

Minutes of
Missouri National Guard Retiree Council

7 April 2018

The meeting of the Missouri National Guard Retiree Council began at 1200 on 7 April 2018 in the Patriot Center at the Ike Skelton Training Site, Jefferson City with the following retirees and other interested parties in attendance.

Bill Leeper	Dave Riley
Jack Argent	Bob Julius
Matt Jenkins	Donal Firebaugh (via VTC)
Todd Henderson	Gaila Sullivan (via VTC)
Gary Boyd	Cecil Connett
Audie Pruitt	

John Lewis, Assistant Retirement Services Officer

Todd called the meeting to order at 1155. Roll call of members present and 6 regions were represented. The northeast region was absent. Audie stated there were enough MONGRC members present for a quorum.

Todd led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

John Lewis offered invocation.

Todd called for the Secretary's report. The members reviewed copies of the minutes from the last MONGRC meeting. No discussion about the report and the minutes were approved as presented.

Todd introduced Mr. Mark Jones to the Council. Mark is a Veterans Service officer, Transition Assistance Advisor and manages the Wounded Warrior Program (WTC). He stated that veterans are able to visit with him on a one on one basis. He can check VA claim status, if requested and encouraged all veterans to sign up for VA benefits. He is available to travel to a veteran's location, if requested, to provide assistance for those who are disabled.

Old Business. Members were reminded of the upcoming MONGA Conference to be held April 27-28 at the Ramada Oasis Convention Center in Springfield, MO.

Region Reports. West. Gary reported the West had 120 attend their Retiree Appreciation Day on March 31 at the Kansas City Armory. Overall the costs incurred were covered. The RAD provided some information to attendees on the functions of the Veteran's Courts in non-felony cases, where veterans receive some special consideration during the court proceedings. A meeting with MG Danner, Gary

Boyd and Col. Passini concerning the MCC property was held. They are exploring the possibility of donating the remaining property to a local worthy organization. The goal of donating the land is to remove the risk of liability exposure for the MCC organization and the state of Missouri.

Northwest. Gaila reported the RAD was very interesting and looking forward to working with representatives from the Northwest region. The spring meeting of the St. Joseph Retiree Chapter met on 4 April 2018, enjoyed a catered meal and elected new officers. Will be contacting the new officers soon and discuss several ideas that hopefully will enhance the chapters knowledge of current benefit changes which affect retirees, and encourage involvement of state supported events.

Southwest. Audie reported the 203rd chapter supported the competitors and staff with meals during the TAG Match held at Camp Crowder March 23-25. The funds from the TAG match are used for the general treasury of the 203rd chapter. A quarterly members meeting was held March 19. The History Room was recently renovated to remove lead contamination, and the displays were repositioned for better clarity and historical chronology. The 2nd Quarterly meeting will be a picnic on 1 June at the creek on the Dewey Pierce farm near Anderson.

Central. Todd and Randy have been traveling to different locations within the region. A new RV will be arriving soon to expand their operations from the Columbia VA hospital. Todd stated he will be attending future Yellow Ribbon events. A monthly schedule for the Columbia VA center van is sent to Debra Havens, who can forward that to all the Council members.

East. Dave Riley reported they will be serving breakfast to troops at JB tomorrow morning. Some retirees will be attending the event. A family day has been scheduled for June. Bob Julius and local retirees are trying to mingle and meet airmen who are retiring from the Air Guard in hopes getting more Air Guard participation in Council activities.

Southeast. Matt reported the region will be holding their annual dinner and meeting April 13. He stated the region has historically not been in favor of hosting a regional RAD, but he will poll the members again during the meeting.

Council retired for a 15 minute break at 1320.

RSO Report. John reported RSO has lost 3 out of 4 people who are qualified to prepare retirement packets. SFC Heather Dollins at the 203rd Engineer Battalion is the only remaining qualified individual. Current packets are likely to be delayed 90 to 120 days due to backlog at HRC due to personnel cutbacks and flu season.

New Business. Gary informed the members that CSM Will Pierce is now the Senior Enlisted Advisor for the Army and Air National Guard of Missouri. CSM Kannon John is now the State CSM replacing CSM Will Pierce. CSM John was past CSM at the 70th Troop Command.

The next meeting will be held at 1200 on 7 July 2018 at the Ike Skelton Training Site, Patriot Center conference room, Jefferson City.

John offered benediction and the meeting adjourned at 1400.

Prepared by:

Audie Pruitt, Parliamentarian