

North Carolina Military Affair Commission, 2nd Quarterly Meeting
NC National Guard Joint Force Headquarters, Raleigh, NC
May 20, 2014, 1:00 PM

Voting Members present were Robert Anderson, Frank Bottorff, George Breece, Jeremiah Daniels, Bob Dickerson, Paul Dordal, Creswell Elmore, Josh Glover, William Hatcher, Joe Marm, Jr., Mabry Martin, John Matthews, Gary McKissock, Sonny Roberts, Efton Sager, and Joy Thrash.

Non-Voting Members present were Mark Cooney, Dan Forest, Bryan Gossage, Gregory Lusk, Sebastian Montagne, Daryl Morrison, Ilario Pantano, Chris Pappas, III, R. Scott Ralls, Timothy Salmon, Jeffrey Sanborn, Will Lewis, and Cornell Wilson.

Members not present were Joseph Anderson, June Atkinson, Steven A. Baker, Cindi Basenspiller, John Bell, Harry Brown, Robert F. Castellvi, George Cleveland, William Crews, Donald E. Culkin, Sharon Decker, Robert Hosford, Michael Johannson, Alfonzo King, Jeannie Leavitt, W.A. Lehmann, Dan McNeill, Wesley Meredith, George Millsaps, Anna Lea Moore, Joseph Peel, Frank Perry, Sammy Phillips, Kimrey Rhinehardt, Thomas Ross, James Rupkalvis, Jason Simmons, John Skvarla, Blayne Spratlin, Doug Taggart, Tony Tata, and Steve Troxler.

Others in attendance were James R. Gorham, Drew Moretz, Will Best, Steven D. Benton, Marc Finlayson, Scott Dorney, Trent Womble, Lisa Nolen, Ronald J. Hughes, Steve Keen, Brent W. Bien, Michael Lazzara, Stewart Cox, Jim Dougherty, Kimberley Lindsay, Ron Massey, Dan Oliver, Johanna Royo, Janet Bradbury, Lindsey Smart, Iwan Clontz, James Norment, Paul Friday, Alex Gray, and Tyler Harris.

Meeting was called to order at 1332

WELCOME/AGENDA: Brigadier General Iwan Clontz, ANG RET, welcomed all to the NC National Guard Joint Force Headquarters facility. Commission Chairman Mabry Martin also welcomed everyone and reviewed the agenda, along with the following:

- The process of bringing issues to the Committees to decide whether those issues shall be raised at the Executive Steering Group Committee meeting, and/or if warranted, to the Full Commission
- A list of Commission accomplishments and top 10 legislative priorities

Administrative Updates: MajGen Cornell Wilson gave administrative updates:

- Success of Military Appreciation Day event
- Governor McCrory's visit to Midshipmen at the Naval Academy and simulated test flight of F-35 joint strike fighter at Lockheed Martin in Washington, DC
- Purchase of telephone conferencing equipment for the Commission
- Hiring of National Guard sergeant for additional website and administrative support
- Overview of the in-state tuition plan, the distinction between the Governor's proposal and the UNC Board of Governors' proposal, and the expectation of passing the bill in the General Assembly in the short session
- Dates for upcoming meetings

- The largest expense to date will be in the hiring of a consulting organization with administrative costs being very minimal at this point
- Steve Keen was introduced as the Governor's new representative for eastern North Carolina

Consent Agenda:

- Chairman Martin made a motion to waive the reading of the minutes and approve them as written. That motion was seconded and unanimously approved
- Chairman Martin discussed recommended changes to By-laws as they pertain to the Chair's ability to appoint special committee members sufficient to form a quorum in light of a recusal, for example. This addition will be provided, discussed and voted on at the next meeting.
- Chairman Martin advised that the NCMAC belongs to the ADC (Association of Defense Communities) and announced the upcoming ADC conference in early June and that Chairman Martin, Vice Chairman Dordal, and MajGen Wilson would be attending.

Chairman Martin invited public comments. Scott Dorney of NC Military Center for Business announced upcoming, jointly-hosted NCMBC events as listed on www.ncmbc.us :

- MAY 21: Federal Construction Consolidated Teaming Forum (Sanford)
- JUN 4-5: North Carolina Federal Advanced Technologies Review (Raleigh)
- JUN 10: Food 4 the Forces Event (New Bern)

COMMITTEE REPORTS/ACTION ITEMS/PRIORITY LIST

Base Sustainability & Community Affairs Committee:

General Bob Dickerson briefed the Commission on recent developments:

- Hoffman Forest is expected to close in June. General Wilson, having spoken with the buyer, confirmed that the closing will take place on June 30. At the commission's request, a letter for the Governor's signature has been drafted and given to the Governor for review and approval. (As of 1 June, this letter has been signed by the Governor and sent to the buyer and the NCSU Foundation.)
- Bear Gardens, an off-base area, was discussed as a location to relocate the RCW with the goal of reopening internal ranges while increasing the population of protected species and habitats. NC Wildlife Resources Commission is looking at a draft proposal; General Dickerson will provide an update on its status.
- The HB 433 Tall Structure bill that treats the 5-mile radius around installations requires creation of a color-coded, zoned map to include flight routes in and out of ranges. The Committee and installation commanders are discussing.
- The use of collected gas tax for base and access roads, and intersections, is being discussed with recommendations forthcoming from the installations. 911 call centers consolidation and

allocation of funds is a work in progress. Annual firefighter and police recertification and ability to support local communities were discussed.

Quality of Life Committee:

Committee Chairman LTC (ret) Robert Anderson briefed the Commission on the following:

- A recommendation was made that a letter be written stating the commission's strong support of retaining the 440th Airlift Wing in North Carolina. General Dordal suggested clarifying the impact of deactivating the 440th in the absence of an actual BRAC.
- Chairman Martin made a motion that the Commission go on record as supporting retention of the 440th and recommended that he write the Governor and copy the North Carolina congressional delegation reinforcing the Commission's opposition to the deactivation of the 440th Airlift Wing, asserting time is of the essence. The motion was seconded, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously. Vice-chair Dordal assigned the tracking of the action to this Committee. (As of 1 June, this letter was completed by Chairman Martin to the Governor with copies to the NC CODEL.)
- Col. Anderson will get input from Gen. Bob Dickerson on the needs of coastal marine bases and will speak with Seymour Johnson and Elizabeth City to follow up on quality-of-life issues.
- Fort Bragg is not interested in pursuing using State gasoline taxes collected on the installation for MWR purposes, but it would like to continue discussions about using the funds for repairing failing intersections on Ft. Bragg. It has reduced its dangerous intersections to four, and DOT discussions on intersection repair are moving ahead.
- Fort Bragg would like to receive State funding for its 911 call center to support some integration with other call centers around the installation. Col Sanborn was concerned about establishing a joint 911 call center and this issue was referred back to the Quality of Life Committee for further study and discussions

Economic Development Committee:

Committee Chairman LT Gen (ret) I Gary McKissock briefed the Commission on the following based on discussions with university /community college systems, state/ local officials, business organizations:

- There are ample jobs in North Carolina, but navigating the information environment with the result of connecting employers and jobseekers is a challenge. There is no shortage of employment websites; however, metrics of the success of websites designed to attract military jobseekers are difficult to track in most instances.
- The influence of the family of the military, including the spouse's employment, on the decision to remain in the State is inherent.
- The Governor's Working Group on Veterans, Service Members and their Families is a step forward in focusing the State's efforts on these issues.

- The Committee makes the following recommendation: the State identify and endorse two websites to streamline resources.
- The Committee will be investing time in pursuing public-public, public-private prospects for business in addition to supporting the Working Group.

Legislative Affairs Committee:

Hon. Efton Sager briefed the Commission on activities of the Legislative Affairs Committee on behalf of Senator Harry Brown.

- UNC Board of Governors is attempting to get an increase in tuition funding for military personnel/veterans
- Representative Whitmire is working the bill that would grant civilian credit for military experience. The UNC Board will be working with the Committee on this for resolution in the short session
- HB 433 (tall structure bill) was submitted last session. This bill supports civilian and military aviation
- Hoffman Forest was updated by General Wilson; the process of communicating with the property buyer is underway
- \$6.36 billion in veterans' contributions to the State's economy was overlooked in a budget analysis
- Trey Raven of AT&T discussed an initiative that seeks to promote wireless mobility solutions for DoD operations at the last Leg. Aff. Committee meeting
- Mr. Sager acknowledged the NC Bankers Association for the Military Appreciation Day event

Executive Steering Group:

Vice Chairman Dordal briefed the Commission on updates from the Executive Steering Group Committee:

- The next full Commission meeting dates for the next two quarters were announced.
- The Committee looked at the status of the Commission budget, including anticipated expenditures for a BRAC consultant. The Committee discussed whether additional funding would be requested during the short session and concluded that no further funding would be needed at this juncture.
- The Committee reviewed the top-ten priority list from the last full Commission meeting and made changes as appropriate based on Committee reports.
- The Executive Steering Group is to be kept apprised of any actions taken or status updates to priority list items from each Committee so that items requiring approval by the Commission may be considered in advance of Commission meetings.
- The community delegations are to meet with installation commanders on a quarterly basis and determine respective installation priorities in that meeting. The issues identified by the

installation Commanders are brought to the attention of the community coordinators who are then to bring issues to the attention of the appropriate Committee prior to the meeting of the Executive Steering Group Committee.

- Mr. Paul Friday's lists from the meetings of the Commanders' Council will be integrated and considered as well.
- Major Lumsden was identified as the point of contact if there was a question about the appropriate Committee to which to present issues or concerns. Major Lumsden asked that all Committees meet at the latest seven days prior to Commission meetings in order to have all notes and information in advance.
- The Committee went into closed session for evaluation of proposals received for BRAC evaluation in response to the RFP. Following the closed session, the Executive Steering Group unanimously approved a motion to recommend a company to the full Commission, and their meeting was concluded.

Chairman Martin invited questions and comments. There were none. He announced a short break.

1455 Break

1515 Commanders' Council Report The meeting reconvened and Paul Friday was introduced to present updates from the Commanders' Council meeting.

- The Commanders were briefed in this morning's meeting on pending legislation, in-state tuition, common core state standards, military student identifier, HB 433 and working with the State with regard to creation of a new map, telecommunications industry requests to streamline the approval process for erecting tall structures, e.g., cell towers, that each base assess a shortage of communication towers, and solar energy siting requests by developers for which the Commanders' Council will act as a clearinghouse; they will be discussing landowner incentives with the Base Sustainability and Community Affairs Committee.
- National Conference of State Legislatures update was discussed at the Commanders' Council meeting, including protecting agricultural lands while protecting military training mission areas, appeal for legislatures nationally to address the expired tax credits for land conservation and a provision to promote the growth of working lands trust funds.
- The Council will work with Vice Chairman Dordal to develop the top ten priority list.
- The final item on their agenda was a discussion about the Governor's Working Group on Veterans, Service Members and their Families created by Executive order.

Mr. Friday invited questions. There were none.

NC MAC Top Ten Priority List, Finalized:

Vice Chairman Dordal invited input from the Commission on the drafted top ten Commission priority list, status and actions as follows:

1. In-state tuition for military Veterans. OPR: Legislative Affairs and Economic Development Cmt.
Status and action: Bill in GA to support tuition grant for UNC and CC's.
2. Reduce risk for NC Military Installations from downsizing or closures. Assess military value, develop a strategic plan and engage with key decision makers. OPR: BRAC Committee.
Status and action: Recommendation from ESG to NCMAC on May 20th. Meeting with SecAF on May 19 ref Pope Field. Ten responses were received to RFP's, which were evaluated, and on which the BRAC Committee made a recommendation to be voted on by full Commission.
3. Protect military installations and training areas from encroachment. High Structure Bill; Wind turbine farms bill and zoning maps. OPR: Legislative Affairs/Sustainability Comm.
Status and action: HB433 under consideration in GA; HB484 under review. Coordinate on a state map with military restrictions/requirements/airspace to assist with zoning and development. The Base Sustainability and Community Affairs Committee will work with Sen. Brown's office on coordinating the map.
4. Hoffman Forest training area. OPR: Base Sustainability & Community Affairs Committee
Status and action: Military Affairs Advisor working with MCI-East and USMC.
5. Transportation issues affecting installations: Obtain funding for Access Control Points and failing road infrastructure. OPR: Base Sustainability & Community Affairs Committee w/NCDOT coordination. The Economic Development Committee has also considered this issue.
Status and action: Working with NCDOT on top priorities for each installation, legal issues and potential partnerships.
6. Integrate Veterans, Guard and Reserve, military dependents into NC workforce. OPR: Econ Dev and Legislative Affairs.
Status and action: First meeting held Feb 25th to scope the issue. Chair met with Society of Human Resource Management (SHRM) and ED Committee is assessing existing programs and next steps. HB submitted for "Civilian Credit for Military Equivalent Experience/Training/Formal Coursework."
7. Assist NC Working Lands Group with efforts to preserve land near military installations. OPR: Base Sustainability and Community Affairs Committee and coordination with DENR.
Status and action: Meeting on next NC Working Lands Group meeting. Contractor will assess training areas for BRAC prep contract. Potential mitigation of environmental issues (RCW) on training areas.
National Guard Legislative Request: To leverage federal funds and programs. OPR: Legislative Affairs.
Status and actions: submitted to GA for consideration. NG is requesting NCMAC support.
9. Establish joint 911 call centers for installations and local communities. OPR: Quality of Life Cmt.
Status and actions: Determining status of 911 call centers on each installation. Col. Sanborn commented that Fort Bragg does not see a joint 911 center as being in its best interest because of costs and security access issues. Incident responses should not be outsourced to the City. Funding is only based on what was spent, so installations want recognition by the 911 Board in order to receive direct funding.

10. Prepare NCMAC report for NC General Assembly and Governor. OPR: Chairman and ESG.
Status and actions: Reviewing top issues from installation commanders, committees and assessing proposed legislation.

Chairman Martin made a motion that the Commission go on record as being in support of in-state tuition in both UNC Systems and Community College systems for veterans, their spouses and dependents. All were in favor and the motion was passed by unanimous vote.

NC National Guard Association

Chairman Martin suggested that the Commission consider a motion that the NC MAC supports the establishment of a commission on the structure of the army to undertake a study and refrain from making any major decisions in advance of the study outcome. General Gregory Lusk, NC TAG, confirmed the Chair's remarks and spoke to significant cuts to aviation assets and force structure reduction and the Guard's opposition to relinquishing all Apache aircraft. Chairman Martin said he would draft the resolution or motion to circulate to all by e-mail for the Commission to go on record supporting the establishment of a commission on the structure of the army.

Working Group on Veterans, Service members and Their Families

Ilario Pantano, Asst. Secretary of Veterans Affairs presented on The Working Group whose goal is to focus agency tools on veterans while building bridges through coordination and teamwork.

- There is no shortage on veterans' programs, however, the bridge that connects the service member with appropriate programs that provide them service is lacking.
- The creation of NC4-VETS website and hotline were announced. Secretary Pantano shared the on-site locations where the Working Group will be housed. He encouraged all to call in to 855-521-0877 on the fourth Thursday of the month from 2-4 PM to participate in a conference call with Ms. Lindsay, Maj. Poovey, county service officers and personnel from Department of Commerce.
- He discussed the success of the NC Women Veterans Summit & Expo held in April.

Virginia Values Vets Overview

Ms. Kimberly Lindsay presented on employer outreach programs that she has participated in and created.

- Three initiatives were put together: 1) Training & development 2) connecting all the programs currently in existence and, 3) employer awareness (emphasis on this). Ms. Lindsay discussed training employers in awareness of veterans as viable candidates for employment.
- The initiatives include the HR professional who identifies and screens candidates, coordinates interviews, etc., and second, strategic leadership who establishes organizational goals and develops organizational initiatives.

- The Virginia governor did a Public Service Announcement (PSA) that is presented at every SHRM conference encouraging HR professionals to hire veterans.
- How do we educate strategic leadership? State Council priority is to engage a State level liaison, the Chapter priority is to appoint a Chapter level liaison, record a PSA or message from the Governor, train the trainer, and provide tools with the end result of SHRM chapter members educating strategic leadership within their organization.
- Select a lead agency or office – NCDVA, e.g., create an inter-agency leadership team, establish target number to be employed, identify and form an implementation team, develop a strategic plan, create implementation plan, i.e., target SHRM, ESGR (Employer Outreach), develop strategic partnerships, target employers.

Military-related Items on Short Session Agenda

- Darryl Black briefed on the introduction and unanimous passage of Military Appreciation Day Senate Bill 796 sponsored by Sen. Brown and HB 1129 sponsored by Representative Cleveland.
- Drew Moretz addressed the differences in the Governor's proposal as contrasted with the UNC Board of Governors' proposal on in-state tuition, the differences being a scholarship in an amount equivalent to in-state tuition contrasted with in-state tuition. Any veteran that qualifies for a VA benefit qualifies for in-state tuition. The Governor's proposal is for a veteran that has served for four years, which may exclude some. There is a minimum floor of \$7,500 on the scholarship and 200 to 250 veterans who would qualify. UNC Board of Governors requested \$8 million of the \$9.2 million.
- Credit for Military Training Senate Bill 761 sponsored by Senators Rabin and Meredith and its companion House Bill 1047 sponsored by Reps. Hastings and Whitmire
- Selection of Adjutant General Senate Bill 760 sponsored by Senator Rabin and Senator Meredith and companion HB 1048 sponsored by Rep. Hastings
- Representative Chris Whitmire discussed the civilian credit for military experience bill as it relates to assisting transitioning military to remain in NC by properly acknowledging formal training, certifications and degrees. Occupational licensing boards need to publish the criteria for receiving credit. The bill calls for a 30-day timeframe within which a board must decide whether to grant licensure or certification. It also calls for gap classes offered through community colleges to assist in achieving this goal. Vice Chair Dordal stated that the funding for those classes should be covered in the bill.
- Gen. Dickerson commented that police/federal firefighter recertification needs to be addressed. It was suggested that Rep. Whitmire contact Sen. Meredith and Rep. Marvin Lucas to discuss draft legislation concerning firefighter payment issues that they are reviewing.
- Rep. Whitmire addressed amendments to the Selection of Adjutant General bill emphasizing eligibility for federal recognition requirement
- Military Student Identifier bill has been filed (SB 771 sponsored by Senators Tillman and Pate and companion bill HB 1060 sponsored by Reps. Holloway, Johnson and Horn)

- Transparency bill in draft that would allow the Military Affairs Commission to meet and discuss confidential materials related to BRAC.
- Chairman Martin added that once funds are invested in a SWOT analysis that includes a strategic plan that affects all regions and locations, that information should be privileged for the sake of protecting the State's interests.
- Seymour Johnson - Extending protection from installations to some of the flight paths; Mr. Black and Mr. Friday of the Commanders' Council are drafting language for this bill.
- Wind Energy – Mr. Black will be meeting with wind energy lobbyists later this week; we will know more in the next two weeks. We are determining if HB 484 will be strong enough to protect the interests of all parties.

New Business No new business was required.

Future Full Commission Meetings

Posted on MAC website: September 16, 2014 at 12:30pm, December 16, 2014 at 12:30pm

Chairman Martin made a motion to close the meeting and voting members that have not recused themselves from the BRAC process go into closed session to hear the recommendation from the BRAC Committee. That motion was seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Vote to go into Closed Session

1710 Chairman Martin called the closed session to order.

The Commission made a recommendation for a firm (Company A) to be voted on in open session.

Return from Closed Session

Chairman Martin reopened the closed meeting to the full Commission. Chairman Martin made a motion that said consulting firm (Company A) be hired. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 1743

