

Missouri National Guard Retiree Council Minutes

16 October 2021

The meeting of the Missouri National Guard Retiree Council was held in the Thompson Hall at Ike Skelton Training Site, Jefferson City MO. On October 16, 2021 with the following retirees and interested parties in attendance.

Bill Leeper	Dave Riley
Jack Argent	Bob Julius
Todd Henderson	Randy Rodenberg
Gary Boyd	Jim Dunn (Tel Conf)
John Lewis (Tel Conf)	Allen Garrison
Tony Cosentino	Eric Schaben
Donal Firebaugh (Tel Conf)	

Bob Julius call the meeting to order at 1135 Hours and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Invocation given by Allen Garrison.

Roll call by Bob Julius. Nine members in physical attendance and three Tel Conf. Quorum was met.

Minutes:

Review of minutes with noted corrections of spelling of James Dunn name and letters behind 35<sup>th</sup> MP BDE. Gary Boyd motioned to accept the minutes as reviewed with noted corrections. Dave Riley seconded the motion. Motion passed

Legislative Updates

Don Koonce will no longer be briefing the Retiree Council on current legislative items. Allen Garrison suggested that MONGA probably has a registered lobbyist that could brief the Council on legislative concerning veteran's issues. Allen Garrison will provide contact info for MONGA Executive Director Larry Crowder (Retired) and Bob Julius will contact the director to find out if there is an individual that could brief current legislative information.

Old Business

The Charter has been sign by TAG and Bob Julius. Bob Proctor's Signature is needed. Bob Julius will give Bob a reminder this week.

*Yellow Ribbon:*

Eric Turley will provide schedule of upcoming Yellow Ribbon events. Suggestion was made to host a mini-RAD at Yellow Ribbon events.

Retiree council members would attend, role would be advocating to members anticipating retirement and providing handouts. Council will have a designated clearly marked table with retiree table cloth.

The Ask Care Escort Suicide Intervention report was tabled to next meeting.

Committee Reports

Suicide Intervention was also tabled to next meeting.

SOP Review. Jim Dunn said the committee needs a copy of the current SOP. Eric will email to council members.

Website report next meeting.

### New Business

Table cloths used at State Fair event is too large for standard size table.

Gary Boyd made motion to order 7 table cloths that can be used at Yellow Ribbon event, final formations, RAD,s, etc. John Lewis and Eric Schaben both stated that unutilized Spouse travel funds could be used to purchase table coverings.

Motion made to pursue purchasing table cloths by Gary Boyd and seconded by Dave Riley.  
Motion Carried.

#### *VA policy change:*

Todd Henderson briefed policy change for National Guard member on Title 32 orders responding to a national emergency Covid-19 pandemic, who complete the tour of duty are eligible for VA benefits. Members should receive DD214 that will show completion of duty. Means testing apply.

#### *Armories usage:*

TAG support of Armories being available for usage with coordination. Gary Boyd reported 2 units had received authorization to use facility, but in short notice of planned event the 110<sup>th</sup> Maneuver Enhancement BDE denied the approved request. The unfortunate situation was resolved after call to State Headquarters. Gary wasn't sure who to give accolades to for resolving this situation.

Jefferson Barracks stated they hadn't experienced any problems with scheduling events. Everyone was reminded to utilize the Administrative Officers phone number listing. Area Maps are not being posted on bulletin boards.

### *2022 RADs*

Bob Julius said that the council needs to address having local RADs for 2022.

Gary said he will address it at their November 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting. Gary also suggested **consider** having a RAD in conjunctions with MONGA conference, concerns discussed, How to reach Retiree's, will they attend.

Bill Leeper said that there is discussions on having a Soldiers/Retiree Day at Jefferson Bks. Involvement of Units would provide additional support, vendor/exhibitors ideas, and utilize USO food trucks.

Allen Garrison asked for some information from the other regions on how they organized their passed RAD.

Other comments were:

Review guidance from TAG

Take another look at what Area's would be interested in holding RAD. If South East Region is interested St. Louis could help support.

RSO could help with funding.

Joplin, area does very well with hosting RAD's, the Home Town supports military events. James Dunn has after action reports that would be helpful to anyone anticipating hosting a RAD. The State Retiree office should have digital copies of past years.

## Regional Reports

### *West*

Gary had said that a retiree group had scheduled an event to be held at the armory in Kansas City but someone from the 110<sup>th</sup> maneuver Enhancement BDE had canceled their use of the armory. It was reconciled by some unknown person from Headquarters had intervened and all was made right.

### *North West*

Gaila Sullivan said the Rosecrans ANG base has newly constructed Communications Building.

### *Southwest*

Jim Dunn said that the 203<sup>rd</sup> had a RAD/Vet Expo at the American Legion Hall. Format was different. It was a come and go type between 10 AM to 6 PM about 1000 people attended. No VA employee could attend because of Covid lockdown so they were able to use Volunteer Service Officers (VSO). Hq. ID were there make ID cards. A catered lunch was given to the staff and vendors.

### *North East*

Allen Garrison is new to the program and his region hasn't had any real representation in past years. Al will be trying to find retirees in his region to work with. He asked for some assistance from the council.

### *East*

#### FRG Activity:

Breakfast for the Troop (135<sup>th</sup> MP BDE. Was a success.

Clothing from H.E.R.O.E.S. Care; pants, shirts, some jackets were picked up and distributed to the troops.

Dollar Tree stores donated school supplies and toys.

JB Retiree Assistance Office open their office last September drill. It was announce in their drill notice. But unfortunately only one client came in.

### *South East*

Donal Firebaugh has been fighting back problems that curtailed much of his activity. We wish him well.

## RSO Report

John Lewis was on assignment in the South East Region. He attended the meeting on his way home by Tel. Conf. John's connection was very poor and we couldn't hear each other. Cell phone coverage is very poor in that area where was driving.

Eric Schaben said that the council could receive funds from the unused Spouse Travel Fund FOR rad Expenses.

He will provide all the documents requested at this meeting.

Eric had asked the council when requesting John for information that we copy him. It insure better continuity between them.

Eric issued all those present new red polo shirts with the retired National Guard patch. Looks great.

\$90 was collected for snacks.

#### Note

We had three persons on the Tel-Conf and they all had problems hearing the proceedings. We also couldn't hear them at times. I think the problem is due to the acoustics of the room and we are sitting a pretty good distance from the phone. I suggest next meeting we arrange the tables closer and still maintain COVID protocols. To move the phone closer to us. The line cord for the phone will be to short and I believe there is none made for this extra distance. I can make up a cord long enough to work.  
Bob Julius

#### Benediction

Allen Garrison gave the benediction.

#### Adjournment

Bob Julius call for the motion to adjourn. Gary Boyd motioned and Jack Argent seconded it. Motion carried.

Time: 1430

Prepared By:

Gaila Sullivan/Bob Julius