



Executive Committee Meeting

11 September 2016

ROA 2016 National Convention, Reno NV

MINUTES

The following members of the Executive Committee were present: President, COL Jim Sweeney; Immediate Past President, BG Mike Silva (late arrival); Army Vice President, LTC Hazel Robinson; Army Executive Committeemen, CPT Steven Barnard (via phone), LTC Richard Spencer and COL Monti Zimmerman (via phone); Naval Services Vice President, CWO4 Dale Andersen; Naval Services Executive Committeemen, CAPT Rick Thomas, and COL Will Holahan; Air Force Vice President, Col Margaret Cope; Air Force Junior Vice President, Capt Zachary Walker (via phone); Air Force Executive Committeemen, Lt Col Don Stockton; and Executive Director, Mr. Jeffrey Phillips.

Appointed national officers present were: Judge Advocate, LTC Bill Pentecost; Public Relations Officer, CAPT Henry Plimack; and National Chaplain, COL Sherman Reed. Invited guests in attendance were: Chairman, Department National Council Members, LTC Duane Richards. Also in attendance were ROA National Staff members: Ms. Lani Burnett, Ms. Susan Lukas and Mr. Brett Korade.

Elected and appointed national officers absent were: Army Junior Vice President, CPT Fatima McPhaul; Naval Services Executive Committeemen; LT George McElwee; Junior Vice President, LT Jennifer Franco; Air Force Executive Committeemen, Maj Leonard Sobieski and CMSgt Shane Smith; Treasurer, CPT Shannon Bibbee; and Health Services Officer, CAPT Marco Montoya.

Ms. Lani Burnett, recording secretary, called roll. With a quorum being in attendance, President Sweeney called the meeting to order at 9:12 a.m.

President's Remarks

President Sweeney opened the meeting by asking Chaplain Reed to offer a prayer over the proceedings and called for a moment of silence for 9/11 and for our recent dearly departed members. Colonel Sweeney thanked everyone for their dedicated service. He recognized Dale Anderson who asked for speedy recovery wishes for Marco Montoya.

President Sweeney introduced the USAA Affinity team Brian Collins and Laura Lule. They briefed the ExCom on the launch of the ROA/USAA co-branded Visa and AMEX credit cards, USAA's Giving Fund program, and explained the points-donation program and how it could benefit ROA.

Legislative Update

Susan Lukas provided an overview of recent outreach efforts and the positive feedback received from reserve units. She also explained that in the future ROA will be developing a two-year legislative agenda to better align with the congressional schedule.

Executive Director Remarks

Jeff Phillips briefed on ROA's revitalization as a fragile recovery, the current projected budget deficit (\$62K), the need to increase revenue, successes in gaining increased media exposure and efforts made concerning membership growth.

NAUS Integration

President Sweeney provided an overview of the negotiations and developments between ROA and NAUS since the last ExCom call - it is not a merger, doesn't amend ROA's charter, will not change the way we do business, ROA is not doing VSO work. He then led an extensive discussion of the matter and invited the following motions.

Upon a properly made motion by CWO4 Anderson and seconded by Colonel Cope and upon a majority vote, it was resolved to refer to the Constitution and By-Laws Committee for consideration a motion to approve the integration of NAUS.

Upon a properly made motion by CAPT Thomas and seconded by COL Zimmerman, and upon a majority vote, it was resolved to deem the integration of the NAUS vote as time sensitive.

Strom Thurman Award

President Sweeney reminded that based on a grievance received from members concerning the name of the MG Strom Thurman award, the issue was sent to the Army Service Section for review. The Army Section decided to restore the award to its historical name - "Army Junior Officer of the Year" award.

Use of "ROA"

Efforts are to consistently use "ROA" without spelling out the name of the association for all future material and marketing purposes.

President Sweeney convened an Executive Session and all non-EXCOM members were dismissed prior to the report from the Disciplinary Committee.

Disciplinary Committee Report

President Sweeney requested CPT Barnard brief the EXCOM on the status of the ongoing investigation.

The general EXCOM meeting was reconvened following the report and discussion.

CIOR

President Sweeney requested MG Hultman brief the EXCOM on the recently held CIOR Congress. MG Hultman commended CAPT Plimack for the excellent report he submitted and stressed his comments were not a substitute for the official CIOR report to be given by BG Silva when he arrives.

CIOMR Funds Demand

President Sweeney informed the EXCOM that ROA was in receipt of a letter from the CIOMR committee stating its intent to disaffiliate itself from ROA and demanding return of CIOMR funds; International Programs Officer Chip Holsworth has pursued the message that ROA wants to work with CIOMR to resolve the issue and feedback from the EXCOM was requested. Currently there is approximately \$14K in the CIOMR investment fund. There was discussion about the discourse and the fact that CIOMR is not a separate entity, but rather that ROA is the member and pays the dues. President Sweeney stated ROA will continue to work towards an amicable resolution and will come back to the EXCOM if a decision is needed.

CIOR VP Remarks

Upon his arrival, BG Silva reported that the Madrid Congress was successful. He explained the delegate/delegate-at-large process, stated the succession plan is a challenge, and questioned the dues structure believing that the U.S. is being overcharged for dues. He also acknowledged that the current EXCOM policy prohibits travel reimbursements and requires programs to be self-sustaining, but requested an exception to use excess revenue generated by CIOR registration surcharges be used by the VP for expense reimbursement.

*Upon a properly made motion by BG Silva and seconded by Lt Col Stockton and upon a majority vote, it was resolved that an exception be made to the standing policy to allow CIOR/CIOMR VPs to use **excess** revenue generated by the Congress for CIOR/CIOMR expenses.*

Upon a properly made amendment by Lt Col Stockton and seconded by BG Silva and upon a majority vote, it was resolved to include UPORFA in the initial motion.

ROAL

Mr. Chumney noted a 12% net decline in ROAL's membership and stated proactive efforts are being made to increase membership, improve communication visibility and develop a move ahead strategy. Mr. Chumney requested ROA's assistance in providing member database support.

Financial

President Sweeney stressed that revenue remains a challenge and that is incumbent upon all EXCOM members to develop and pursue local and national contacts for fundraising efforts. He also provided an update on paying off the MMB loan versus refinancing; options are under legal review and the EXCOM will be kept informed. He updated on the progress of MMB upgrades and the dialogue underway with the National Council to resolve rebates.

Discussion on rebates, actuarial study that is needed and good faith payments followed.

Upon a properly made motion by Lt Col Stockton and seconded by BG Silva a motion was made that the EXCOM take immediate steps to find a way to pay past dues rebates to Departments starting with past due term dues.

The motion failed on a roll-call vote of 5 to 5.

Discussion followed introduction of the motion on the estimated \$559K rebate debt and the need for a comprehensive solution to waive the debt and task the Finance Committee with developing a future plan, which had already been done.

President Sweeney stated that although the Departments had been asked in the past, with some agreeing to forgive rebate debt, a formal written request will be sent to Departments asking them to forgive the rebate debt.

Future Conventions

Lt Col Stockton stated that years ago the Standing Convention Committee was disbanded but an ad hoc committee can be appointed. The topic was moved to the 14 September EXCOM meeting to discuss and form an ad hoc committee.

New Business

Lt Col Stockton raised a question about where funds received by ROA but that are not earmarked for specific funds are deposited. Jeff Phillips answered that funds are deposited in general operations. Lt Col Stockton believes where the funds are deposited should be an EXCOM decision. No discussion or action was taken.

BG Silva raised the question of the Top of the Hill management contract stating it exceeded the Executive Director's authority and it should have required an EXCOM vote. The decision will be considered by the EXCOM for ratification during the next EXCOM meeting.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by President Sweeney.

Minutes submitted by Jeffrey Phillips.

lmb