

Minutes of the Executive Council Meeting for 15 February 2007

President Wayne Fokken called the meeting to order at 1401 hours on 15 February 2007 at the Ramkota Hotel and Convention Center in Pierre, SD.

Pledge of Allegiance was conducted.

Roll Call was taken and a quorum was present.

A motion was made by to deviate from the agenda by Ben Lamp 2nd by John Mimmack.

Guests present were LTC Al Bolton. He talked about legislative day at Air Guard on 5 May 07. 185th from Sioux City is providing air support and LTG McKinnley will be visiting that day also. Everyone is invited.

Other guests present were SCSM Beackert, Command Chief MSGT Randy Handel and soon to be Command Chief MSGT Wayne Munker. Larry DeBer was present from the Air Guard, SGM Leo Sterling, SGM Roger Nederwerder, MSG Wendy Bares, Bruce Lee, CSM Rahdar, CSM Larry Zimmerman, & MSG (Ret) Neil Harris.

A motion was made by Ben Lamp and 2nd by John Ball to accept the minutes of the council meeting on September 22nd, 2006 as printed in the ECHO. Motion carried.

Nancy Ausland gave the Treasurers Report. Added 2 new line items; NSF line item since it is a recurring item and also donations line item since there was a lot this year. Motion was made by Don Stewart & 2nd by Josh Wermers to accept as printed. Motion carried.

Committee Member at large reports

Area 1 - Bjorn Henstein was not present.

Area 2 - Josh Wermers 8/10 units made 100%. 206 eligible and 184 current members.

Area 3 - Tashie Moore, was not present, but report indicated 2 units at 100%, 3 units over 90%, 6 units have 80-90% and 2 units below 80%. Goals for next year are: 1. find a motivated POC in each unit to head up the membership drive. 2. Encourage units between 80-90% to push above 90%. 3. Visit units falling under 80% and provide them with materials explaining SDNGEA and what dues are used for.

Area 4 - Mike Schwans reported 1 unit at 100%, 4 units over 90% , 4 units 80-90% and 1 unit below 80%. Have 719 total with 633 current members for over all of 88% for Area.

Ben Lamp talked about membership and that we will take applications all the way up to the conference and a lot of units are 2 or 3 away from meeting the 100% mark. Need to focus on those people. Roger Hanson also brought up the issue of the RSP program. Pat Jones explained that Jr. Enlisted should take on the RSP sites as their responsibility and get the information out them.

Committee Reports

Awards – Gary Kafka explained that they are working on the new templates for the new retiree awards that they have. Need nominations for the awards that are out there.

Anyone can give your nominations to President Wayne Fokken by the winter meeting, but the president will still take nominations after that date. The descriptions for each of the awards are on the website under the Standing Tall Awards. Bruce Anderson addressed that the Soldier of the Year, Airman of the Year and NCO of the Year need to be published in the Conference program so that information needs to get to the Conference Chair.

Budget – presented at conference. Nancy Ausland explained that the additional committee for investments was established at the conference but the investment never happened. Possibly the ball was just dropped, but need to establish someone to do this and get a safe \$ amount that can be invested in CD's or something. Bruce Anderson moved that we take \$7500 and put it into a 12 month CD on 1 March 2007. Don Stewart 2nd the motion. Motion was carried.

Athletics – The motorcycle rally was an event that the Air Guard would like to build up and take that on. A bid will be done at conference by the Air Guard.

Insurance – received a check for insurance for \$5000 this year.

Constitution & By-laws – Bruce Anderson brought up changing the Committee members at large to 1 for each MACOM on Army side and 1 for Air in order to get representation in all areas. There was a policy in 1995 to change from 4-5, but never changed in by-laws. There was a recommendation to appoint someone as the Air rep today to take us through to Conference. Bruce Lee was recommended to fill this position until the Conference when we can vote on one. President Wayne Fokken appointed Bruce Lee to be the Committee member at large for Area 5 for the Air Guard until the Conference.

Time & Place – Spearfish for 2008 Conference. Theme is “Our Past is Our Future”. 17-19 April 2008. Chairs will be Jody Smith, Lorrie Cressy and Jim Ball. There will be a table at the 2007 Conference for the 2008 Conference Registration. They were requesting to wear ACU/BDU to the meetings and Military Dress uniform or business attire to the Banquet. They also need to know of any special room reservations for special guests, etc. The point of contact is Brian Benson at 737-6718.

The address has been brought up that we were going to change to a 2 day conference instead of a 3 day conference. There were already contracts signed for the 2008 conference, but we need to keep the 2009 Conference to a 2 day conference with the Executive council meeting on Friday morning and business meetings starting on Friday afternoon.

BHVHM- Ben Lamp discussed the teleconference that occurred on 14 February at the local armories. There will be a booth at the conference for registration for the BHVHM. We may be using a company that has timing chips that will take care of all the registrations, etc. Minimum fee for this is \$1000. We are still debating on whether or not to use them. Asking to get at least 1 team from each unit or squadron to compete in this. Our 5 year goal is to have 2000+ marchers competing and us volunteering and not marching. Each BN or squadron rep is responsible for a rest stop or a responsibility. These will also be posted to the website in the near future. Also want to encourage the Mile Marker signs; \$50/sign.

Credentials – nothing to report

Resolutions – 2006 will stay on until this year's conference. Get your resolutions with back ground information to Bruce Anderson as soon as possible; bcres@sio.midco.net.

Position Evaluation – nothing to report

Ways & Means – Membership drive is going well. The BHVHM is going to be a big thing in the future and we need more west river support to make this continue to happen in the future.

Publications – Lisa Bambas is new editor for the ECHO. Email her your items by the cutoff dates. We will be adding in the legislatures to our distribution so it is up to 3000 issues. We need our ads to increase in the ECHO in order to help offset the cost of the ECHO.

Nominations – Would be nice to get more than 1 person running for a position. All positions are open every year. Start talking to your unit members about running for these positions at the conference.

Young Heroes – Cathy Anderson has taken over this committee for Craig Towns. Make a Wish has been in contact with her to get the program going again.

Legislative – Don List gave a synopsis of the bills in legislation currently. All these are available for viewing on the website.

Parliamentarian – Nothing to report

State Conference State Sponsorship Program – Bruce Anderson is taking nominations up to the week of the conference for names of new attendees to sponsor for the conference. Last year he had 5 names and only 2 could actually make it to the conference. Bruce's information is in the ECHO.

Scholarships – 2006 scholarships were paid. The deadline is March 1st for most of them for this year. Reid Christopherson updated that the MG Duane L. Duke Corning Scholarship is working for itself for now and the scholarships will be covered. There was talk about possibly starting another scholarship to honor the Soldiers and Airmen that have passed on in the future, but will need to raise a lot of money to do that. There is also the National Auxiliary Scholarship application available; the deadline is June 1st. Nancy Ausland brought up discussion about the payment of the scholarships. The treasurer needs to be notified of the following: who gets these scholarships, the school they are going to, & the POC at the registrar office at the school. Reid Christopherson also needs to know the names of the winners.

Historian - Al House has been assigned as a co-chair on this committee. There was discussion about getting a camera or something for the historian to use to take pictures. Also stated that the historians need to bring the albums to the conferences in order for people to see them. There was discussion about the cost of the camera and also having the president keeping possession of the camera. Shelley Reeder made a motion to get a digital camera for the association in cost up to \$500 to be maintained by the president. Pat Jones made a 2nd. Motion carried.

Audit – nothing to report.

Investment Committee – already reported.

Jr. Enlisted council – This council is hard to maintain with deployments, etc. Talk is to have 1 Army and 1 Air on the Executive Council and that's all we have for representation. Pat Jones discussed the EANGUS for Beginners information that was put out. Pat Jones suggested him or someone to go around to each unit on a drill weekend and do a brief on the Enlisted Association to the Jr. Enlisted personnel. Nancy Ausland did bring up that we budget \$200 per committee member at large to use for membership drives, but this was never spent. SCSM Bekeart stated that he will address this in the

leadership meeting tomorrow with the Army leaders. A motion was made by Ed Revell to use up to the Committee member at large's allocated money for the Jr. Enlisted Rep to submit travel vouchers for the membership drive of the Jr. Enlisted. John Mimmack 2nd. Motion was carried.

Old Business

Legislative Issues – a hand was given to Don and Marlys List for all the hard work they do on these issues.

State Conference Recap – Josh Wermers discussed the upcoming Conference in Huron on 19-21 April 2007 at the Huron Convention Center and Crossroads Hotel. Dale Greenfield is the chair person for this convention.

ECHO Deadline – Need to get articles to Lisa Bambas by the deadlines posted.

Website Update – the new webmaster is Jenny Butler. If you have changes to make or if there are any pages not up to date, let her know.

New Business

Area V – 18-19 May in Des Moines, IA. Registration form is on the website.

Membership Drive – nothing to report.

Misc - Memorial for Marilyn Gabert was discussed by President Wayne Fokken.

Paul Hivertson was noted as having passed away and need to keep his family in your thoughts and prayers.

John Mimmack brought up a proposal for the Enlisted and Officer conventions co-located in the same community each year in order to share the costs of hosting the events. This doesn't have to be at the same hotel, but just joining for the social events. Wayne Fokken has tasked the Time & Place committee to work with the officer association and discuss upcoming conferences and make a presentation at the Conference.

John Mimmack also proposed to have 4-5 communities, alternating east river and west river each year, designated that will have the conference every 4 years or so. That way we know where we are going to have the conference well in advance. Need to bring the Time & Place Committee into this and make a presentation at the Conference.

Need to also start setting aside money for the future in order to update the signs, etc for the new units.

Command MSGT Handel spoke about encouraging lifetime membership for those members that are retiring. Command MSGT Handel will be retiring soon and he wants to thank everyone for all they do and getting the opportunity to work with everyone.

Don List made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Ed Revell 2nd the motion. Motion carried and meeting was adjourned at 1630 hrs.