

# **Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission**

**Commission Meeting  
Room 680, Truman State Office Building  
Jefferson City, MO 6510  
July 14, 2010**

## **Meeting Minutes**

Members Attending: Dalton Wright, Chair; Jeff Bloemker; Representative Scott Largent; Senator Bill Stouffer; Kent Thomas; Bob Welling; Representative Terry L. Witte, Vice Chair; Larry Kay, Executive Director, MO Veterans Commission; Katie Steele Danner, Department of Economic Development, Designee; and Sherry L. Anderson, Department of Economic Development, Boards and Commissions Liaison.

Others attending: Dr. Judene Blackburn, Superintendent, Waynesville School District; Sergeant Major Roger Layman (Ret.); Melissa Quantock, Fort Leonard Wood Liaison; Dr. Annie Sobel, University of Missouri; Rachel Wheeler, Whiteman Air Force Base Liaison.

Guests: Daina Dawkins, Whiteman Air Force Base; Chi Anne McGrew, School Liaison Officer, Whiteman Air Force Base; David B. Snodgrass, Office of the Army; and Colonel Charles A. Williams, Garrison Commander, Fort Leonard Wood.

Chair Wright opened the meeting and asked attendees to introduce themselves.

Chair Wright requested that the Minutes from April 8, 2010 meeting be tabled and considered at a later time during the meeting.

## **Commission Business Meeting**

### **2010 Legislative Update**

House Bill 2332, filed by Representative Terry Witte, which addressed “Mission Essential” personnel, was discussed.

New language for the 2011 Legislative session was also discussed.

1. Amend Section 167.020 RSMo to provide that “good cause” for a residence waiver shall include a circumstance where a military parent is deemed “mission essential” and required to live on a military installation.
2. Amend Section 167.151 RSMo so that when a child of a military parent is required to live on a military installation because the parent is deemed “mission essential,” the State of Missouri Aid allocable for such child shall be paid to the school district where that child is in actual attendance even though his or her physical residence is in another school district.

## **Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission**

Mr. Welling stated unlike House Bill 2332, the military parent has to earn the privilege of a waiver and maintains that any decision is made by the school board and remains clearly a “local control” issue not something the State by law is forcing on any school district or exposing the State to school choice in Missouri as a mandated system of open enrollment for Missouri.

Mr. Welling read the petition from the Whiteman Area Leadership Council which will be presented to Senator David Pearce at the end of July. The petition strongly urges Senator Pearce to support amending Section 167.151 RSMo and Section 167.020 RSMo, to reflect the changes MMPEC has recommended to the Missouri General Assembly.

Mr. Bloemker asked Mr. Welling if he had discussed with Senator Pearce the proposed amendments and his initial reaction to this approach. Mr. Welling stated that he had spoken with Senator Pearce in November and he did not commit to any support of the language.

Ms. Danner asked if the school districts had considered splitting the state aid between the school districts and if DESE had been approached regarding this type of compromise.

Ms. Wheeler stated that suggestion had been raised before with the Knob Noster school district and they are not inclined to want to participate or reciprocate with other school districts based on the financial implications to the school district. She stated the formula for the funding is: 40%-Foundation Formula and 40%-IMPEC aid.

Ms. Wheeler stated that Senator Pearce had conveyed his concerns regarding the issue of high school age children of a “Mission Essential Personnel” parent that are required to live in certain locations and the school district may not offer certain sports or opportunities for the student. Senator Pearce stated that his past experience with this type of language has been perceived as the first step to opening up the “open enrollment” battle and could put our legislative efforts in fracas and jeopardize its chances of passage

Mr. Thomas stated that when Senator Pearce was a Representative, he served on the MMPEC Education Task Force that discussed this issue and it was addressed by the Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA). MSHSAA’s rules require that students have a transfer form completed by their previous school and the student must have been eligible to play at the previous school. The consensus of the Task Force was that this is a local school district issue.

Mr. Thomas also stated that Senator Pearce supported allowing military personnel the ability to vote in local elections and school board elections to ensure representation on the school boards.

## Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission

Mr. Thomas added that some of the opposition on the local level comes from the belief that the military personnel don't pay property taxes and therefore should not have a vote in how the taxes are spent. Mr. Thomas reminded the members that the military impact aid provides a significant portion of the operating budget and that suggestions had been made during the Task Force's meetings to limit the provision to school districts where a substantial portion of the funding comes from military impact aid.

Mr. Bloemker suggested he would be willing to meet with the Knob Noster group to work on language that may be more acceptable to both sides of this issue. Chairman Wright will also meet with group to and report back at the next MMPEC meeting the results of this meeting.

Ms. Wheeler commented that after the recent DOD site survey, General West called regarding Knob Noster's lack of support of Whiteman AFB and suggested that General Wheeler and his key people should meet with Knob Noster's mayor and superintendent to try and fix the problems

### 2010 Legislative Update

Rep. Largent, Rep. Witte and Ms. Anderson discussed the list of bills on the MMPEC 2010 Legislative Bills Watch List and provided an overview of the status of each of the bills.

Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission			
MMPEC WATCH LIST			
Senate Bill Number	Sponsor	Description	Status
SB 665	Rupp	Gives public employees serving in the military the option to use any combination of annual leave, compensatory time, military leave, and unpaid leave.	1/13/10 Referred to Senate Veterans Affairs, Pensions & Urban Affairs Committee
SB 733	Pearce	Modifies provisions relating to higher education. If a scholarship recipient cannot attend an approved institution because of military service with the United States Armed Forces, the student will receive the scholarship if he or she returns to full-time status within six months after ending military service. The student must verify to the Coordinating Board for Higher Education that the military service was satisfactorily completed.	5/12/2010 Truly Agreed to and Finally Passed 5/25/2010 Delivered to the Governor
SB 749	Rupp	Requires that members of the National Guard to be informed of the risks of depleted uranium and that certain veterans be informed	1/19/10 Second Read and Referred to Senate Veterans Affairs, Pensions & Urban Affairs Committee

## Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission

		of available federal treatment for exposure to depleted uranium.	
SB 752	Lembke	Allows a "LEGION OF MERIT" special license plate for a person who has been awarded this military service.	3/13/10 Combined with SBs 812, 752 & 909 Referred to Senate Transportation Committee
SB 812	Schmitt	Allows motorists to obtain certain various special license plates under certain conditions.	3/13/10 Combined with SBs 812, 752 & 909 Referred to Senate Transportation Committee
SB 845- refer to SB846 refer to SCS for HCS for HB 1524 & 2260	Barnitz	Modifies the law relating to registration and absentee ballots overseas voters.	5/14/2010 Truly Agreed to and Finally Passed 5/14/2010 Emergency Clause adopted 5/27/2010 Signed by the Governor 5/27/2010 MO Youth Challenge Academy Becomes Law 8/28/2010 Becomes Law
<b>SB 846- refer to SCS for HCS for HB 1524 &amp; 2260</b>	Barnitz	Modifies the law relating to lost or stolen or unclaimed military medals.	5/14/2010 Truly Agreed to and Finally Passed 5/14/2010 Emergency Clause adopted 5/27/2010 Signed by the Governor 5/27/2010 MO Youth Challenge Academy Becomes Law 8/28/2010 Becomes Law
SB 876	Stouffer	Modifies the membership panel that establishes the criteria grants from the Missouri Military Relief Fund.	2/4/10 Referred to Senate Veterans Affairs, Pensions & Urban Affairs
SB 907	Rupp	Creates the Early High School Graduation Scholarship Program for public high school students who graduate from high school early.	3/17/10 Voted "Do Pass" by Senate Education Committee
SCR 44	Justus	Urges Congress to replace the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy with a policy of nondiscrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.	2/9/2010 Hearing conducted in Senate Joint Rules Committee
<b>House Bill Number</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
HB 1208	Day - 148	Adds the persons designated by a military member in a U.S. Dept. of Defense form to the term next-of-kin as it relates to the right of sepulcher in final disposition of the decedent's remains.	5/14/2010 Truly Agreed to and Finally Passed 5/14/2010 Emergency Clause adopted 5/27/2010 Signed by the Governor 5/27/2010 MO Youth Challenge Academy Becomes Law 8/28/2010 Becomes Law
HB 1220	Day - 148	Establishes the Gulf War Medallion Program and creates the Gulf War Veterans' Recognition Award Fund	2/20/10 Referred to House Veterans Committee
<b>HB 1221- refer to SCS for HCS for HB 1524</b>	Smith - 14	Establishes the Gulf War Medallion Program and creates the Gulf War Veterans' Recognition Award Fund	5/14/2010 Truly Agreed to and Finally Passed 5/14/2010 Emergency Clause adopted 5/27/2010 Signed by the Governor 5/27/2010 MO Youth Challenge Academy Becomes Law

## Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission

<b>&amp; 2260</b>			8/28/2010 Becomes Law
HB 1224	Smith - 14	Establishes the Global War on Terrorism Medallion Program and creates the Global War on Terrorism Medallion Veterans' Recognition Award Fund	5/14/2010 Truly Agreed to and Finally Passed 5/14/2010 Emergency Clause adopted 5/27/2010 Signed by the Governor 5/27/2010 MO Youth Challenge Academy Becomes Law 8/28/2010 Becomes Law
HB 1354	Cunningham - 145	Allows members of the reserve of any branch of the United Armed Forces to be eligible for the MO National Guard educational assistance grant.	5/14/2010 Referred to House Veterans Committee
<b>SCS for HCS for HB 1524 &amp; 2260</b>	Largent - 120	1. This bill changes the laws regarding veterans and members of the military and establishes the Missouri Youth Challenge Academy. Requires all state agencies and political subdivisions to give a three-point bonus preference to a service-disabled veteran business operating as a Missouri business when letting a contract for the performance of any job or service. (2.) Specifies that the State of Missouri recognize the designations of Prisoner of War (POW) and Missing in Action (MIA) as valid descriptions of casualty status and category classification for military personnel. (3.) Defines "primary next of kin" as, in order of precedence, a surviving spouse, eldest child, father or mother, eldest brother or sister, or eldest grandchild as it relates to the Uniform Code of Military Justice. (4.) Allows the Adjutant General to establish the Missouri Youth Challenge Academy to provide positive interventions for at-risk high school age youth. (5.) Allows a sergeant major from the Missouri National Guard and a reserve unit to serve on the panel of the Missouri Military Family Relief Fund. (6.) Authorizes the Governor, upon the to present: (a) A Legion of Merit Medal to individuals who have exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding military service and achievement reflecting honorably and creditably upon the state; (b) A campaign ribbon to individuals who have served in direct support of several military campaigns. The ribbons include a Missouri Iraq Campaign Ribbon, a Missouri Afghanistan	5/14/2010 Truly Agreed to and Finally Passed 5/14/2010 Emergency Clause adopted 5/27/2010 Signed by the Governor 5/27/2010 MO Youth Challenge Academy Becomes Law 8/28/2010 Becomes Law

# Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission

		<p>Campaign Ribbon, a Missouri Kosovo Campaign Ribbon, and a Missouri Vietnam Campaign Ribbon; and (c) The Governor's Unit Citation to a unit, team, or task force of the Missouri National Guard which served after September 11, 2001, during state emergency duty or a federal deployment with outstanding honor and distinction. (7.) Authorizes the Adjutant General to present: (a) A Missouri Adjutant General Staff Identification Badge to an individual based on demonstrated outstanding performance of duty; and (b) The Missouri National Guard First Sergeant Ribbon to an individual who has been a first sergeant for three years and has been recommended by his or her squadron or company for having demonstrated exceptional and honorable leadership qualities and dedication as a first sergeant.</p>	
<b>SCS for HCS for HB 1524 &amp; 2260 Continuation</b>	<p>(8.) Requires the Secretary of State to establish procedures for absent uniformed services and overseas voters to request voter registration applications and absentee ballot applications. At least one form of electronic communication for use by absent uniformed services and overseas voters must be designated for requesting voter registration application and absentee ballots. These voters may request and designate a preferred method of electronic transmission of these applications and ballots or request receipt by mail. The Secretary of State must also develop, in coordination with local election authorities, a free access system by which these voters may determine whether an absentee ballot has been received by the appropriate election authority. A sufficient quantity of paper ballots for federal elections must be printed and available for these voters within 45 days prior to the election, and the election authority must begin transmitting the ballots to these voters who have submitted an absentee ballot application. Registration applications and paper ballots cannot be rejected by an election authority because of any restriction on the paper or envelope type. Missouri is required to use the special write-in absentee ballot provided in Section 115.292, RSMo, for all elections for federal office as authorized by federal law. (9.) Adds a dependent of a retired military member who relocates to Missouri within one year of the date of his or her parent's retirement from active duty to the three-year attendance exemption requirement for the A+ Schools Program. (10.) Adds a person designated by an active duty military member on the United States Department of Defense Form 93, Record of Emergency Data, to the term next-of-kin as it relates to the common law right of sepulcher in choosing and controlling the final disposition of a person who died while on active duty. (11.) Allows for a special license plate designated "LEGION OF MERIT" bearing an image of the Legion of Merit Medal for any person who has been awarded this military service award. To obtain this plate, a person must make application, furnish proof as a recipient of the Legion of Merit Medal, and pay a fee equal to the fee charged for personalized license plates to the Department of Revenue in addition to the registration fee and any other documents required by law. And (12.) Requires the State Treasurer upon receiving a military medal to hold and maintain it until the original owner or his or her heirs or beneficiaries can be found. The State Treasurer may designate a veteran's organization or other appropriate</p>		



## Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission

		organization as custodian of a medal until the owner or his or her heirs or beneficiaries are located. The bill contains an emergency clause for the provisions regarding the Missouri Youth Challenge Academy.	
HB 1530	Smith - 14	This bill requires Missouri state employees who are called up for certain active duty to be compensated an amount equal to the difference between their total monthly military compensation and their monthly state salary.	5/14/2010 Referred to House Veterans Committee
HB 1580	Smith - 14	Changes the law regarding the Hero At Home Program.	4/22/2010 Senate Veterans Affairs, Pensions & Urban Affairs Public Hearing
<b>HB 1745- refer to SCS for HCS for HB 1524 &amp; 2260</b>	Day - 148	Requires the State Treasurer to hold and maintain military medals until their owner or his or her heirs can be found; authorizes the Treasurer to designate an organization to be the custodian of the medals.	5/14/2010 Truly Agreed to and Finally Passed 5/14/2010 Emergency Clause adopted 5/27/2010 Signed by the Governor 5/27/2010 MO Youth Challenge Academy Becomes Law 8/28/2010 Becomes Law
<b>HB 1893</b>	Kelly - 24	Changes the laws regarding the distribution of gaming funds for early childhood education and veterans' programs. This bill repeals and re-enacts those provisions with two changes and places them in the statutes that apply to veterans and to education. The changes include requiring grant funds to be made available for service officer training for outreach programs between veteran service organizations and the Missouri Veterans Commission and adds the Vietnam War to the list of conflicts for which service medals are awarded.	5/14/2010 Truly Agreed to and Finally Passed 5/27/2010 Signed by the Governor 8/28/2010 Law Becomes Effective
HB 1943	McGhee - 122	Changes the membership panel which establishes the criteria for awarding grants	4/29/2010 Senate Veterans Affairs, Pensions & Urban Affairs Public Hearing

## Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission

		from the Missouri Military Relief Fund.	
HB 2114	Hoskins - 121	Specifies that the State of Missouri recognize the designations of Prisoner of War and Missing in Action as valid descriptions of casualty status and category classification for military personnel.	4/29/2010 Senate Veterans Affairs, Pensions & Urban Affairs Public Hearing
<b>HB 2147 &amp; 2261</b>	Brown - 50	Currently, a student who is an active-duty military dependent is exempt from the requirement that he or she must have attended a state high school for at least three years prior to graduation in order to be eligible for a grant under the A+ Schools Program. This bill also exempts from the three-year attendance requirement a student who is a dependent of a retired military member who relocates to Missouri within one year of the date of his or her parent's retirement from active duty.	5/3/2010 Truly Agreed to and Finally Passed 5/27/2010 Approved by the Governor 8/28/2010 Law Becomes Effective
<b>HB 2189</b>	Smith - 14	Changes the law regarding the Hero At Home Program.	5/14/2010 Referred to House Veterans Committee
<b>HB 2260 - refer to HB 1524</b>	Largent - 120		5/14/2010 Truly Agreed to and Finally Passed 5/14/2010 Emergency Clause adopted 5/27/2010 Signed by the Governor 5/27/2010 MO Youth Challenge Academy Becomes Law 8/28/2010 Becomes Law
<b>HB 2261- refer to HB 2147</b>	Brown - 50		5/3/2010 Truly Agreed to and Finally Passed 5/27/2010 Approved by the Governor 8/28/2010 Law Becomes Effective
<b>HB 2262- refer to HB 1524</b>	Day - 148	This bill allows the Adjutant General to establish Youth Challenge Academy to provide positive interventions for at-risk high school age youth. The Academy will utilize residential military-based training and supervised work experience to build life skills of high school dropouts and training in responsible citizenship, life-coping and academic skills, and other personal development skills. The Missouri Youth Challenge Foundation Fund is created consisting of gifts, donations, appropriations, transfers, and bequests. The Adjutant General is authorized to make grants from the fund to support the academy. The bill contains an emergency clause.	5/14/2010 Truly Agreed to and Finally Passed 5/14/2010 Emergency Clause adopted 5/27/2010 Signed by the Governor 5/27/2010 MO Youth Challenge Academy Becomes Law 8/28/2010 Becomes Law
HB 2318	Day - 148	Allows a spouse of an active member of the United States Armed Forces to be eligible for unemployment benefits if accompanying the military spouse in the event of a military transfer.	3/16/10 Second Read in the House



## Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission

HB 2332	Witte - 10	Allows certain active-duty military parents to send their children to a public school within a 30-mile radius of the parent's military installation.	4/20/2010 Public Hearing House Veterans Committee
HB 2357	Smith - 14	Public Retirement Plan Investments in Foreign Companies active ties to Iran, North Korea, Sudan, or Syria that are non-humanitarian in nature.	5/6/2010 Reported to the House as a Senate Substitute for House Bill 2357 as amended.
HCR 55	Low - 39	Urges Congress to replace the "don't ask don't tell" policy of the United States military with a policy of nondiscrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.	5/14/2010 Referred to House Veterans Committee
HJR 60	Jones - 89	Proposes a constitutional amendment authorizing an exemption from personal property tax for one motor vehicle owned by or leased to a veteran awarded the Purple Heart medal or the surviving, unwed spouse.	5/14/2010 Referred to House Veterans Committee

### Veterans Commission Report

General Larry Kay, Executive Director, Missouri Veterans Commission (MVC) reported that for 2010 fiscal year:

#### Cemeteries

- Missouri has six State veterans cemeteries
- Fort Leonard Wood Cemetery start accepting interments in late June/early July
- Dedication ceremony for the Fort Leonard Wood's Veterans Cemetery will be September 13
- Larry Carmer is the new director of the Jacksonville Veterans Cemetery

#### Veterans Homes

- MVC has seven State Veterans homes with a total of 1,350 beds
- Homes are at 99% census occupancy
- As of June 2010, the waiting list for admission is 1,457

#### Veterans Service Program

- 42 Service officer statewide assisting Veterans with their benefits (they touch every county in the State)
- MVC Yellow Ribbon Re-Integration Outreach program gives benefits briefings statewide
- Getting ready for fair season as part of outreach

# Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission

## Ombudsman

- Ombudsman handles inquiries both internal and external that do not immediately fit one of the core programs offered by MVC and refers these inquiries to the appropriate agency or organization for resolution

## Budget

- The 2011 MVC fiscal budget has been finalized but there is still a lot of uncertainty as to what the final amount will be as the Governor has announced additional cuts and withholdings in the future
- MVC will continue to serve Veterans within our existing resources

## MVC's Strategic Initiatives for 2011 Fiscal Year

Three strategic initiatives were adopted by the Commission at the May 3, 2010 Missouri Veterans Commission meeting:

- Implement the five recommendations of the Listening Post Report Guide (21 Listening Posts around the State)
  1. Complete and publish (within budget constrictions) a Missouri Guide to Veterans Benefits
  2. Establish an Outreach Task Force
  3. Formalize our support of the Yellow Ribbon Re-Integration Outreach Program
  4. Establish a Benefits Task Force
  5. Promote educational awareness and a call for action regarding the solvency of the Veterans Capital Improvement Trust Fund (VCCITF)
- Establish processes to synchronize our 2011 Fiscal Year goals with VISN 15, VISN 16, VBA and VCA
- Develop mechanisms with MCV Veterans Service Partners to communicate our three joint key messages
  1. See a Veterans Service Officer
  2. Sign up for VA health care
  3. Join a Veterans Service Organization (Joplin's American Legion's youngest member is 78)

General Kay also reported the following projected demographics: By 2030, the veteran population could be 300,000.

# Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission

## Issues of Concern for Veterans and Military Personnel

As the country's operational commitments have increased throughout the world, military families are now often faced with deployments in more rapid successions. With increasing anxiety and uncertainty for military families, all branches of the armed forces are now turning to programs that include all family members.

Dr. Sobel discussed the study conducted by Dr. James Rooney, Ph.D, Professor of Biology and Coordinator LU/DoD Research Collaboration, Lincoln University. The research and the development of an interactive DVD for education in the areas of suicide prevention and the maintenance of mental health was funded by Leonard Wood Institute. This Virtual Experience Immersive Learning Simulation (VEILS) is a component of the life preservation training course offered through Lincoln University of Missouri's Center for Suicide Prevention Research and Studies.

Col. Williams stated efforts to prevent suicides among active duty troops is complicated because of many factors. Poor training, a lack of coordination, overstretched soldiers and families, and family financial problems are some of the issues facing military personnel. Col. Williams stated that the Army will be releasing a report, *Health Promotion Risk Reduction Suicide Prevention*, a Report Overview-Leader's Brief in the next few weeks which will be a valuable resource for MMPEC.

## Advisory Members

***Rachel Wheeler, Whiteman AFB Liaison***, made the following announcements:

- 150 inspectors conducted a Nuclear Surety Inspection of the Base
- Beginning Saturday, September 18, WAFB will hold a two (2) day air show and she graciously invited the members to the event as guests of the WAFB Commandant. If you will be attending the event, please contact 660-563-1710 (Rachel's number) or the Protocol Office 660-687-7144. Those attending will receive a parking pass and will be invited to lunch in Commandant's tent.
- WAFB has been designated with 2 new missions.

***Melissa Quantock, Fort Leonard Wood Base Liaison***, made the following announcements:

- General Martin E. Dempsey and his wife visited the FLWB. General Dempsey is the current Commanding General, U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command.
- The Base is adding a Chemical Training area to support Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) School.
- Col. Williams announced that Miranda Lambert, lead singer of Lady Antebellum, will be performing August 24<sup>th</sup> at FLW.

# Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission

Chairman Wright noted that this is the first time that FLWB's Commanding General is not an engineer.

***Roger Layman, Army Reserve Ambassador,*** made the following announcement:

- August 21<sup>st</sup> is Military Day at Busch Stadium at the Cardinals game.

***Katie Steele Danner, Department of Economic Development Designee,*** made the following announcements:

- The Governor's Missouri Strategic Initiatives for Economic Growth Steering Committee will launch its first meeting on July 29<sup>th</sup> at the Missouri University Alumni Center in Columbia. The purpose of the meeting is to identify strategic and tactical plans for transforming Missouri's economy into a 21<sup>st</sup> Century sustainable growth economy. The Committee is comprised of business, education, economic development and labor leaders from all parts of the State and they will have the following tasks: 1. Review and analyze information and data regarding Missouri's economy, current and potential initiatives and strategies, and other related materials; 2. Provide input and recommendations on proposed strategies and tactical action plans; and 3. Review and comment on the final report.
- The Department also will be conducting Regional Planning Council Forums around the State over the next few months. The Regional Planning Councils will be comprised of business, education, economic development and labor leaders from six areas of the State and will provide input and comments on key strategies and tactical plans for the State and their region.
- The Missouri National Guard announced the retirement of Gail Schrimpf who has the distinction of serving 5 Adjutant Generals over her career with the Missouri National Guard. Vickie Cook will be the Adjutant General's assistant.
- The Governor and a Missouri delegation will attend the Commissioning Ceremony of the USS Missouri (SSN-780) Virginia-class attack submarine on July 31<sup>st</sup> in Groton, Connecticut. The Missouri's sponsor is Becky Gates, wife of Secretary of Defense Robert Gates.
- Sunday, August 15<sup>th</sup> is Military Appreciation Day at the Missouri State Fair.
- The Adjutant General's Commanders Conference will be held August 25<sup>th</sup> through the 29<sup>th</sup> in Branson.

Other Announcements:

# **Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission**

*David Snodgrass, Deputy Director, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army, Central Region Environmental and Government Affairs*, distributed a snapshot in time of the 10 Key *Quality of Life Issues-Supporting Military Service Members and Families* for the Central Region Environmental and Government Affairs Area as of January 2010. The data show in general the states that meets or exceeds the Department of Defense's identified best practices. The snapshot compares nine (9) states: Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska, which shows that Missouri has only met or exceeded in three key issues.

Mr. Thomas commented that MMPEC may need to re-visit their original goal of hiring a Washington D.C. consultant to deal with the BRAC issues. He believes this would improve how Missouri is viewed by the powers that be and it would add value to Missouri's "what we say is not what they hear" voice.

*Tammy Long, Executive Director, Warrensburg Chamber of Commerce*, invited everyone to the only "Missouri" Air Show to be held at Whiteman Air Force Base on September 18-19.

General Kay announced that at 2:00 p.m. today on the north side of the Capitol, the Veterans Commission would be conducting an honor ceremony.

## **2010 MMPEC Annual Report**

Chair Wright announced that the Commission members will begin working on the 2010 MMPEC Annual Report over the next few months in order to meet the MMPEC's December 31 statutory obligation to file their report. Ms. Anderson will begin gathering the appropriate information from all entities and Ms. Anderson asked that when submitting pictures to please include any information about the picture that is available.

To be able to meet MMPEC's statutory obligation, Chair Wright suggested that MMPEC will conduct conference calls in October, November and December to finalize the report. He further requested that each Commission member review the 2009 MMPEC Annual Report and please forward any suggestions, information or suggested goals to Ms. Anderson.

## **Interstate Compact on Education Opportunity for Military Children Council**

Rep. Witte reported that he had met with Mary Nelson, Director of Boards and Commissions-Governor's Office over a year ago about the Council and his concern that the Council is not active and Missouri does not have an official voting representative on the Interstate Compact.

# **Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission**

## **Approval of the April 8<sup>th</sup> MMPEC Meeting**

A motion was made by Bob Welling and seconded by Kent Thomas to approve the minutes of the April 8<sup>th</sup> meeting. The motion was approved by a voice vote.

## **Next Meeting**

Whiteman Air Force Base will host the next MMPEC meeting on September 8<sup>th</sup>.

## **Adjourn**

With no further business Mr. Thomas moved and Mr. Bloemker seconded the motion to adjourn. Motion was approved. Chairman Dalton Wright called the July 14, 2010 meeting adjourned.

Minutes Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman Dalton Wright

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date