

MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION OF MISSISSIPPI

April 6, 2018

MEMBERS PRESENT:

COL William David Barton
COL Tom Crosby
Capt Jessica Green
Maj Gen (R) Erik Hearon
COL (MS) James Jackson
Col Mark Kleinpeter
CW5 Gerald Manieri
Lt Col Lee Miller
LTC Jody Mike Smith
CW4 Mark Stevens
MAJ Ashley Sullivan
CPT Veronica Peppers
Lt Col Wyatt Rives

NONVOTING MEMBERS:

Director Allen McDaniel
Deputy Cris Crisler
MG Durr Boyles – Absent
CPT (CH) David Morris – Absent

MEMBERS ABSENT:

MAJ Michael Bradley
MAJ Kenneth Bush
LTC Chris Cooksey
LTC Martin Fox
Lt Col Jeff Kirby
CPT Marcus Parker
MAJ Nicki Shaw
LTC Deidre Smith
LTC Jon Henry Smith

The meeting was called to order by COL Barton at 10:00 am. He welcomed everyone and COL (MS) Jackson opened with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allowance.

Director McDaniel discussed the treasury report. He stated there was a little fluctuation but nothing out of the ordinary. There were no questions regarding the report and the motion was made and seconded to accept. The motion passed unanimously.

Director McDaniel then gave the insurance report. Specifically, he cited the increases over the past year to include the all-time highs for the Army National Guard and overall participation. He also discussed the need to expand the information on the insurance benefit for Service members as well as their proposals. COL Crosby asked about information given to Service members for preparation for retirement. Director McDaniel informed him of the procedure for giving that information. There were no other questions. Maj Gen (R) Hearon moved to accept and approve the insurance report. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

COL (R) Jackson discussed the health of the At Ease Gang. All locations are strong, and their social media presence is well.

Audit Report

Tom Windham, the external auditor, discussed the audit report. The trust position remains relevantly unchanged. COL Barton suggested members take some time to review the report so that it can be discussed at the next meeting.

New Board Member Vote

COL Barton discussed CPT Williams is the company grade officer rep and is currently prepping for mobilization. CPT Peppers has volunteered to be his replacement. COL Barton moved the motion to place her on the board. The board voted and approved her as the replacement.

Membership

Director McDaniel gave the Active Life Membership report that we are now at 606 as of April 6. There will be a booth for sign-up at NGAMS conference in May and the national conference. At the next board meeting the 25% rebate will be discussed.

Patriot Partners

Director McDaniel gave the report on the Patriot Partnership Program. We received \$209,000.00 in Patriot Partner contributions last year and currently have \$211,000.00 in contributions this year. We anticipate receiving some additional contributions prior to the conference.

Legislation

The report was given by Director McDaniel. He stated the NGAMS website contains the summary of the new laws that were passed during the 2018 session. Specifically, 5 million state dollars was allocated for matching money for military construction in Desoto County. We are also working on the tuition assistance in the form of a waiver or combination waiver with use of some SEAP funds.

Director McDaniel further discussed the updates that have been made on the federal side with improvements for giving credit for early retirement based on deployment time and benefits under 12304b deployments.

MAJ Sullivan discussed legislative pressure and positive results – unit level vacancies

NGAMS Scholarship Program

COL Crosby reported there were 21 applicants for the 4-year scholarship and 1 applicant for the 2-year scholarship. The awards will be made during the NGAMS Conference.

COL Barton then gave an NGAMS Conference overview specifically noting the Patriot Partner Dinner is Thursday night. Everything else starts Friday morning with the golf tournament, tennis tournament, bowling party, shooting range and memorial run. Each of the chairmen of the different events gave some additional information.

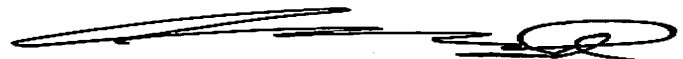
Director McDaniel referenced a new service breakfast for those that commissioned through a service academy instead of ROTC or OCS.

COL Barton stated BG Kelly and MG Boyles will attend the company grade officer luncheon and there is going to be a field grade officer luncheon with a war college speaker on China/Korea situation

He further stated this year the goal will be to condense the business session yet remain effective and informational.

He concluded that Friday night and Saturday will be in Studio B as the pool area cannot be reserved like it was in 2015. The IP doesn't allow that anymore. An 80's band will perform Friday night. On Saturday night, from 1730-1800, current and newly elected board members will take their picture. This is a bit different from before because it is normally done at the Saturday night dinner.

There being no further business, COL Barton asked for a motion to adjourn, which was made, seconded and approved.



C. ALLEN MCDANIEL II
Director, NGAMS