



Executive Committee Meeting

Teleconference

25 July 2018

Minutes

The following members of the Executive Committee were present: President, Lt. Col. Donald L. Stockton; Immediate Past President, Col. James R. Sweeney II; Army Vice President, LTC Beverley A. Houghton; Army Executive Committeemen, COL Stanley G. Remer, LTC Milton D. Houghton, and LTC William B. Pentecost; Naval Services Vice President, CAPT Robert H. Carmack; Naval Services Executive Committeemen, CWO4 Dale J. Andersen, CAPT Rickey D. Thomas and LtCol Alexander Henegar; Air Force Vice President, CMSgt Shane P. Smith; Air Force Executive Committeemen, Lt. Col. Layne R. Wroblewski and Col Brenda B. Gardner; and Executive Director, Mr. Jeffrey E. Phillips.

Appointed national officers present were: Judge Advocate, LTC Terry Benshoof; Treasurer, Col. W. Robin Pfeil; International Programs Officer, Col Paul Groskreutz; and Chaplain, COL Sherman R. Reed. Also in attendance were: Chair, DNCM, COL Judi A. Davenport; representing Smith Bucklin, Sunny Patel; representing MNPC, Mr. Brad Carlson; and national staff members, Mr. John Rothrock, Ms. Susan Lukas, Ms. Lani Burnett, Ms. Diane Markham.

Elected and appointed officers absent were: Army Junior Vice President, MAJ Jason E. Tolbert; Air Force Junior Vice President, SSgt April D. Hill; Air Force Executive Committeeman, Col. David R. Anderson; Naval Services Junior Vice President, CWO2 Cynthia E. Oliver; Health Services Officer, MG Bob Kasulke; Public Relations Officer, CAPT Henry E. Plimack; and Sergeant-at-Arms, LTC Joe Snel.

Ms. Markham, recording secretary, called roll. With a quorum being in attendance, President Stockton called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

President's Remarks

President Stockton opened the meeting by thanking everyone for being on the call. He then asked Chaplain Reed to provide a prayer for the group. Having no opening comments or concerns he called on Executive Director, Jeff Phillips and the staff to brief the ExCom.

Executive Director's Update

Mr. Phillips said most of his report was sent in the read ahead. He reported that the roof of the building has suffered substantial leakage connected to the drain system, which has become very badly clogged. He said the staff is arranging to have it unclogged. He said the leakage has damaged portions of the roof. The staff is having the roof analyzed to determine if there is a need for full or partial replacement and is collecting bids. Mr. Phillips said ROA is likely facing a full roof replacement, which could cost somewhere between \$100,000 to \$200,000. He proposed that the money be taken from the Reserve Contingency Fund, which right now has a little over \$900,000.

Mr. Phillips reported that the freight elevator upgrade has begun. The rebuild will go through mid-September, which is during Top of the Hill's period of light activity. He said membership continues to go up for term and associate membership types. There are three new chapters being developed. He said ROA has now published seven op-eds in The Hill. Mr. Phillips said he is in talks with the Military Times to provide both factual and opinion-based content for the Military Times family of publications. Mr. Phillips also reported that the directory project royalty check has been received in the amount of \$21,464, just over \$2,000 more than budgeted.

Financial Update

Mr. Patel reported that as of the end of June, ROA has year-to-date operating revenue of \$688,000, which represents 22% of the overall budgeted operating revenue. For operating expense, ROA has a year-to-date of \$554,000, which represents 19% of the overall budgeted operating expense. Bottom line net income for operations is \$134,000. Non-operating activity for June is primarily made up of investment activity and depreciation expense. The bottom line for non-operating is -\$44,000. Revenue in ROA's non-operations fluctuates depending on market activities within the investment portfolio for ROA, STARS, and Memorial Endowment.

Legislation Update

Mr. Rothrock provided an update on current legislation activity. He said the House and Senate Armed Services Committees rolled out the conference report for the 2019 National Defense Authorization Act, which would authorize a \$717,000,000,000 national defense budget. Congress must still appropriate the money. In addition to several other authorizations, it authorizes a 2.6 percent pay raise for members of the active and reserve forces, increases reserve component end strength by 5,100 and increases funding for training and training operations.

Mr. Rothrock reported that ROA and the Commissioned Officers association the USPHS signed a joint letter to senior House and Senate leaders from the respective health committees regarding DoD's proposal to reduce the USPHS commissioned officers ranks by 38 percent and shifting the retirement cost to agencies from which they are deployed. The letter also stated that both associations support a proposed creation of a reserve corps like that of other services.

Mr. Rothrock said ROA and IAVA will be participating in a press conference for the Burn Pit Accountability act. ROA has been a sponsor. The goal is to increase information and awareness to the bill.

National Convention

President Stockton said it is time for everyone to make their plans to travel to the convention. Ms. Markham reported that a medical seminar is being developed. She said that there are currently 51 members registered to attend the event, but that is expected as it is not unusual for ROA's members to register close to the deadline. She then reminded everyone that the cutoff date for registering in advance of the convention is 12 September and the deadline for making a hotel reservation and getting the group rate is 30 August. She said the full program is available on the website. Ms. Markham said that the business session will be very full, with nine C&B and policy changes to address, six new resolutions plus renewals, and elections. She encouraged everyone to talk about these issues to minimize discussion on the floor.

Dues Rebates

Ms. Markham reported that 2018 dues rebate checks are in process and should be delivered to departments on/around 19 August. She said there are 30 departments in compliance and receiving rebates.

STARs Foundation

Mr. Phillips said the Pershing Society program is steadily moving along with \$200,000 in pledges to date. Mr. Carlson reported that a \$40,000 anonymous pledge has been received. The Resource Development Committee has developed a statement of need for the capacity study, which will go out to individuals who will be interviewed. There are eight interviews scheduled. The Pershing Society program continues to bring in pledges. Mr. Carlson said a new direct mail went out in the beginning of July. The theme focused on legislation issues. The next one will be focused on STARs and will go out around Labor Day.

Mr. Phillips said the Foundation is working with the Military Child Alliance, which runs in tandem with STARs in Schools, developing a center of excellence around ROA support of reserve component families. Colonel Sweeney said two new board members will be added in August.

Military Appreciation Programs

Mr. Phillips reported that many companies that offer military appreciation programs fail to include reservists in the language of all who qualify. Typically, they will refer to active duty and retired, not realizing they are missing the entire reserve community. Mr. Phillips said he has written a letter to both Dollar General and the Ford Motor Company asking them to include reservists in their campaigns. Mr. Phillips said he included language that their marketing department can use. He has also written a news release that will go out.

Credentials Committee

President Stockton presented his appointments for the Credentials Committee and asked the ExCom to ratify his appointments.

Upon a properly made motion by Captain Carmack, seconded by Captain Thomas, and upon a unanimous vote, it was resolved to ratify the President's appointments to the Credentials Committee as follows: Colonel Judi Davenport, USAR (Ret.), Chair; and members Captain Gary Ausman, USCGR (Ret.), Colonel Fred Zehnder, USAR (Ret.), and Colonel Scott Russell, USAFR.

Waiver of C&B Amendment Deadline

Ms. Markham, representing national staff, asked the Executive Committee to consider adopting a proposed amendment to the Bylaws that would extend the number of days allowed to submit minutes of the ExCom meetings from 10 to 15 business days, and to waive the submission deadline to allow for presentation at the national convention.

Upon a properly made motion by Colonel Sweeney, seconded by CWO4 Andersen, and upon a unanimous vote, it was resolved to adopt the following proposed bylaws amendment and send it to the 2018 National Convention for consideration: "Article B-4, Section 4: Minutes – The Executive Director shall be responsible for having copies of the minutes of all Executive Committee meetings and all their actions taken between meetings forwarded to all members of the National Council and all department presidents within ~~40~~ 15 business days after the end of each Executive Committee meeting or action taken. The minutes shall set forth all resolutions, actions and motions adopted by the Executive Committee during that meeting and since the last meeting and shall be posted on the Association website."

Ms. Markham reported that the Department of Golden West has submitted proposed changes to Article B-8 of the bylaws, and Policy D-1 of the dues and rebate policy. She said they are asking

the ExCom to deem these items to be time sensitive, and therefore waive the submission deadline to allow the amendments to be presented for consideration by the 2018 national convention. Representing the Golden West, Lieutenant Colonel Milt Houghton said there was confusion as to the deadline, which is why they were late submitting their proposal.

Colonel Sweeney made a motion, which was seconded by Colonel Remer, to waive the deadline. Colonel Sweeney said that over the last several years the deadline has been waived very seldomly. Captain Carmack said that this is a major issue and the departments will not have had time to meet on this issue prior to the convention. President Stockton said the actuarial study on the Life Fund is not complete yet. Once complete, he said, much more information will be available when considering how the funds will be used. The motion failed by majority vote.

Adjourn

Chaplain Reed provided a benediction. President Stockton thanked everyone for their time and great dialog during the meeting.

Upon a properly made motion by Captain Carmack, seconded by Colonel Sweeney, and upon a unanimous vote, it was resolved to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned by President Stockton at 8:05 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Jeffrey E. Phillips, Executive Director.

JEP/dm