

Minutes of
Missouri National Guard Retiree Council

4 April 2020

The meeting of the Missouri National Guard Retiree Council began at 1200 on 4 April, 2020 via video teleconference using the ZOOM application over the internet. Meeting was conducted in this manner due to restrictions in place per Gov. Parsons for the Corona virus i.e. COVID19. The following retirees and other interested parties participated in the meeting.

Bill Leeper	Dave Riley
Bob Julius	Donal Firebaugh
Todd Henderson	Gaila Sullivan
Randy Rodenberg	Gary Boyd
Jim Dunn	Mark Bartley
Don Koonce	Bob Proctor

John Lewis, Retirement Services Officer

Todd called the meeting to order at 1200.

Roll call of members present and 6 regions were represented. The northeast region was absent. Todd stated there were enough members present for a quorum.

Todd called for the Secretary's report. The members reviewed copies of the minutes from the 5 October 2019 MONGRC meeting. No discussion about the report and the minutes were approved as presented. Jim Dunn noted the meeting scheduled for January was cancelled due to weather.

Legislative Update. Don reported most of the recent legislative activities are dealing with the COVID19 pandemic. He stated the proposed bill to have the National Guard report directly to the Governor is expected to be voted on in the November general election. This bill will give TAG a seat on the Governor's cabinet. The Missouri State Defense Force (MSDF) was deactivated by TAG on March 7, 2020. Several state legislators are unhappy with that action and are preparing bills, if approved that will re-activate the MSDF. He also stated there are reciprocity agreements between some states that allow prior military personnel to immediately go work and bypass new background checks. The local MSDF groups will be able to remain active under the umbrella of the MOEMA (Missouri Emergency Management Association). Troy Armstrong, a MSDF member, was recently elected as the MOEMA President. Gary noted that recruiting into the local MSDF groups is encouraged. Todd reported, per e-mail he received, DoD is actively seeking IRR personnel with critical medical MOS's to volunteer for re-activation to assist with the COVID19 issue. Nationally there are potentially 180,000 who may qualify for this program.

New Member. Todd introduced Bob Proctor from the Central Region. Bob provided a brief bio of his military career. Gary made a motion to accept Bob as a voting member of the MONGRC representing the Central Region. Council members voted and the motion was approved. Bob is now an active voting Council member.

West Region. Gary reported the MCC is in process of turning the property over to TAG, but is on hold due to the COVID19 situation. He stated he and BG Houseman are in contact via e-mail working on final contract details for the transfer. If details cannot be satisfactorily completed, the MCC will retain property ownership. He feels some of the MCC members have concerns the State will not be able to uphold their commitments.

Northwest Region. Gaila reports the St Joseph area has a strong active group who is supportive of the active soldiers in the area. St. Joseph is a finalist in the receiving a new building and Air Guard unit for Medevac operations. 4 sites in the State of Missouri are currently being evaluated for temporary hospitals; Kansas City and St Joseph are 2 of those locations. The MONGA utilized a retiree to actively recruit members in the Maryville area.

Southwest Region. Mark reports southwest Missouri is mostly shutdown. Many American Legion posts are not conducting Funeral Honors activities. The 203rd Association held a member quarterly meeting March 7, and others are scheduled for the rest of 2020. The TAG weapons match scheduled for March at Camp Crowder was cancelled by TAG and a re-schedule date is not expected to be set. Joplin will be going under a 'stay at home order' Monday April 6 at 12:01 a.m. until Sunday April 24 at 11:59 p.m.

Central Region. Todd reports Boone county has 67 active COVID19 cases with 32 of those showing improvement. Access to regular military bases now requires valid ID showing service connected disability. The Columbia VA hospital is on very limited access and he is working from home currently. He stated the current nasal swab COVID19 test is very uncomfortable.

East Region. All scheduled meetings, family day activities, and other non-essential gatherings have been cancelled. Some of these activities are cancelled as far out as August for now. The Air Force retiree office is closed, and lots of St Louis activities are cancelled.

Southeast Region. Donal reports all non-essential activities have been cancelled. There are several reported COVID19 cases and some deaths.

RSO Report. John reports he is "the new Debbie". Interviews are scheduled Thursday for his old GS-7 position as RSO Assistant. DD214's that was processed after 89 days will be changing to "after 30 day time" status. The NGB22 Form, the National Guard's version of the DD214 will be changing the form number to DA FORM 22. SBP-DIC offset phased elimination—DFAS is developing an implementation plan, legal/policy guidance in process per National Defense Authorization Act for FY-2020. DFAS is experiencing strenuous budget cuts, but will only attend RAD's if host pays for travel and hotel expenses. John states he has a temporary assistant, SSG Tamara Gray, whose primary duties/main focus is retirement point activities. Debra Havens is volunteering at the RSO office 1 day a week—her e-mail has changed to debra.l.havens.vol@mail.mil. John says he is currently networking from home on

Friday's, but in the office Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. He also stated retirement packets are being mailed to individuals, and a follow up phone call will be made. Travel to Jefferson City will not be required to comply with the current COVID19 restrictions. Additional information is also available at MOGUARD.com then click on Retirement Services under the Resources tab. He added almost all ID Card facilities have online reservation capabilities. Use <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl> to locate the nearest location.

New Business. Todd discussed the By Laws that require nomination for new officers during this meeting. After much general discussion by the Council members, the following names were nominated: for Co-Chairs Mark Bartley, Randy Rodenberg and Bob Julius; for Secretary Bob Proctor; for Parliamentarian Randy Rodenberg. Don stated he feels TAG supports the MONGRC but is at a low level while he deals with COVID19. Don also briefly discussed the ZOOM application works and how to access. He stated he will be adding a tab in the MSDF ZOOM Drop Box for the MONGRC to use.

The next meeting will be held at 1200 on 11 July 2020 at the Ike Skelton Training Site, Patriot Center conference room, Jefferson City if COVID19 restrictions are lifted.

The meeting adjourned at 1330.

Prepared by:

Jim Dunn, Secretary