



MINUTES

of the South Dakota Enlisted Association
Executive Council Meeting

12 February 04
Ramkota Inn, Pierre, SD

President Craig Towns called the meeting to order at 1400 hours.

Pledge of Allegiance was conducted.

Roll call was taken with a quorum present.

President Towns welcomed the guests to include the Women's Auxiliary

The minutes of the 24 September 03 Executive Council meeting as printed in the ECHO were approved as written.

The treasurer's report was given by Randy Decker. He suggested opening an account in Rapid City for ease in conducting business (for a treasurer located on the west end of the state). It will be readdressed at the Annual Conference in April. Otherwise, the treasurer's report was accepted.

Committee Members at Large:

It was again brought to the council's attention that there is still some confusion of which Area Representative is representing which area. Because the Annual Conference is coming up, it will be decided at that time with a large membership present.

Wayne Fokken spoke on scholarship issues. 1 March 04 is the deadline to submit applications. Thus far, only three have been turned in.

Old Business:

The Legislative Committee Report from South Dakota's 79th Legislative Session was briefed by Don List.

Wayne Fokken spoke on behalf of the Junior Enlisted Council. It seems there has been some difficulty getting the JE Council to meet and conduct business because of conflicts, mostly due in part to school schedules (as most individuals are attending college). It is currently being evaluated for solutions to these issues.

Neil Harris presented the 2004 Conference update. It seems we still need everyone to submit his/her registration as soon as possible. The final numbers of attendees are need by 1 April. The conference is being held 15-17 April

at Cadillac Jacks in Deadwood. This year will be a combined Officer/Enlisted conference.

New Business:

Bruce Anderson brought to the council's attention the Sponsorship Program. The association would like to see more young soldiers and airmen participating in the annual state conferences. As such the association would like to sponsor one soldier and one airman for this year's conference. Traditionally, technicians and AGRs were not included as possible recipients of the Sponsorship Program. However, this is being reevaluated.

Ed Revel has announced the Area V Caucus will be held 14-15 May 2004 in Peoria, IL. Also, we are trying to learn if there is enough interest in getting a bus together to take to the National Conference this year. There will be more to come on this subject.

Gary Kafka spoke on the Membership Drive. Dues have been trickling in since October 2003. USAA is still sponsoring E-5's and E-6's who are promoted to this rank in the 2004 calendar year. This year, we accepted 67 USAA membership applications as opposed to 157 last year. The total paid members as of 12 February 2004 is 2,670 members. There are 296 life members. There are 6 new Associate Members (1 Minuteman, 5 Statesman). Also, there has been some confusion since applications were combined onto 1 application. It will be reviewed for possible changes.

Also, Proxy Letters have a standard format this year in hopes to clearly define how they need to be completed.

The Constitution and By-Laws were discussed and a draft items were submitted for review during the Annual Conference. These draft items will be found in the ECHO.

The next council meeting is tentatively set for 15 April 2004 in Deadwood at 1500 hours.

This meeting adjourned at 1630 hours.

Ed Revell moved to adjourn the meeting, and was seconded by Bruce Anderson. Meeting adjourned at 1620 hours.