

National Guard Association of Minnesota
Meeting Minutes
30SEP2008

1. Call to Order

President Intress called to order the regular meeting of the National Guard Association at 1808 hours on 30SEP08 at the Ft. Snelling Officers Club.

2. Roll Call

The following were present:

LTC Robert Intress

LTC Don Dahlquist

CW5 (Ret) Executive Director Walt Schulz

COL (Ret) Treasurer Al Timm

MAJ(Ret) Carl Madsen

MAJ Rhonda Evenson

CPT Alvin Graham

1LT Joe Hennessy

1LT Karly Mangen

CPT Jason Hull

3. Administrative Announcement

Scholarships were formally award to Rachel Miller and Jacob Helgestad. Eugene Sit was presented the Patrick Henry Award two weeks ago during the Minnesota Military Family Foundation Meeting.

4. Insurance Report:

\$2375 received from insurance trust. Will distribute portion to enlisted association. Austin Jenkins, New York Life representative will be present on 18NOV08 to speak to the board.

5. Secretary's Report

Secretary will provide August and September minutes for posting to the website.

Secretary will provide a letter for the VIKANG news.

6. VP Report: Air VP – No report

7. Treasurer's Report

Need to re-evaluate the 25 cent "sir tax" being allocated to the enlisted association in conjunction with the insurance trust re-distribution. Minutes Al Timm passed out copies of the Cash Flow report and covered the financials with the group. Total Inflows YTD were \$91,595.62, with Total Outflows of \$87,828.94. Net worth: \$36812.66.

Outstanding Inflows: \$1700 dollars due in from Hotel Registration Fees. Outstanding liabilities: \$1187.50 for enlisted association/insurance trust.

8. Legislative Report

14AUG08 Carl Madsen attended a MAG (Military Action Group) meeting to establish legislative priorities. Non-partisan makeup is the intent, but need democratic support. 16OCT08 next meeting and the enlisted association representative has been invited. Lt Col Scott Chambers not present but forwarded an email apologizing for his absence, but is communicating with Carl and wishes to continue his participation in this role. Group representatives are asked to communicate with their organizations to assess the soldiers/ commanders priorities. Legislative representative will place this inquiry in the upcoming VIKANG newsletter. CPT Graham will contact Lt John Hobat regarding participation in the primary or an alternate role.

9. Executive Director Report.

Needs entries for the VIKANG News from each of the group reps so that we can publish. Coordinating with Bob Gerads to execute an Audit of our books and financials. Assessed the computer condition and the director feels the system is defined that it works fine. 45 members and spouses attended the National Officer Conference in Baltimore. Executive Directors report accepted.

10. Web Master Report

No major changes to the website. Consider a blog opportunity for members to post information. If group or other reps need another email account, he has @ngamn.org email accounts available which are accessible from IMAP, Webmail, etc.

11. Corporate Report

Trying to recruit Minnesota business's to facilitate corporate membership. Have received \$8700 thus far this year which is our best year yet.

12. Group Reports

Company Grade Officer Report –

Attempting to collect emails of company grade personnel to facilitate a manner to communicate. Considering use of the blog option to support communications.

Warrant Officer Report –

CW5 (ret)Walter Schulz and I attended the Warrant Officers Caucus while attending the 130th NGAUS General Conference in Baltimore MD.

The main speaker was CW5 Emerst, NC CCWO and WOSAC Chair. CW5 Emerst spoke of the WO challenges and initiatives.

Some of the issues facing the WO Officer Corp are:

- **59% of Warrant Officers are eligible for retirement today.**
- **We are at 70% of assigned strength.**

- **The Authorized strength of the Warrant Officer Corp is 9975 and we presently have 7025 Warrant Officers Assigned.**

- **This is the first time we have exceeded 7000 Assigned Warrant Officers. Some good news is that we have exceeded YTD Recruiting Objective by 164 Warrant Officers.**

Initiatives that we have working for us at this time is that DOD has funded Warrant Officer Recruiters for each State and Bonuses for Warrant Officer Retention.

The conference was both interesting and informative and I recommend more attendees at future conferences.

1st BCT: Three Company Grade Officers attended the National Guard Conference. All enjoyed it. Felt it was an opportunity like no other presented to interact with Air Guard Officers, Retirees, and other Army Guard Leaders. Encourages continued support from the state in funding personnel. Speakers, events, ODP opportunities, were phenomenal. It was a learning opportunity that hadn't presented itself in any other forum. New Equipment fieldings are intense and are on the upturn and well received by units and leaders. Another priority is the Warrior/Citizen conference held in St. Cloud which is related to a community based BYR campaign which is endorsed by the Governor.

RSG: Freedom Salute Ceremony 19OCT08 for 347th PSD. CSM Michael Sand will be relinquishing responsibility to CSM Douglas Hanson on 03OCT08 in Roseville. 114th Transportation Company and 204 ASMC are preparing for mobilization.

Division: No Rep Present.

JFHQ: No Rep Present. LTC Intress provided information that the JFHQ-MN is reviewing a draft TDA for a truly joint force headquarters which will be implemented in September 2009.

133rd AW: In the middle of OEF AEF rotations. 30% of the AW is involved 133 Aerial Port Squadron rolls up the guidon and is folded into the 133 LRS squadron.

148th FW: 320 Airmen preparing to support OIF AEF rotations. Third tour in Iraq since 9/11. Celebrated 60th anniversary in September IDT and celebrated. ESGR luncheon to be executed on 03OCT08 with large attendance expected. Newly submitted house bill has \$4.2 million dollars earmarked for a fuel operations hanger on the Duluth Facility. Continues to be considered for the F-35 fielding.

CBT AVN: No Rep Present. LTC Intress reported that the recent Chinook crash was a subordinate of TF34CAB in theatre. Unit was from Texas and there were 7 casualties.

Troop Cmd: No Rep Present.

13. Old Business-

Presentation of plaque to the Governor to be scheduled.

1-125, Ryan Kelly will be invited to provide the board a briefing during the 18NOV08 meeting regarding the 2009 conference.

During the 18NOV08, a conference time and place committee will meet at 1800.

Maintain criteria for the scholarship submission. Maintain the suspense and execute the timeline as published.

Retirees Christmas party to be held 05DEC08 at the Ft. Snelling Officer Club. Social begins at 1800 and meal is served at 1900. RSVP to Carl Madsen (carl.madsen@gmail.com).

14. New Business:

Executive Director will provide Lifetime Membership Rates information and payment plans in the VIKANG news.

2009 Membership Drive begins now. No change in state and national dues. New membership form uploaded on the website.

15. Meeting Adjourned

Meeting adjourned at 1940 hours.

Minutes respectfully submitted by LTC Robert Intress.