

Minutes of
Missouri National Guard Retiree Council
9 July 2016

The meeting of the Missouri National Guard Retiree Council began at 1140 on 9 July 2016 in the Patriot Center at the Ike Skelton Training Site, Jefferson City with the following retirees and other interested parties in attendance.

Bill Leeper	Dave Riley
Bob Julius	Donal Firebaugh
Bruce Pearre	Gary Boyd
Jim Dunn	David Simons
Randy Westveer	Audie Pruitt

Debra Havens, Retirement Services Officer

Bob called the meeting to order at 1155. Roll call of members present and 4 regions were represented. The northeast and northwest regions were absent. Gary Boyd stated there were not enough MONGRC members present for a quorum.

Bob led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance and Bruce Pearre offered the invocation.

Bob called for the Secretary's report. The members reviewed copies of the minutes from the last MONGRC meeting. Jim noted an error in the minutes in the 1st paragraph that will be corrected before the minutes are filed in the permanent record. The error is a date listed as 2014 but should be 2016. No discussion about the report and the minutes were approved as presented with corrected error.

RSO Report/2016 RAD. Debra reported 3 AAR's from the RAD were received. 150 pre-registered and 115 attended, minus Council members, member spouses and vendors. She estimated 150 would be a reasonable figure for total attendees. No expense was incurred by MONGRC because the event was fully funded by MONGA and TRICARE. Debra stated that some soldiers will need to make a decision on retirement by 1 January 2018. There is going to be some training posted soon on the MOGUARD website and leaders are urged to review it. Many factors will be involved with the decision making process and all soldiers numerous items need to be reviewed by the soldiers. She also stated some financial comparison charts are incomplete and still in process. The ARMY ECHOES and SoldierForLife website has information available. The government will begin matching TSP funds in 2018. Debra informed the Council the River Region Credit Union still has funds on deposit from the MONGRC Foundation. A general discussion followed about best way to dispose of the funds. Gary Boyd will contact the Credit Union to discuss our options then report back to the Council at the October meeting. Debra stated she was recently informed \$43,000.00 from NGB is available for RSO approved activities.

Much paperwork is involved with the process and due to the short timeline before fiscal year end she declined to request any of the funds. The Council discussed the possibility of using the funds available for fiscal 2017, and asked that details be provided at the next meeting of what will be required to request some of the funds. John Lewis had completed updating the RSO database which includes 20 year NOE's, gray area and retirees as of the current information available to RSO staff. Many duplicate entries were encountered in the process which considerably increased the amount of time to complete the update. The completed database contains 9525 line entries as of her report to the Council. Mark Jones will contact the local St. Joe Air Guard chapter to inquire about getting involved with the MONGRC and designating Council representative(s).

Old Business-Regional Updates. West region had 2 attend the RAD with 1 negative and 1 positive reaction to the event. Gary reported only 22 cars took advantage of the offsite parking to attend which was disappointing. He reported they will vote July 23 about the disposition of the old 110th property. They will vote on 3 different options by the approximately 53 qualified members. Their chapter is working to repair the feelings toward MONGA from the past. Plans for a future RAD are unknown at this time.

Southwest. The 203rd chapter will be participating in a beltline July 16-19 at Camp Crowder during the 203rd's AT period. They will visit with soldiers and encouraging them to stay for at least 20 years, and inquire about the pros and cons of being a member of the Missouri Army National Guard. A member quarterly meeting is scheduled September 11, and will be held in conjunction and co-hosted with Compass Quest, for FSC of the 203rd. They continue to provide money from their We Care Fund to assist soldiers and families in times of financial hardships. A RAD in 2017 will be discussed and during their upcoming meetings.

Central. Bruce stated the Jefferson City chapter is part of MONGA and tends to be more social in nature rather than functioning as some of the other chapters. He also suggested alternating regional and statewide RAD's, and conducting the statewide RAD in the central part of the state. Bruce's last day of work in the archive office was June 2. He stated interviews for his position have now been completed but a selection has not been announced.

East. A breakfast with the troops is tentatively scheduled for August 7. They would be willing to conduct a 2017 RAD in April if necessary. David Simons explained the process to get new ID's for someone unable to go to an ID card station. 8 X 10 photo, 2 forms of ID and power of attorney all properly notarized are required. Also, paying for TRICARE Prime coverage stops at age 65 with TFL starting and requires a new ID card. If a veteran isn't issued a new ID card prime coverage premiums will continue and TFL is not in effect.

Southeast. Donal stated he agreed with Bruce about alternating RAD's and the central location for a statewide RAD. They have no plans as of now for a RAD in 2017.

Council retired for a 15 minute break at 1400.

New Business. Jim presented Audie Pruitt to replace Jim Bradley on the Council from the southwest. Debra also stated Randy Westveer will join the Council representing the northeast (Randy left meeting earlier due to prior commitment.) The east and southwest will be considering conducting 2017 RAD's. Bob discussed the focus, accomplishments and activities of the MONGRC in its present form. Lack of members attending and not enough representatives from each region are concerning. Jim will be contacting Bob Cole, who has health issues, to see if he will remain or recommend a replacement. Bob will be working with Debra on other regions, particularly the northwest, to determine their intentions for the Council. Discussion about the Council by-laws, memberships, filling vacant positions, filling vacant region representatives and quorums. These will be reviewed and possible changes presented to members prior to the next meeting, and voted on if necessary. A vote to fill the vacate co-chair position was tabled until October due to lack of quorum. A discussion about another TAG briefing and the Council feels it is best to continue on a regular basis. It will be discussed further at the October meeting. Research into the last briefing will be available at that time to enable the Council to review the briefing contents. Information about Air Guard retirement processes need to be researched and presented to the Council, then binders will need to be updated. A process to invite guest speakers to the Council needs to be developed and implemented.

Bruce Pearre offered benediction and the meeting was adjourned at 1450.

The next meeting will be held at 1200 on 1 October 2016 at the Ike Skelton Training Site, Patriot Center conference room, Jefferson City.

Prepared by:

Jim Dunn, Secretary