

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE STEERING GROUP, MAY 6, 2014

Members Present

Gen. Mabry Martin
Gen. Gary McKissock
MajGen Cornell Wilson
Mr. Darryl Black on behalf of Sen. Harry Brown
Gen. Paul Dordal

Not Present

Mr. Sonny Roberts

9:10 Chairman Martin called the meeting to order and provided welcoming and introductory remarks.

Administrative Updates: Administrative updates were supplied by MajGen Cornell Wilson (USMC RET) as follows:

- Date and location of meeting of the Full Military Affairs Commission announced
- Addition of staff member to Military Affairs office through NC National Guard announced
- Undertaking by Military Affairs to procure upgraded conferencing equipment announced
- Details of Military Appreciation Day event sponsored by NC Bankers Association on May 20, 2014, announced
- Meeting of the Commanders' Council on May 20, 2014, announced and logistics for the day discussed
- Announcement of May 14, 2014, as starting date for the meeting of General Assembly
- Governor's announcement of in-state tuition for military
- Major Lumsden of the Military Affairs office briefed on the criteria for the tuition grant, stating that there is a floor of \$7,500 for one year only for qualified applicants, and requirement to establish residency at enrollment. He added that the SEAA is assuming oversight of the residency definition.

Budget Update: This was reviewed by the Committee. The budget expenditures are below \$100,000. One travel claim is pending.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

- General Dordal handed out a top-ten list of priorities and emphasized that Community Coordinators are to meet with installation commanders prior to sub-committee

meetings. General Dordal asked each of the Committee Chairs to provide their top three priorities to Major Lumsden in advance of the Full Commission meeting.

Quality of Life: LTC Robert Anderson briefed on the Quality of Life Committee topics as follows:

- The topic of education was discussed at the last meeting
- Safety and traffic on Fort Bragg roads will be a Department of Transportation issue
- The morale support project has been allowed to dissolve
- Fort Bragg installation Commander wants gas tax money to be used for road repair
- Darryl Black commented that the State is willing to fix roads that get to the gate of the base
- LTC Anderson added that Col. Sanborn was to provide a list of failed intersections to give to NC DOT
- Gen. Dordal added that public-public, public-private relationships is a means of getting the roads fixed
- Can earmarked funds from federal gas tax be lobbied for road repair on bases through our federal liaison, since the military falls under federal jurisdiction?
- Transportation Commission discussed personally visiting installations through Col. Sanborn. Sebastian Montagne of the DOT is prepared to set up this visit
- 911 & cable proceeds, each \$100K. Since the base was annexed, the money from taxes went to the City of Fayetteville. Fort Bragg wants a joint 911 center for Fayetteville, Fort Bragg and Cumberland County.
- More communication between Community Coordinators and base commanders is needed
- Gen. McKissock added that a community coalition of mayors and political leadership from Fayetteville, Jacksonville and Cherry Point is being formed, and they will be able to add to issues related to quality of life

Legislative Affairs: Darryl Black provided illustrative hand-outs, briefed on legislative topics and draft bills on behalf of Senator Brown.

- In-state tuition bill – the General Assembly is considering the UNC Board of Governors' version, however, the Governor/Commission and the UNC Board of Governors need to craft a unified version
- Selection of Adjutant General bill
- Credit for military training bill
- BRAC Shield bill
- Modified HB 433 (Tall Structures bill) and development of zoning map
- National Guard is lobbying for a monthly increase to pension of \$20 to be factored against interest on \$95M in the Guard's account
- Military children identifier – Darryl Black is preparing a list of military children in schools by county

Economic Development: Chairman Gary McKissock presented on topics and observations before the Economic Development Committee, to date.

- Recommends a spouse employment plan to facilitate retention (a spouse's desire to remain in NC has influence)
- The State must increase its connection with a society of human resource managers, like SHRM
- Recommend having Jacksonville Human Resources Manager, Kimberly Lindsay, address the Commission to brief on hiring military from the perspective of human resources
- Objective is to convince the human resource community that they should be going after qualified employees with a military background
- Darryl Black added that the Commission should familiarize itself with NCWORKS.GOV, the central State employment website
- One centralized portal is ideal for the purpose of tracking metrics
- Working Group on Veterans, Service members and Their Families is an opportunity for State to leverage all resources on an interagency basis
- Recommend that on the Governor's next visit to DC, he meet with General Shinseki at the VA
- Recommend that the Governor prepare short video presentations to promote veteran employment and endorsement of a website

Base Sustainability and Community Affairs: (From Committee Meeting Minutes in Mr. Roberts' absence)

- Hoffman Forest
- Fort Bragg – mitigated area for environmental concerns, i.e., RCW, long leaf pine
- Active role in map of active airspace and areas around installations that need to be protected, led by Darryl Black
- Bear Gardens
- Wind Energy/Tall Structures
- Annual Firefighter Certification
- Roads/Intersections

Meeting was closed for a BRAC closed session at 11:30 after which it was adjourned.