

## Minutes of the September 2, 2014, Executive Steering Group Meeting

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

BGen Mabry Martin, USMC Retired  
BGen Paul Dordal, USAF Retired  
Sonny Roberts, Cherry Point MCAS Representative (via telephone)  
LtGen Gary McKissock, USMC Retired  
Col. Robert Anderson, USA Retired  
MGen Cornell A. Wilson, Jr., USMC Retired  
Sen. Harry Brown (via telephone)

The Executive Steering Group (ESG) held its quarterly meeting on September 2, 2014. Chairman Martin welcomed all present and thanked each of the Committee Chairmen for their hard work and gave a special acknowledgement to Senator Brown for his work in pushing legislation through to benefit the military community.

Chairman Martin briefed the ESG on administrative updates.

- The make-up of the NC Military Affairs Commission will be discussed at the next Mayors' Council meeting.
- Allies for Cherry Point's Tomorrow (ACT) is hosting Mac Thornberry, Vice Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee in New Bern, NC.
- Future budget needs will be considered and determined in advance of the next long session of the General Assembly, to include lobbying efforts by Matrix Group.
- General Wilson will attend the AUSA Annual Meeting and Expedition October 13 – October 15 and plans to invite Secretary Decker and Richard Lindenmuth.
- After speaking with John Lennon, Chair of the Aviation Task Force, General Wilson proposed having the group speak to the Commission in the future.
- The Governor will attend the full NCMAC meeting on September 16, 2014, which aligns well with the upcoming one-year anniversary of the Commission.
- The Matrix Group will address the NC Commanders Council on September 16 and address the full Commission following that.
- Spending against the Commission's budget has been lean but with hiring of a contractor to perform SWOT Analysis, that will change.
- Major Bobby Lumsden advised that we will test the web conferencing equipment that has been purchased at the upcoming meeting of the NCMAC.
- CAW introduced new administrative support team member Specialist Felder Shackleford (via telephone)
- Maj. Lumsden wants to revise the method of budgeting going forward

**Quality of Life Committee** Committee Chairman Robert Anderson approved the Committee meeting minutes and briefed the ESG on matters before the Quality of Life Committee.

- Col. Anderson requested that Heather Willier, Executive Director of NC Heroes Fund be permitted to make a presentation at the full Commission meeting. Gen. Wilson proposed that non-profit groups be directed to the veteran's focus group to make presentations. Gen. Dordal

agreed, stating that presentations must relate to a current action item to be presented at full Commission meetings.

- 911 Centers: Jacksonville and Camp Lejeune want an integrated 911 center. Fort Bragg prefers funds to integrating with Fayetteville. Per General Dordal, Fort Bragg wants to become its own PSAP based on the desires of the General officers. The City Manager and Fort Bragg intend to get together to attempt come to an agreement. Gen. Wilson stated that the 2015 National Defense Authorization Act being proposed anticipates money from the state going to a military base pending application by the House and the Senate. Policy changes would be made through the 911 Board.
- Child care: A goal is for the State to recognize preexisting federal certifications for child care centers. Camp Lejeune and Fort Bragg agree that federal certification should be recognized. Sen. Brown concurs that this should be legislated and enacted. This matter should go to the Legislative Affairs Committee.
- Firefighters: Col. Anderson will make inquiry about the cost of recertification.
- Gen. Martin stated ConnectVets helps vets connect to job source and we are being asked to work a letter through the Quality of Life Committee.

**Legislative Affairs Committee** Committee Chairman Harry Brown briefed the ESG on legislative updates.

- He would like to revisit the Commission and Executive Steering Group make-up.
- \$1M dollars are in the budget for BRAC. What are we asking for for the upcoming year in the long session of the General Assembly?
- UNC System received \$4.8M and NCCC received \$1M – it appears as though this will be mandated.
- Wind energy. We are mapping out areas to give industry ideas of safe areas to expand. DENR appears to be satisfied with the bill, but industries will still need maps.
- BRAC Confidentiality piece has been enacted.
- Jen Schultz of National Conference of State Legislators briefed the Legislative Affairs Committee at the last meeting.
- Onslow and Cumberland were almost dropped out of low-funding, but Sen. Brown managed to get that put into the State budget.
- Sen. Brown is looking into getting recertification funds for firefighters.

**Base Sustainability & Community Affairs Committee** Committee Chairman Roberts briefed the ESG on current issues before the Committee.

- Gen. Bob Dickerson is drafting three letters relative to 911 Centers, on Sentinel Landscapes and firefighter/police certifications to be presented to the Commission for endorsement.
- The MoU allows Department of Agriculture to partner with DENR to get funds from REPI.
- DENR is actively pursuing mapping, and needs to hear from the bases what their needs are in order of priority.
- The Working Lands Group will likely meet in late September or early October.
- DENR has requested a prioritized list of military training flight route issues and issues affecting areas surrounding the bases from a military-mission standpoint from each installation.
- DOT is compiling a list of all military-related projects currently underway showing investments on ports, road infrastructure, and aviation infrastructure.

- As of August 5, the closing date had been moved to the end of August 2014 from June 2014 but the sale of Hofmann Forest to developer Jerry Walker was still on track.
- At the August 5 Committee meeting, Mr. Paul Friday provided a status of the mapping effort. The service maps are in the process of being delivered – the Army map and Marines Corps map are complete. The Air Force map is in draft. We have a version that awaits approval by the Navy.
- A letter through the Commission is suggested asking the State to waive fees or fund fees for EMT and firefighter certifications, with a separate letter addressing 911 call center funding by the State.

**Economic Development Committee** Committee Chairman Gary McKissock briefed the ESG on matters before the Economic Development Committee.

- Training and education/credentialing (credit for military training) – discussed putting together a roundtable with Dr. Millsaps and asked Josh Glover to join in to identify gaps. The Guard and Reserves need to be at the table for this discussion.
- The Governor is doing short video presentations encouraging employers to hire vets.
- Kimberly Lindsay, Chief Human Resource Officer for the City of Jacksonville, will present at the full Commission meeting on September 16.
- Cresswell Elmore will present a brief on F-35 supply chain management at the upcoming full Commission meeting.
- Some vendors avoid Camp Lejeune with the minimum wage increase.
- Aviation issues/F-35 supply chain management should be added to list of Commission priorities.
- Credentialing/Community Colleges will go to Economic Development Committee.

**Top Ten NCMAC Priorities** Gen. Dordal briefed the ESG on restructured order of priorities.

- In-state tuition is now #2
- BRAC preparation is now #1
- Assist Working Lands Group is now #3
- Aviation/Supply Chain is now #4
- Mapping/Wind Turbine/high structure legislation remains #5
- Hofmann Forest training area remains #6
- Fort Bragg intersection/access control points is #7 (keep track of priority list for infrastructure project funding through Sebastian Montagne of DOT)
- Leveraging funds for the NCNG integrated into top 20
- Firefighters/funding for call centers is #8 **[CONFIRM]**
- Federal certification recognition by State for childcare centers (coordinate with Quality of Life)

**ISSUES FOR FULL COMMISSION AGENDA:**

- Paul Friday is collecting data from all installations, e.g., training, low-lying routes, etc., which will go to Emergency Management to be used as a tool for developers
- ADC's request for legislative support
- Commander's Council overview – concerns being addressed (by-laws referred to)
- Uniform gate passes for contractors
- By-laws and replacements for recusals

**Other Business:**

- Mayors Council seeks to become a member of the NCMAC
- Think of budget going forward and a strategy; a minimum request of \$1 million for the budget
- Maj. Lumsden will arrange an update on the Yellow Ribbon Program

**Future Business:**

- Military is being shortchanged in the Census
- Matrix Group Kick-Off meeting this Friday
- Angie Arnold – proposal on P4 partnerships sent to Gen. Martin

With no further agenda items, Chairman Martin adjourned the meeting of the ESG at 12:45 P.M.