

Minutes from 9/16/14 Meeting of the full NCMAC – MCAS Cherry Point, Havelock, North Carolina

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:

BGen Bud Martin, USMC RET
BGen Paul Dordal, USAF RET
Lt. Gen. Gary McKissock, USMC RET
Cresswell Elmore
Col. Frank Bottorff, USMC RET
Col. Robert Anderson, USA RET
Col. Walter Marm, Jr., USA RET
SgtMaj William Hatcher, USMC RET
CDR Bill Lehmann, USCG RET
George Breece
Jeremiah Daniels
Hon. Efton Sager, USAF RET
Asst. Secretary Ilario Pantano, Div. of Veterans Affairs
Hon. Will Lewis
Sonny Roberts
Gen. Dan McNeill (by WebEx)
Hon. George Cleveland (by WebEx)

NON-VOTING/EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bill Crews, Department of Public Safety
Dr. George Millsaps, designee for R. Scott Ralls/NC Community Colleges
Graham Wilson, Department of Commerce
Jennifer Gradnigo (military liaison for Sen. Kay Hagan)
Doug Taggart, Department of Public Instruction
Janet Bradbury (military liaison for Sen. Richard Burr)
Darryl Morrison, Department of Revenue (via WebEx)
Bryan Gossage, Department of Transportation (via WebEx)

AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES:

Jason Lowry (military liaison for Congressman Walter Jones)
Darryl Black (aide to Sen. Harry Brown)

OTHERS PRESENT:

MGen Cornell A. Wilson, USMC RET
Maj. Bobby Lumsden, NCNG
David Heath, ACT
Bill Joiner, Trent Woods Commissioner
Rhonda Murray, USN/NAVFACMLE/CNRMA
Jim Casey, US Fleet Forces – Navy
Brian Ballard, USN/NAVFACMLE/CNRMA
Milissa True, NB Military Alliance

Marc Jessup, NB Military Alliance
Lonnie Pridgen, ACT
Mary Beth Fennell, FRC East
Sen. Ron Rabin, NC General Assembly
Sen. Norman Sanderson, NC General Assembly
Fred Fulcher, ACT
George Liner, Havelock Board of Commissioners
Col. Todd Hunt, NCNG
Scott Dorney, NCMBC
Steve Keen, Governor's Office
Greg Lewis, ACT
Col. Mark Slocum, USAF, 4FW
Stewart Cox, Civilian Deputy Commander, 4FW
Stuart Ruffin, NC Military Foundation
Col. Blayne Spraitlin, CO FRC East
Greg Taylor, Fort Bragg Regional Alliance
CDR Bruce Brown, Commanding Officer, USCG Elizabeth City
Kimberly Lindsay, Governor's Working Group
Lisa Boyette, Craven County Schools (military liaison counselor)
Christine Mele, ACT
Jim Davis, ACT
Johanna Royo, Elite Magazine/Fayetteville Observer
Karen Lewis, Havelock City Commissioner
Matthew Gunnett, NCACC
Stephanie Duncan, Exec. Dir., Havelock Chamber of Commerce
Hugh Overholt, Ward & Smith, P.A.
Timothy Downs, Craven Co. Economic Development
Jamie Norment, ACT
Pete Benton, Walnut Creek Councilman
Danny Walsh, City of Havelock

Chairman Mabry "Bud" Martin called the meeting to order with an invitation to join in the Pledge of Allegiance. He welcomed all and gave opening remarks. A quorum was present. The day's Agenda was reviewed.

Presentation: Matrix Design Group (in association with The Roosevelt Group, The Yonkers Group)

Sal Nodjomian, lead consultant and program manager, presented an overview to the Commission of the services that will be provided by the Matrix team, relative to performing a SWOT analysis for the State, preparing the State to posture itself to gain in a possible future round of BRAC, develop a strategic plan, and shadow BRAC. The first step is information collection by way of a two-week tour of installations. Chairman Martin requested support of these efforts by base commanders and surrounding communities. In coordinating these efforts, there will be meetings among communities and commanders with each being separate to afford an individual forum in which to express present concerns. After data is collected, there will be a meeting bringing base leaders and community together to share concerns with the office of the Commission being the clearinghouse.

Chairman Martin informed the Commission that he and General Wilson met with the Governor to brief him on where the Commission stands with its work. General Wilson briefly met with Senator Thom Tillis as well. Senator Burger was not available to meet at this time.

Administrative Updates:

General Wilson reviewed the status of the Commission's budget. He also announced the addition to the military affairs section of Sgt. Felder Shackleford as additional support. Allies for Cherry Point's Tomorrow ("ACT") hosted a community forum with Mac Thornberry, Vice Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee. Chairman Martin informed the Commission on his upcoming meetings with the VFW and American Legion in the Winston-Salem area.

Commission Accomplishments

Chairman Martin reviewed the list of the Commission's accomplishments and legislative accomplishments to include HB 1060, SB 761, SB 614, HB 1048 and a portion of SB 744 that inure to the benefit of the military in North Carolina. He thanked Senator Harry Brown for his efforts to get legislation passed.

Approve Minutes, Amendments to By-laws

Chairman Martin requested that a motion be put to vote on the minutes of the last full Commission meetings, which was so moved by CDR Lehmann, seconded and passed unanimously. Next, Chairman Martin reviewed proposed language to amend the by-laws as they pertain to recusal in the event of a conflict of interest. A motion was made to approve the proposed recusal language, which was seconded and passed by unanimous vote. Another amendment was proposed treating budgetary matters and granting authority to the military advisor to make expenditures consistent with the Commission's approved budget without seeking Commission approval.

Public Comment/Announcements

Chairman Martin opened the floor for public comment and announcements.

Mr. Scott Dorney, Director of the NC Military Business Center thanked all installation commanders, along with Cdr. Brown and Col. Landers for supporting the upcoming Defense NC Federal Construction, Infrastructure & Environmental Summit (FEDCON) taking place on October 16 in Wilmington, NC. Mr. Dorney extended an invitation to the Commission.

Doug Taggart of Department of Public Instruction/Troops to Teachers announced last week's rollout of the military student identifier interface, PowerSchool.

Committee Reports

Base Sustainability and Community Affairs Committee:

On behalf of Committee Chairman Sonny Roberts, Col. Frank Bottorff updated the Commission on the status of matters before the Base Sustainability and Community Affairs Committee, including the efforts to update State maps, coordination between Department of Transportation and Department of Agriculture on base infrastructure challenges and to ensure protection against encroachment of military training areas. A list of concerns from each installation was solicited. Firefighter recertification was discussed at the last Committee meeting. A letter to come from the NC MAC supporting exemption from firefighter recertification fees is being drafted. Three letters are in draft by the Committee for presentation to and approval by the Commission to come from the NC MAC supporting exemption from firefighter recertification fees, state funding of 911 call centers to be directed to 911 Board, and relocation of endangered species off base. These letters will be prepared in time for the next full Commission meeting.

Quality of Life Committee:

Committee Chairman Col. Robert Anderson briefed the Commission on the status of issues before the Quality of Life Committee and actions being taken in response. Suggestions for speakers/presenters to the Commission were directed to go through the Executive Steering Group for prior approval. Fort Bragg firefighters have taken 650 off-base calls this calendar year. Col. Anderson stated that Senator Brown indicated he would assist with this issue, which presumably would result in some funding. Camp Lejeune is paying \$20,000 for off-base, firefighter calls. Paul Friday has been asked to obtain the number of off-base calls to which Camp Lejeune firefighters respond. Data is being collected from other installations as well.

Economic Development Committee:

Committee Chairman Lt. General Gary McKissock briefed the Commission on the status of issues before the Economic Development Committee. Much progress has been made with the issue of in-state tuition with much of the "heavy lifting" being done by Senator Brown. The majority of the Committee's time has been spent developing methods to assist transitioning personnel with obtaining jobs in the State. The Committee is presently looking at how to narrow down job search options for the jobseeker and for the employer to two websites. NCGA tasked the NC Community College system with oversight of equivalent credentialing for military personnel, for which legislation has been passed. Chairman McKissock stated that Commissioner Cresswell Elmore is investigating supply chain opportunities for the F-35 in our State. We have a 6-9-month window in which to assess and act on this. The Committee is also looking at ways to increase employment opportunities for military spouses enhancing possibility of retaining talent in the State. He discussed planning for the next Census to identify military citizens of the State who are being undercounted.

Chairman Martin added that we receive feedback from construction workers trying to get on post but facing long wait times at the gate. We are being asked to look at this and improve it.

Legislative Affairs Committee:

Darryl Black provided updates on behalf of Sen. Harry Brown. He discussed the Military Appreciation Day bill along with the other legislation beneficial to the military that passed during the short session. Senator Rabin discussed Senate Bill 761 and collating feedback on the next steps. A "seamless system"

of military credit is being discussed to implement the provisions of the bill as they relate to licensure by any applicable governing board. He stated it is a work in progress. Sen. Rabin said he thought Workforce Development in the Department of Commerce was best suited to this.

Darryl Black went on to discuss wind energy programs in the State and other bills which treat the issues of encroachment and tall structures, documents related to BRAC preparation, credit for military training, e.g., HB 254, HB 484, HB 433, HB 744, HB 1060, SB 614, SB 744, HB 1048, SB 761, and the Yellow Ribbon match of federal funding for in-state tuition. Over the last year, the State has funded over \$53 million dollars in military-related activities and continues to partner with our military.

Vice chairman Paul Dordal briefed the Commission on the status of the Commission's top ten priorities by power point presentation. These included the BRAC or shadow BRAC preparation efforts to develop a strategic plan for the State and lobbying efforts in DC over next six months, in-state tuition must be revisited to ensure in alignment with federal legislation, ensure no incompatible development (meet with Working Lands Group on October 8) around installations, explore economic development opportunities in statistics and supply chain management of F-35's, Air Force tanker support, support restriction of high structures/wind turbines legislation, Hofmann Forest, State funding to repair failing infrastructure on installations and access control points, integrate veterans into workforce ensuring that they receive credit for military training, funding for 911 call centers out of cable funds, obtaining waiver of fees for recertification for childcare centers, firefighters, EMT personnel, and finally, leveraging federal funds, programs for the National Guard. Cdr. Lehmann raised the request for the Governor's endorsement by way of letter to keep commissaries open.

Colonel Parks addressed the status of the Hofmann Forest sale, stating that as the sale stands presently, the second buyer should be relatively easy to partner with on easements.

The Chairman announced a 15-minute break.

On reconvening the meeting, Mr. Paul Friday of the NC Commanders Council updated the Commission on the morning's meeting with the NC Commanders Council and on the combined service mapping effort with the goal of delivering a map that shows the entire military mission footprint, with not just traditional attributes but also to include radar interference layers as well as show areas that need to be protected from wind, tall structures, bird bashing, population density, etc. The maps will be further refined. Approval letters will be received by all services after which a composite combined mission footprint and data on each service's footprint will be made available to the Commission. This will be a process over time as further delineation evolves. The key presentation to the Commanders' Council was by the Agriculture Deputy Commissioner David Smith who discussed the programs on which the Department of Agriculture is partnering with the military to protect the military training areas as well as forested and farmed land, along with farmers markets on installations. General Wilson presented to the Council and introduced the Matrix Team.

Chairman Martin introduced Governor McCrory who addressed the Commission. The Governor expressed his pleasure at the progress being made by the Commission and appreciation for those working on the State's goals relative to the vitality of NC military. He has been working with Governors of other states on the potential downsizing of the National Guard and where it will occur and retaining Apache's. The Governor stated we have had discussions and are working hard with military

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commanders in DC and top brass at the Pentagon, having made several trips. Although we were anticipating large drawdowns, we received opposite feedback that indicated that each of the bases in North Carolina will remain strong and there will continue to be a strong need for those bases each having unique strengths for deploying all over the world. Also, community support is very strong for local infrastructure. Part of the State's 25-year transportation plan will include roads and infrastructures in and around bases. The Governor discussed new legislation and initiatives that inure to the benefit of military and their families and make North Carolina even more military friendly. He stressed the need for continued help with overseas conflicts including activity by ISIS.

Military Host Cities

Havelock Mayor Will Lewis briefed the Commission on the Military Host Cities group, an organization of City governments including Fayetteville, Jacksonville, Havelock, Goldsboro and Elizabeth City, which was created to foster a cooperative and supportive relationship between the military, host communities and government. Mayor Sammy Phillips is the Chairman of the group. Its goals are to maximize military presence, expand outreach, build sustainable military host cities, strengthen and protect the economy and enrich the quality of life. Each City approaches easements, contracts, PSAP's, differently. How the issue of proper accounting of deployed military for the Census costs the municipalities and the State was discussed, along with how it will be treated in the 2020 census. Military Host Cities meetings are scheduled around the Commission's sub-committee meetings.

Division of Veterans' Affairs

Secretary Ilario Pantano presented to the Commission on DVA activities. A whistleblower hotline has been created, and is up and running. Awareness of the Agency's advocacy is being raised. An editorial draft of the publication "NC4Vets Resource Guide" that is being launched on Veterans' Day was shared during the presentation. ncveteransworkinggroup.org is the website that lists meeting information. All present were invited to the Governor's Working Group meetings every third Thursday of the month. Secretary Pantano introduced Kimberly Lindsay to provide a recap of the Employer Awareness program. The focus is strictly on the employer. Ms. Lindsay distinguished between human resources and strategic leaders. NC Division of Veterans Affairs is the lead agency. The State SHRM Council voted to have a military liaison coordinator at the State Council level and to have a military liaison coordinator at every one of the 18 chapters across the State. They will be meeting at this Thursday's State Council meeting. The Governor will record video messages for SHRM, TRS/Taps. Duke University, SAS, Wells Fargo and Pepsi will sponsor education sessions with strategic leaders. The goal of 6,000 employed within 24 months is the target. We are looking forward to working with NC Works and Department of Commerce on a method of tracking metrics of hiring. Dr. Millsaps with Small Business through NC Community Colleges has a program that will allow tracking of businesses that take training and seminars, and their follow through with hiring of veterans. Also being considered is a legislative push that involves the Secretary-of-State-level reporting by employers of veterans hired.

F-35 Supply Chain Management

Mr. Cresswell Elmore provided background on the F-35 advanced multi-role fighter aircraft. It was designed to be a multi-missioned aircraft. The first production aircraft are being delivered to all three services. There are currently 10 supplier locations providing parts in North Carolina to the OEM. In

speaking with stakeholders at FRC East, there may be other opportunities in addition to the F-35 to include production and business development of the V-22 and H1YZ, Firescout and other platforms. There will be meetings in the future between NCMBC, Mr. Elmore, Department of Commerce and local, experienced personnel about additional opportunities for supply chain management.

New Business: There was no new business per se, however, Chairman Martin reminded the Commission of the upcoming long session of the General Assembly in January, the ongoing work with the Matrix team, and asked all to consider the present make-up of the Commission and where we are looking to expand our budget.

Future Meetings: Chairman Martin announced the next full Commission meeting scheduled for December 16, 2014, in Fayetteville, NC, with the location to be determined.

Adjournment: Following an invitation for questions and comments, Chairman Martin adjourned the meeting at 4:38 PM.

