

National Guard Association of Minnesota
Meeting Minutes
11 July 2006

1. **Call to Order**

President Gutknecht called to order the regular meeting of the National Guard Association at 1811 hours on 11 July 2006 at the Ft. Snelling Officer's Club.

2. **Roll Call**

The following were present:
President Kevin Gutknecht
VP – “Air” Donald Dahlquist
Executive Director Walt Schultz
Treasurer Al Timm
Secretary Brian Winter
133rd AW Rep Paul Jacobsen
148th FW Rep Scott Chambers
34th Aviation BDE Rep Steven Shoemaker
CGO Rep Dan Dobler
Retiree Rep Carl Madsen
Retiree Alt Dick Hathaway
Outgoing Board Members:
 Larry Burda
 Jim Swanson

3. **Administrative Announcement**

The next regular meeting will be held at 1800 hrs on Tuesday, 08 August, 2006 at the Ft. Snelling Officer's Club.

4. **Insurance Report**

A check for \$7950 was received to the assoc. by the Insurance Trust for policies sold in 2005. This is to be split 50/50 between the officer and enlisted associations. 164 policies were sold in MN in 2005.

5. **Secretary's Report**

****Group reps – Please submit a brief group report to Walt prior to group meetings for addition to the minutes going forward.****

Minutes from 13 June 2006 were approved.

6. **Treasurer's Report**

Al Timm passed out copies of the Cash Flow report and went over it. The Cash Flow Report was approved.

7. **Membership Report**

No change, state membership is holding at around 48%. The new Membership Committee had its first meeting this evening at 1700 hrs to discuss ideas to increase

membership. Some ideas to come out of the meeting were starting a monthly email newsletter to increase communication to members (see Old Business below), developing a marketing brochure (selling the benefits and reasons to be a member) and membership card, and developing a communication plan/timeline for communications to members/prospective members. Col Timm and LtCol Dahlquist will work on obtaining email addresses for retired Army and Air members.

8. **Legislative Report**

The office of the TAG is developing the state legislative plan. NGAMN will have one or two members involved in the discussion.

9. **Webmaster's Report**

Minutes will be added to the web. Some changes to the web site format are forthcoming including the look of the corporate sponsor ads.

10. **Group Reports**

Please email a brief group report to Walt prior to meeting. Group reports should consist of membership update, significant unit events, and any relevant issues impacting or assistance needed by the group

1st BCT: Troops still deployed, 2 KIA, 8 WIA.

Sustainment BDE (Dobler): Completed last AT as DISCOM, name changing to RSG (Regional Support Group) as of 4 September. There will be a Freedom Salute this Saturday to honor a couple of recently returned troops.

148th Fighter Wing: The Wing is preparing for another Phase 2 Operational Readiness Exercise (ORE) in August.

AVN BDE: AT completed in June. Chinook unit set to deploy from Ft. Hood in the near future.

Retirees: The NGAMN Holiday Dinner will be on December 1st.

11. **Company Grade Officer Report**

No report.

12. **Corporate Report**

Kevin is going to develop a letter to use with major sponsors (Lockheed, etc.) for soliciting corporate memberships.

13. **Executive Director's Report**

The deadline to register for the 2006 National Conference is 10 July. Get registration forms to Walt ASAP. Get pin ideas to Walt. We are going to do MN polo shirts again. Brian Winter was chosen to be the company grade officer sponsored to go to the conference.

****Group reps**, please get the word out to members to register for the Nat'l conf. Registration forms for the National Conference are now available on the NGAUS website.

14. **Old Business**

Dates for the 2007 state conference were discussed. It was decided that 8-10 June would work the best depending on location/hotel availability, 1-2 June will be alternate dates. Need to make a decision ASAP on this depending on location availability. Other options would be Mystic Lake Casino or the Oak Ridge conference facility in Chaska (<http://oakridge.dolce.com/>)

Walt is going to continue to look into a history book fundraiser.

We will begin to publish a monthly email newsletter summarizing the board meeting and communicating any pertinent information to membership. This will hopefully be a membership generating tool as well – a way to stay in front of members and prospective members. **Group reports will be a part of the newsletter.** We expect to improve it as time goes on but initially it will consist of a link to the website to obtain a PDF of the newsletter as well as some bullet points in the text of the email. Print newsletters or bulletins will still be an option occasionally. Kevin is going to work on a timeline for association communications to go out to members.

Further discussion on other collaboration opportunities:

1. Collaborate with the Roseville Barnes and Noble to advertise the monthly Military book club on our website. Motion to approve was carried.
2. Collaborate with JFHQ to coordinate/sponsor the Garrison Officer's Luncheon. Will discuss again at next meeting.
3. Collaboration with other similar associations like AUSA, AFA, MOAA to partner on different events and functions. More discussion next meeting.

15. **New Business**

We need to look into getting back to present leadership awards to OCS grads as was done in the past. NGAMN used to sponsor an award but somehow fell out of the loop. Need also to discuss ways in incorporate the Air Guard into this.

TAG Golf tournament is coming up. A motion to support this event with a \$100 gift as a token of good will and to promote the association was carried. Kevin will take care of the logistics.

16. **Meeting Adjourned**

Meeting adjourned at 1945 hrs. Next meeting 08 August 2006, 1800 hrs, Ft. Snelling Club.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Brian C. Winter