

SDNGEA Executive Council Meeting
24 September 2003
Cedar Shores
Chamberlain, SD

President Craig Towns called the meeting to order at 1200 hours. The Pledge of Allegiance was conducted. Roll call was taken with a quorum present.

President Towns welcomed the members.

There was an introduction of guests included members from past EA Presidents and the Women's Auxiliary.

Minutes of the previous Executive Council meeting 24 April 2003 were approved as written.

Treasurer's report was given by Randy Deckers. There was a discrepancy that will be left open concerning item number 212. The report was otherwise accepted.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS AT LARGE:

There has been some confusion as to what Area Representative represented which area. It is also been suggested that duties need to be assigned for each Representative. The Position Evaluation Committee along with President Towns and 1st Vice President Lamp have been charged with deciding the functionality of the Committee Members At Large. Along with that, it was suggested that notification of meetings and the like be submitted in hard copy.

NOTE: It was moved and passed that lunch would be paid for guests of the Council Meeting.

BREAK IN AGENDA:

It was discussed at great lengths the advertisement spot of President Towns and Tricare issues. After much deliberation, it has been had been dropped pending possible Constitution and/or By-Laws Changes.

It was also suggested during the break in agenda that Morris Winterstein of the Hot Spring Veterans Hospital be recognized for his support for the SDNGEA. More discussion on this will be handled off line.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Legislative Committee Report from 18 August 2003 was reported in brief by Donavon List.

Speaking for Wayne Fokken was President Towns on the subject of the Junior Enlisted Council. There are now two new members on the Executive Council which are the Presidents of the JE, one Army and one Air. This issue still needs promotion to help gain more interest.

The 2004 Conference will be held 15-17 April at Cadillac Jacks in Deadwood, SD. Reservations still need to be submitted as soon as possible. East River units have agreed to donate \$100 each to offset conference fees. Also, the 2003 Conference after action report needs to be submitted as soon as possible.

NEW BUSINESS:

Command CMS Ed Revel has been announced as the new Area V Director. CMS Revel states that although there are not many big issues on the table right, he sees the potential for some great things happening in the upcoming year. He will also be sitting on the Finance Committee.

The National Conference reports will come out in the next PATRIOT and can also be found online. One report states that SD exceeds all other states for donations to the new building. We surpassed our donation task to provide by 280%

Gary Kafka spoke on the Membership Drive. Dues are starting to come in. EANGUS is still sponsoring E-5's and E-6's. All that is required for those who have been or will be promoted in the 2003 calendar year is \$5 for dues with an application. Last years membership was 2811. There is a concern about how to continue to draw in membership especially with so many deployed overseas. A couple of suggests included sending each deployed member his/her own membership letter thanking those members for their dedication and sacrifice, but to still remember to support the SDNGEA. Another suggestion is to look for sponsorship from family/friends back home.

The Per Diem policy is confusing. Clarification is needed for such things as whether transportation is reimbursable for Presidents and Executive Directors where there is a "required" or "necessity" for events like conferences/workshops/meetings, etc.

CNA Bonds have increased by \$70 to bond up to \$25,000. A motion was moved and passed to increase the bond by \$70.

It was suggested that 30 new Red Books are put together to passed out. Also, it was suggested that new name tags are needed. President Towns has stated that new tags will be handed out by the next meeting.

Ben Lamp announced that the 1st Annual Black Hills Veterans Appreciation March is to be held 27 September 2003. It was suggested that we decide at the next meeting how and/or how much support we can show for this event.

The next council meeting is set for 12 February 2004 in Pierre at 1330. Meeting adjourned at 1600 hours.