

President Ben Lamp called the meeting to order at 1300 hours.

Pledge of Allegiance was conducted.

Roll Call was taken with a quorum present.

1st order of business was handing out awards from the museum.

Everyone introduced themselves because of the large number of people present and new members at the meeting.

Minutes of the 15 September 04 meeting were approved as printed in the Fall 2004 ECHO.

Nancy Ausland gave the Treasurers report. There was a line added to expenses and income for the Black Hills Veterans Honor March. There were uncategorized expenses to correct a mistake of depositing donations which were supposed to go to the Air Guard Junior Council. Dues collection is going well for this year.

Committee Members at Large

Area 2 Representative, Josh Wermers, has contacted all his regions and dues are as follows: 100% for 153rd EN & 881st TC, 72% for Lemmon, 40% for Co B, 109th & Med Det, extremely low for 200th En, and no report from Elk Point.

Area 4 Representative, Scott Schmitt, reported the Air Guard at 70%, HHS 1/147th & B/1/147th at 100% along with 665 Ord Det and Band. They will continue to collect as units get home from deactivation.

Area 3 Representative, Dale Greenfield, there was no report.

Area 1 Representative, Dan Regan, was not at meeting. He did request to appoint someone new as Area 1 Committee Member at Large to take over his duties since he will be unable to attend the State meeting in April. Council decided that was not necessary since State meeting is only 2 months away.

Resolutions Committee: John Mimmack, who was not present at the meeting, did request that if anyone has any resolutions to get them to him in writing by the 15th of February in order to be published. If not published in ECHO then can amend on floor at State meeting but have to have 2/3 majority vote vs the 50% if it were published in the ECHO. It was brought up that resolutions needed to be published 60 days prior to next meeting in order to be voted in by 50% majority. Since the ECHO will only be published for 30 days prior to State meeting it was suggested to use the website as the written notice necessary to meet the by laws. After research, the council found that Rules of order do not match the Constitution on this issue and it was suggested to make a change to the by

laws at the State meeting to either use website as a written publication or change the written notice from 60 days to 30 days due to the timing of the Legislative Dining Out and the State meeting.

There was also a resolution to change the Montgomery GI Bill for the National Guard to include the same benefits as Active Duty soldiers.

Any resolutions for the National convention need to get to Ray Kennedy. Bring them to the State meeting.

Time & Place Committee: The 2005 conference will be held in Pierre; the 2006 is still scheduled for Sioux Falls with the evening activities in conjunction with the Officer convention; the 2007 conference will be held in Huron. Still looking for units to host the 2008 and 2009 conventions, but would like them to be a unit from the West or North end of the State.

Position Evaluation Committee: Randy Decker had nothing to report. At the 2004 Conference it was voted to make the Webmaster a position on the Executive Council but not having any voting rights. This needs to be added to the ECHO.

Publications Committee: Kim Chase was not present, but wanted everyone to know the deadline for the next ECHO is 15 February 2005. It was brought up that the ECHO costs a lot of money to print and send out to the members. After some discussion on solutions it was suggested by Robert Aiken to have the publications committee study different solutions and present options at the council meeting in April.

Athletics Committee: Josh Wermers reported that the scheduled Snowmobile ride did not happen due to lack of snow. There was discussion on the \$200 that the Association gives to each of the athletic event and if it should be paid back. It was suggested that if the event did not make money, then the event chairperson can approach the council and let the Executive council decide if that event needs to pay back the \$200 or not. Also need to have a list of activities published in ECHO so units can volunteer to run each event.

Insurance Committee: Reported that we got \$5500 from Navigers Insurance. There was no money brought into SD and may have to take out of another account. Possibly won't get \$5500 next year.

Ways & Means Committee: Nothing to Report.

Legislative Committee: Donovan List reported on the Old and New bills that are in the House and Senate at this time. There have not been any CALLs from EANGUS but after conversing with their office, we were informed the 109th Congress is just getting underway and there is expected to be activity soon which will require attention. With newly elected members in our State Legislature in Washington, DC, we must lend them our support. We must contact them expressing our issues and concerns regarding the active and retired National Guard.

State Conference Sponsorship Committee: Gary Kafka reported that registration is slow but everything is going well. All activities are set up, but he needs the names of past presidents to put on rooms set aside for them. Remember to bring someone new to the State Convention and encourage your units to sponsor someone to come. The Association will be sponsoring 2 people again this year. The rules are published on Page 3 of the ECHO. Please get any names and phone numbers to Bruce Anderson.

Young Hero's Committee: Craig Towns had nothing to report but wanted to remind everyone that if you know a young person who is eligible for the Young Hero award to get their information to him.

Scholarship Report: It was reported that the Duke Corning Scholarship Plaques are both full and was suggested that 2 more be bought. A motion was made by Ed Revell for the Enlisted Association to buy a new plaque for \$125 if the Officer Association would buy the other one for \$125. Motion was 2nd by Wayne Fokken. There was no discussion, motion carried.

President Ben Lamp suggested deviating from posted agenda. Motion was made by Bruce Anderson and 2nd by Josh Wermers. Motion granted.

Wayne Fokken put together a binder for each of the scholarships sponsored by EANGUS. Needs to be maintained by the 2nd Vice. It was brought to the attention of the council that there are not any dollar amounts listed for the scholarships in the ECHO and no due dates for the scholarships to be in by. This may explain why there have not been any received to date. It was decided that the scholarships would have an April 1 deadline to Randy Decker. This will still give him enough time to go through the applications before the State meeting. The Mallow scholarship will have its own application in the next year. The Community Foundation has made its recovery from the stock dips and is back up to \$40,000. The goal is to not have to dip into fund the scholarships with membership funds. Last year only had to pay \$250 out of the general fund for the scholarships, so program is working.

Motion was made by Ben Lamp to accept committee reports as read and 2nd by Jim Wranek. Motion carried.

Membership Report: Gary Kafka reported that he is still receiving membership dues and will continue through the State conference. Get the dues in as quickly as possible. The goal is still 3000 members and as of 10 February 05 we have 2672 members. The State Conference is just around the corner and if needed there is a copy of the Proxy letter in the ECHO. He also reminded everyone that Conference will be at the Ramkota and it is your own responsibility to book a hotel room. Josh Wermers made a motion to accept the membership report as read and Bruce Anderson 2nd it. Motion carried.

Membership for the National conference was brought up for discussion. As stated in the previous issue of the ECHO, we would hold onto the membership dues this year in order to straighten out the books. National stated there would not be a problem in doing this.

Bruce Anderson conducted a courtesy call recently to National to double check this plan, but discovered that they don't state the same thing now. A conference call will be conducted to straighten out this issue and in the mean time the Association will be responsible for the AD&D policy if the situation occurs.

Website Update was given by Lori Hoops.

Old Business

Black Hills Veterans Honor March was under old and new business. A report was given by Mark Thomas on the March held on 24 September 04. Discussion for the 2005 March included forming committees for each area and putting a cap on registration or a deadline to limit attendance.

New Business

Area 5 Caucus will be held May 20-21, 2005 in Omaha, NE. National Convention will be August 21-25, 2005 in Orlando, FL. Legislative Workshop will be 7-8 March 2005 in Washington, DC. Ed Revell reported that EANGUS is financially sound for the 1st time in years. They would like to see 50,000 members this year.

A volunteer for chaplain at this years State Convention is still needed.

Movement was made to adjourn by Craig Towns and 2nd by John Ball. Meeting adjourned at 1615 hours.