



## **Executive Committee Meeting**

**Conference Call**

**27 January 2021**

### **Minutes**

The following members of the Executive Committee were present: President, Col. Judi A. Davenport; President-Elect, Capt. Robert H. Carmack; Immediate Past President, Lt. Col. Donald L. Stockton; Army Vice President, Lt. Col. William B. Pentecost; Army Executive Committee Members, Lt. Col. Vincent A. Cummings and Lt. Col. Peter Powell; Naval Services Vice President, Capt. Rickey D. Thomas; Naval Services Executive Committee Members, Sgt. Maj. Rocco C. DeCamillo, Capt. Henry E. Plimack, and Cmdr. John G. Rothrock; Air Force Vice President, Col. Thomas H. Hueg; Air Force Junior Vice President, Staff Sgt. April D. Hill; Air Force Executive Committee Members, Col. Gregory K. Bules, Lt. Col. Susan E. Lukas, and Col. Richard E. Nelson III; and Executive Director, Mr. Jeffrey E. Phillips.

Appointed national officers present were: Chaplain, Col. Sherman R. Reed; International Programs Officer, Col. Paul Groskreutz; Judge Advocate, Col. James R. Sweeney; Public Relations Officer, Capt. Henry E. Plimack; and Treasurer, Lt. Col. Layne R. Wroblewski.

Also, in attendance were: DNCM Chair, Capt. Rafael Ortiz; Budget and Finance Committee Chair, Lt. Col. Hazel Robinson; and Communications Committee member, Capt. Jerry Kromrey. National staff and contractors present were Ms. Lani Burnett, Ms. Diane Markham, Mr. Sunny Patel, and Mr. Brad Carlson Ms. Karen Arreola.

Elected and appointed officers absent were: Army Junior Vice President, 1st Lt. Endureth W. Culanag; Army Executive Committee Member, Maj. Jason Tolbert; Naval Services Junior Vice President, Lt. Cmdr. Jeffrey Krilla; Health Services Officer, Maj. Gen. Peggy Wilmoth; International Programs Officer, Lt. Col. Beverley A. Houghton; and Sergeant-at-Arms, Lt. Col. Joseph Snel.

Ms. Markham, recording secretary, took roll. With a quorum in attendance, President Davenport called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

#### **Call to Order**

President Davenport opened the meeting by asking Chaplain Reed to offer a prayer. She said the Executive Director's report was sent prior to the meeting. To save time in the meeting, she asked for questions instead of the usual verbal staff reports. She reported that the March meeting hotel contract has been cancelled without penalty and a new contract has been signed for 2022. The 2021 meeting will be held virtually.

## **Staff Updates**

Mr. Phillips added to his written report, letting everyone know that Kevin Hollinger has resigned effective the end of the month. He said Lt. Col. Susan Lukas will, on an interim basis, fill in as the legislation director. Mr. Phillips also reported he is terminating the current contract with Condor and renegotiating a new contract to reduce the management fee. This action is in light of the reduced business at Top of the Hill due to COVID-19.

Ms. Lukas said she is working on resolutions for the March meeting. She anticipates three resolutions will be presented to the National Council for approval. Ms. Lukas said she is working on March on the Hill at Home, which will provide members with everything they need to visit their congressmen and senators at their home offices. She is also working on the legislative agenda.

## **STARs Foundation Update**

Lt. Col. Stockton said the board is still meeting. He said they aren't able to do a lot of activities but are still planning for future activities. Mr. Carlson said fundraising efforts are now over \$2,800,000 for the Second Century Campaign. Cash flow is exceeding expectations by approximately \$100,000 for the Citizen Warrior program. He said the grassroots efforts by members continue to bring in funds.

## **International Programs**

Capt. Plimack said UPORFA has confirmed plans for a conference in November 2021 in Lima, Peru. CIOR and CIOMR held virtual meetings this month to prepare for the mid-winter meeting in February, which will be held virtually. CIOMR will hold a virtual symposium in March. Information on UPORFA, CIOR and CIOMR events can be found on ROA's website.

## **Budget and Finance Committee Recommendations**

Lt. Col. Robinson said the Budget and Finance Committee met. They reviewed the current financial position. The committee recommended the staff renegotiate the contract with Condor to reduce or eliminate the flat fee. They also recommended the staff explore loans available through the CARES act and report back to the ExCom on potential options for ROA.

*Upon a properly made motion by the Budget and Finance Committee, and upon a unanimous vote, it was resolved to renegotiate the current contract with Condor, to minimize or eliminate the flat fee.*

## **Board of Trustees Update**

Col. Hueg reported on behalf of the Board of Trustees. He reminded everyone that in late 2019, the investment portfolio was moved into safer investments to avoid predicted downturns. As a result, the portfolio did very well through March and April. ROA's investment advisor now recommends going back to a normal 60% target in equities; the Board of Trustees agreed. As of December 2020, ROA's investment portfolio was \$10,285,296.88. The Board of Trustees recommends increasing investments to \$30,000,000, at which point ROA could operate on investment earnings every year. He said while this would be a slow process, it should be a goal of ROA.

## **Executive Session**

President Davenport called for an executive session to discuss the OSPR Committee's recommendations. She dismissed everyone except for voting members and invited guests.

### **Wrap-up and Adjournment**

President Davenport said the next ExCom meeting will be 24 February.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:48 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Jeffrey E. Phillips, Executive Director.

JEP/dm