the Department of Defense to account for deployed soldiers. The Census Bureau will test some of the new processes in North Carolina by 2017. Ms. Walker is tracking the Secretary's letter on this matter sent to the Personnel and Readiness office in Department of Defense.
- The rail study was briefed by Ron Massey being completed by a consultant team hired by DOT. It must be completed before July 1. The consultant is meeting with the staff of Lejeune to discuss any concerns and develop corresponding options.
- 911 Funding – Camp Lejeune cannot take public funding. Fort Bragg seeks reimbursement for fees for usage in the local area, which is under review with the 911 Board.
- Sentinel Landscapes – Robert Hosford of Department of Agriculture briefed the Commission on the requirements of designation as a Sentinel Landscape that is coordinated between the US Department of Agriculture, Department of Interior, Department of Defense and the White House. He presented a power point with the GIS map created from information received from the Services. The Navy's MTRs were data mined.
- Waiver of Firefighting Training Fees (\$461,000 for certification to train – being considered by the General Assembly in short session).

Quality of Life Committee

Hon. George Breece briefed the Commission on behalf of CMTE Chair Jeffrey Sanborn on matters in the Committee including PSAP public-public partnership, child crisis stabilization unit for the Fort Bragg area, school calendar flexibility and funding for additional state regional counselor positions. He shared copies of the Cape Fear Medical Center Executive Summary proposal for review and

explained the request of \$2.6 million in funding support from the State. Fort Bragg's position re: PSAP funding is that the Army advises that it is considered unauthorized use of funds under the NDAA and the State is not permitted to reimburse the Services for service it provides to itself. Mr. Breece shared an experience where he received assistance from a Camp Lejeune Lance Corporal for which he is grateful.

Vice Chairman Dordal suggested removing the PSAP issue at some point from the MAC's priority list as the matter is being resolved at other levels.

Economic Development Committee

LtGen McKissock briefed on developments in the Economic Development Committee. the last Committee meeting was a "listening meeting" was held where NCDDBA, NCMF, ACT, NCMBC and RLM Communications presented to the Committee. It was concluded by a consensus of all present that a research and development center to assist industry in the State is a worthwhile pursuit and a meeting will take place to discuss further. NC4ME is operating at an excellent pace. The matter of academic credit for military training is still pending and likely requires a legislative remedy.

Legislative Affairs Committee

The Committee did not have any new matters pending and did not meet over the first quarter. Senator Brown was preparing for short session. Rep. Cleveland commented that several laws had been passed over the last legislative sessions, including a licensing equivalent for military training, but implementation by licensing boards is an ongoing process and necessitated additional legislation. The Community College study will provide information to the General Assembly sufficient to pass legislation. Senator Sanderson added a point of information regarding redistricting, absentee voters and military votes and assurances from the Board of Elections that ballots will be re-sent if they change because of redistricting to ensure their votes are counted. Sebastian Montagne stated that the Aviation Division will release a strategic plan that will include information about UAVs and drones. Vice Chairman said we have work to do in the future on this.

NCMAC Top Priorities

Vice Chairman Dordal briefed on the MAC's current top priorities using a power point presentation, which will be available on the NCMAC website.

1. Strategic Plan – resulting recommendations for actions will be assigned to Committees; By-laws will be approved by vote.
2. By-law revision will go away.
3. Assisting NC Working Lands Group moves to #1. Recommendation to change to Sentinel Landscape by Robert Hosford. Assisting agencies and installations was recommended by Bryan Gossage.
4. Communications/messaging about value of our installations recommended #2 on the list.

5. Economic development opportunities, #3.
6. Review legislation, proposals to ensure military has opportunity for input, #4.
7. Transportation infrastructure, #5.
8. Integration of software (NC4ME), #6.
9. Support NCNG legislative requests, #7.
10. 911 Call Centers – will leave for now pending resolution by next meeting, #8.
11. Child crisis stabilization units, #9.
12. DPI initiatives, #10.
13. Annual Firefighter Certification, #11.

Vice Chairman requested a motion to approve the top priority list as presented, which was so moved, seconded and passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned for a 10-minute break and then was reconvened by Vice Chairman Dordal.

Jeremy Schmidt asked members to see him about travel reimbursements and if not, sign roster to ensure reimbursement is processed.

NC4ME

Stuart Ruffin, Deputy Director of the NC Military Foundation briefed on the Governor's NC4ME public-private initiative. He shared successes of the program, that has a rate of 67% follow-up interviews or hires. Public and private sectors are lining up to hire military candidates. The program added USO NC and ESGR as partners. The confusion has been reduced as to the hiring process. The matchmaking program was consolidated around NC Works using one system for military hiring in the state. The search process has been greatly improved. He mentioned two upcoming hiring summits. Two core needs are in advertising to employers in being vocal in your support of the program, and introductions to potential sponsors.

Commanders' Council

Paul Friday gave the brief of the morning's NC Commanders' Council meeting. There was useful comment from the NCMAC, presentations and discussion on drones, census, K-12 education issues and opportunities, and Sentinel Landscape designation.

Chairman Martin introduced Doug Taggart of DPI.

DPI

Doug Taggart of Troops to Teachers and DPI briefed the Commission on regional counselors and military student identifiers using a power point presentation. He assists with military personnel transition to becoming teachers thereby serving the children by ensuring quality teachers. He gave a background on state regional military school counselors. He showed the numbers of children in proportion to the number of counselors. (Power point presentation to be posted to NCMAC website.)

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Children's Crisis Stabilization Unit

Dr. John Lesica of Womack Army Hospital and Dr. Ken Fleischman of Cape Fear Valley Medical Center presented data on impact of insufficient local bed space for acute psychiatric and psychological care, and the need for financial assistance in the amount of \$2.6 million to renovate a space at Cape Fear Valley Medical Center that would provide 6 to 8 additional beds.

Old Business:

By-laws – these will be distributed electronically for vote. Col. Warner pointed out that the appendices numbers and references in the By-laws needed to correspond.

New Business:

Engage milcon spending partnerships. The Executive Steering Group and Chairman would like to brainstorm over the short session as to how to more effectively engage the members of the General Assembly for the purpose of reporting and educating about the ability of the State to spend on installations as other states are doing. Col. Escalante believes the State can gift to the installations. Many still do not believe we would suffer in a BRAC. Speaker Moore's staff has expressed a desire to meet and to support the Commission.

The Governor was not ready to sign the consultant contract today, primarily due to concerns about the cost. A 30-day extension was granted pending further review.

There was discussion about the remaining sticking points that affect approval of the contract.

Lacy Pate is working on laying out the communication plan and the message to the federal and state levels. We will be asking for more involvement by Committees with actions in the Strategic Plan. Col. Warner suggested establishing another sub-committee to support the communications efforts.

Future Meetings:

May 17 full commission meeting, location TBD

Mac.nc.gov is where to find the new website.

Adjournment:

With no further comments or questions, Chairman Martin adjourned the meeting at 4:43 pm.