

**National Guard Association of Minnesota**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
25 April 2008 State Conference

**1. Call to Order**

President Dahlquist called to order the regular meeting of the National Guard Association at 1005 hours on 25 April 08 at the St Cloud Conference Center.

**2. Invocation/Opening Remarks**

The conference was opened, colors posted by OCS Candidates, Invocation and tribute to fallen officers given by CPT Jon Donovan. Opening remarks were given by President Dahlquist, Mayor of St. Cloud, The Honorable Dave Kleis, Dr. Earl Potter III President of St. Cloud State University.

**3. State Sponsored Life Insurance:**

Dan Strong conducted brief. To ensure that members understand the benefits of SSLI. MNNG SSLI is a benefit for all members of the MNNG. Few Changes have been made recently. Coverage is increased to \$260,000 for just over \$19 a month. No war clause or terrorism clause. Everyone gets \$1000 coverage at no cost. You can take the insurance with you when leaving the guard. Association receives fees from SSLI. Goal is to have a briefer visit the unit every 12-15 months.

**4. Secretary's Report**

Copies of the 2007 state conference are distributed on tables. Motion to accept the 2007 minutes was carried.

**5. Treasurer's Report**

Al Timm passed out copies of the Cash Flow report and covered the financials with the group. Motion to accept Treasurer's Report was carried.

**6. Membership Report and presentation of 100% membership award.**

Current status for 2008 State Membership was well behind past years and we need to find a means to generate more association members. Units with 100% membership were awarded the 100% membership Plaque; 2/136<sup>th</sup> was the only unit that received this award.

**7. Time and Place Report:**

Time and Place for future State Conferences were approved:

2009 Mankato, Mankato Convention Center, (April 24-26) - Host: 1/125

2010 Minneapolis, Sofitel (April 23-25), Host: Troop Command

2011 Rochester, (April 22-24) Host: 2-135

2012 Duluth, DECC0 Harbor Side Convention Center (April 28-30) Host: 148 FW & 2-194 CAB

## **8. Reports from the units:**

### **MN Air Guard Report:**

BG Schuessler briefed the association members on the MN Air Guard unit highlights from the past year. He covered the area of Global War on Terror; where unit airmen and airwomen supported deployments in Iraq and Afghanistan. Noted also were other deployments, such as Operation Jump Start and some smaller deployments where 25 to 50 air personnel are deployed yearly. Other missions supported included the 35W Bridge collapse and other state missions. The 133<sup>rd</sup> and 148<sup>th</sup> received the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award.

### **Army National Guard Report:**

BG Trost for TRAADOC gave a report on the following topics:

- Mission of the Guard (Federal & State)
- Stability Operations for Offense/Defense
- Community Missions, noting 63 separate sites in MN.
- Past 2007 State Mission
- Federal Mission – the old mission was Strategic Reserve; new mission we are now an integral part of the Operational Force Structure.

### **Camp Ripley Post Commander Report:**

COL Weaver gave a very short brief on an upcoming event at Camp Ripley. On June 21, 2008 there will be a Soldier and Family Appreciation Day where everyone is invited to attend. Also presented to the membership was a video of the “US Army Soldier Show”.

### **34<sup>th</sup> Division Report:**

The 34<sup>th</sup> Division showed a video on the deployments and missions supported in the past year.

## **9. MN Legislative Update:**

COL Ahlness covered some the past and current legislative efforts that benefit and affect members of the MN National Guard. Tuition reimbursement now includes a spouse benefit if the soldier does not use; however, this is TAG controlled.

## **10 Youth Camp Report/Collection**

LTC Johnson covered the purpose and of the “Minnesota National Guard Youth Camp” and strongly encouraged active and retired guard members and their spouses to help support the camp. 64 volunteers are needed at each camp for the various support positions. Following the brief a collection basket was passed around the membership for monetary support.

### **11. National Conference Presentation**

Walt Schulz gave a short presentation on the 130<sup>th</sup> NGAUS General Conference in Baltimore, MD which will be held 20 – 22 Sept 2008. Individuals that are interested in attending the General Conference were encouraged to complete the required registration form.

### **12. State of NGAUS**

The State of NGAUS was presented by LTC(Ret) Hunt; he covered:

Why should everyone become a member of NGAUS?

Covered the current Objectives for NGAUS

Work with all State Associations

Educate the Public

Resource the National Guard

Encourage Membership

Maintain a Library and Museum

National Guard Memorial Building

FY08 Strategic Issues

FY09 Strategic Issues

What can we do as members of the association?

If the Minnesota increases it's state membership to 72% by 31 December 2008, the State association we would be eligible to receive back 25% of the national dues. As of 30 March 2008, Minnesota had 9% paid national membership.

### **13. Resolutions and By Laws**

All of the national resolutions were grouped together for the membership to accept all as written. Motion to accept all, motion carried.

Changes to the State By-Laws were presented to the membership. All of the changes were on page, which changed the numbering of the groups to naming the groups. Also changes were made on the number of Board members that are required to be on the Executive Board.

### **13. Other Topics**

Also presented was the newly created State Scholarship program. NGAMN will award 2 \$500 scholarships annually and will be presented to the recipients at a late summer Board of Director's meeting. The selection process, criteria and categories were covered with the members at large; if there are any changes, request should be given to group representative, who in-turn will discuss with the Executive Board.

#### **14. Election of Officers**

The Association Board presented their nominations for the following positions:

- President – LTC Robert Intress
- Vice President Army – MAJ Kent Porter
- Secretary – MAJ Rhonda Evenson
- Treasurer – COL (Ret) Al Timm

Nominations from the floor were opened, with no other nominations. Motion to accept the listed nominations, motion carried.

#### **15. Closing Comments**

Business meeting was adjourned and will continue at the Formal Dinner; at that time there will be closing comments by the outgoing President and the passing of gavel to the newly elected President.

Respectfully submitted by:

COL(Ret) Al Timm

1 LT Trista Martinson