



Executive Committee Meeting

**Teleconference
December 28, 2016**

MINUTES

The following members of the Executive Committee were present: President, COL Jim Sweeney; Army Vice President, LTC Hazel Robinson; Army Junior Vice President, CPT Fatima McPhaul; Army Executive Committeemen, COL Monti Zimmerman, CPT Steven Barnard and LTC Milt Houghton; Naval Services Vice President, CWO4 Dale Andersen; Naval Services Junior Vice President, LCDR Jennifer Franco; Naval Services Executive Committeemen, CAPT Rick Thomas and COL Will Holahan; Air Force Vice President, Col Margaret Cope; Air Force Executive Committeemen, CMSgt Shane Smith, Maj Leonard Sobieski and Col Dave Anderson; and Executive Director, Mr. Jeffrey Phillips.

Appointed national officers present were: Chaplain, COL Sherman Reed; Judge Advocate, LTC Bill Pentecost; Treasurer, CPT Shannon Bibbee; Public Relations Officer, CAPT Henry Plimack. Also in attendance were: Chairman, Budget and Finance Committee, Col Layne Wroblewski; and national staff members, Ms. Lani Burnett and Ms. Susan Lukas.

Elected and appointed national officers absent were: Immediate Past President, BG Mike Silva; President-elect, Lt. Col. Don Stockton; Naval Services Executive Committeeman, LT George McElwee; and Air Force Junior Vice President, TSgt Stephanie Chitty.

Ms. Lani Burnett, recording secretary, called roll. With a quorum being in attendance, President Sweeney called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

President's Remarks

President Sweeney opened the meeting by requesting a moment of silence to recognize and mourn the passing of DNCM Chairman, LTC Duane Richards. Chaplain Reed offered a prayer of thanks for Duane and comfort for the Richards family.

President Sweeney thanked everyone for their time and asked for feedback concerning the frequency and time of the ExCom calls; the schedule will remain as is.

Executive Director's Report

Mr. Phillips reported the following:

- A letter was sent by Executive Director Phillips to the trustee of the Douthit Family Trust requesting removal of the restriction that required funds distributed from the Trust be exclusively used for scholarships. An amendment was approved by the trustee to remove the restriction on the \$451,117.00 donation; ROA may use at its discretion where the need is greatest. The trustee stipulated that the previous donation of \$546,592.28 must continue to be used for scholarship purposes.

- An unrestricted bequest in the amount of \$39,1343.87 was received from the Mary Made-line Josi 2013 Revocable Trust.
- For financial and timing reasons, a 2017 calendar was not produced. A 2018 calendar will be designed earlier in the upcoming year and will be part of the FY18 resource development budget.
- A 7+5 budget forecast is being completed and the FY18 budget template will be received from SmithBucklin in mid-January.
- Two ROA sponsored events will be held in January – the 115th Congress Military Veteran Welcome Reception and the Medal of Honor Breakfast held on Inauguration Day.
- Have met with new administration.

STARs Foundation Report

Colonel Cope reported that Gala preparations are underway and requested information for potential sponsors be sent her way. President Sweeney challenged EXCOM members to attend the Gala and to invite others to show the EXCOM is engaged. Mr. Phillips stated the Comcast CEO, Mr. Brian Roberts, will be receiving the Nathan Hale award and Colonel Cope stated she is seeking speakers from the new administration.

Air Force Section

President Sweeney announced that due to family and deployment obligations, TSgt Chitty has resigned as AF Junior Vice President.

Upon a properly made motion by Col Cope, seconded by CW04 Andersen, and upon a unanimous vote, it was resolved to reappoint Major Zack Walker to fill the AF Junior VP position until the next convention.

Budget & Finance Committee

Budget & Finance Committee Chairman, Col Wroblewski, informed the EXCOM that during the 2016 convention the voting members of the committee unanimously agreed to recommend the national staff research options to pay off the MMB loan held by TD Bank as previously approved by the ExCom. A legal review was conducted and its conclusions support the below motion made at this meeting.

Upon a properly made motion by the Budget & Finance Committee and upon a unanimous vote, it was resolved to approve paying off in its entirety the existing TD Bank loan as follows:

- \$410K – from the unrestricted Douthit Family Trust donation
- \$300K – from HJR investment fund
- \$110K – from Gifts & Bequests investment fund
- \$1.5mil – from Memorial Endowment investment fund and
- \$2.1 mil or the remaining balance be taken as a loan from the Memorial Endowment investment fund with terms developed by the B&F Committee Chairman, Treasurer, Judge Advocate and others determined by the President.

Term Dues Rebate

Discussion concerning a 20% good faith payment to pay term dues rebate from part of the unrestricted Douthit Trust followed.

Upon a properly made motion by CMSgt Smith, seconded by COL Holahan, and upon a majority vote, it was resolved to authorize a good faith term dues (only) rebate payment

be made to Departments of approximately \$41,000.00, apportioned at 20% of each Department's outstanding term liability.

Legislative Update

Development of ROA's two-year legislative agenda is being processed for approval.

New Business

COL Zimmerman - NAUS has voted to dissolve and stated "ROA was not interested in supporting them re: benefits and family."

President Sweeney – National staff and the Convention Committee is working on plans for the 2017 Convention. Recommended integration with other associations to hold a joint meeting.

Next Meeting Date

The next scheduled EXCOM conference call will be 25 January 2017.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by President Sweeney at 8:21 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Jeff Phillips, Executive Director.

Imb