

Minutes of
Missouri National Guard Retiree Council

11 July 2020

The meeting of the Missouri National Guard Retiree Council began at 1200 on 11 July, 2020 in the Patriot Center at Ike Skelton Training Site, Jefferson City with the following retirees and other interested parties in attendance.

Bill Leeper	Dave Riley
Jack Argent	Bob Julius
Donal Firebaugh	Todd Henderson
Gaila Sullivan (via VTC)	Randy Rodenberg
Gary Boyd	Jim Dunn
Cecil Connett	Mark Bartley (via VTC)
David Simons	Tony Cosentino

Bob Proctor

John Lewis, Retirement Services Officer

Lora Finn, Assistant 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. Gary stated there were MONGRC members present for a quorum.

Todd led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Donal offered benediction.

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.

Gary reported to members about the activities of the Missouri State Defense Force (MSDF). Legislative action is underway for Missouri voters to vote on constitutional amendment to have TAG report directly to the Governor instead of reporting to Department of Public Safety (DPS). The plan was to vote on this amendment during the November elections but the COVID19 issue has delayed the vote until April 2021. Jim Dunn stated he has added CSM Kannon John to the MONGRC distribution e-mail list. John Lewis stated he has invited the acting Warrior Support Leader to the Council meetings. John introduced Lora Finn as the new Assistant Retirement Services officers. Lora gave a brief bio of her military career to the Council members.

Todd then called for election of new officers. Mark Bartley requested his name for Co-Chair be removed. Gary made a motion to elect the remaining candidates Randy Rodenberg and Bob Julius by acclamation. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously by the Council members. Gary made a motion to elect Bob Proctor as Secretary. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously by the Council members. Todd made a motion to elect Gary Boyd as Parliamentarian. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously by the Council members. Gary introduced Bob Proctor to the Council members. Bob gave a brief bio of his military career to the Council members.

Old Business. Todd asked Council if Harold Loethen should be removed as member of the MONGRC. John Lewis suggested that he contact Harold's son by phone to check on his situation before removing him from the Council. The members agreed to that plan and John will report back with his findings at the next MONGRC meeting. Gary quizzed Council members on their thoughts of the ZOOM application used during the April MONGRC meeting. After some discussion, the members verbally agreed the application will be acceptable for use during future meetings if needed.

West Region. Gary reported no meetings have been scheduled due to the COVID19 virus. Some units in his region have been activated to deal with the virus. MCC property transfer is also on hold due to the virus. Don Koonce has located a dozer for display once the property has been transferred to TAG. Some paperwork remains to be completed before transfer process is completed.

Northwest Region. Gaila reported a windstorm at Rosecran Field in June that caused some light to mild damage to some of the facilities. A detachment deployed to Washington DC for security details returned June 8. Some units also assisted in distributing over 41,000 lbs. of food at a local food bank. TAG attended a recent deployment ceremony, and the retiree chapter elected new officers.

Southwest Region. Mark reports the entire southwest area has been virtually shut down due to COVID19. Many cities require wearing a mask when out in public. The 203rd Association will be electing new officers during their November meeting. Jim Dunn reported approximately \$208.00 of Council funds remains in the 203rd's treasury. He also reported the 4th annual Veteran's Expo, sponsored by the Joplin American Legion Post has been cancelled for 2020.

Central Region. Todd reported the VA in Columbia is now allowing face to face patient meeting but with mandatory masks. Boone County has seen a spike in new COVID19 cases recently. Jefferson City VFW is now allowing service dog training classes at the Post.

Council retired for a 15 minute break at 1300.

RSO Report. John stated Lora previously worked as title 32 technician in the Yellow Ribbon office as NCOIC. She continues to assist that office as needed until additional support is hired in the near future. He explained the modified work schedules the full time Guard personnel are following, except for outside circumstances. They are splitting time between working in the office some days and networking from home on other days. Final Formation events that are held every quarter will be held via VTC until further notice. John is still able to travel to assist soldiers with age 60 retirees with application for retirement forms. As person-to-person visits are authorized, Lora and he will be switching every other

Final Formation events. He said the RSO is still waiting to hear from NGB if they are going to authorize spouse travel pay for retirees that are still serving and attending the respective grey area retirement briefings. Retirement packets that he gives the briefing on if pending soldier/retirees elect to view them are located at <https://www.guard.ngb.mil/Resources/Retirement-Services/>. The documents are located under the 'briefings documents and forms' section.

Bob Proctor described the Drop Box computer application to the members. He explained how files can be viewed and shared using it, and how it would benefit our members to be able to view Council documents. He will get that setup and report back to the Council on accessing and using the application. Bob and Gary further described the ZOOM application that the Council can utilize to enhance our meetings when physical attendance is impossible. Bob has the authority to set up the meetings via ZOOM and will follow up with members on that process.

The next meeting will be held at 1200 on 3 October 2020 at the Ike Skelton Training Site, Patriot Center conference room, Jefferson City.

Donal offered benediction and the meeting adjourned at 1350.

Prepared by:

Jim Dunn, Secretary