

Minutes
Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission
Regular Quarterly Meeting
Jefferson City, MO
June 4, 2019 – 10:00 a.m.

The meeting was held at the Department of Natural Resources, Roaring River Conference Room, 1730 East Elm Street, Jefferson City, MO 65101.

MMPEC Members: Bob Hagedorn, Royal Turner, Hart Nelson, Steve Ehrhardt, Representative Steve Lynch, Col. Grace Link (Missouri Veterans Commission designee), and Military Advocate Joe Driskill (DED Director designee)

Guests: Emma Dillon, Mike Dubois, Scotty Allen, Brett Cox, Normal Lucas, Keith Crumley, Scott Miller, Lt. Nathaniel Dampf, Eric Bergrud, Randell Gelzer, Dorsey Newcomb, Kent Thomas, Suzanne Taylor, Gregg Thompson, Kasie Lercher, Steve Standifird, Dr. Jerrod Wheeler, Ray Bozarth, Grace Twehous, Abe Forney, Tama Wagner, Col. Chris Callis, Bennie Cook, Rachel Gilroy, Lorie Steen, Bryan Parker, Rob Dixon, Lt. Governor Mike Kehoe

WELCOME

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. and roll was called. A quorum was established with five statutory members and two ex-officio member designees participating. Guests were introduced.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

RESOLVED, the Commission hereby approves the minutes of the March 11, 2019 meeting, as submitted.

Motion made by Commissioner Nelson, seconded by Chair Hagedorn. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

REPORTS AND BRIEFINGS

Whiteman Installation Report – Lt. Nathaniel Dampf gave a brief update about the upcoming events at Whiteman and the initiatives his office has recently given attention. He mentioned the Missouri National Guard's vigilant guard exercise and his work to reestablish Jefferson Barracks Base Community Council. Lt. Dampf also mentioned the Whiteman Air Show in June 2019.

Fort Leonard Wood – Gregg Thompson, Deputy to the Commanding General, gave the Commission and advisory members some information about his background and career. Thompson mentioned that his office has largely focused on training issues at Fort Leonard Wood, including the transformation of AIT and basic training and the installation's attempt to bring Marines and Air Force training to Fort Leonard Wood. He mentioned the housing issues being addressed by the Army and said while the issues don't impact FLW as much as other installations, it is working on a reinvestment effort. Thompson also addressed the progress of the GLWACH and staffing situation and said the installation is focusing on quality of care for active duty service members and retirees.

Rosecrans, 139th Airlift Wing – Abe Forney, General Manager of the Rosecrans Airport, gave the Commission an update about MILCON and other projects happening at Rosecrans. Forney mentioned that all engines of the C-130s at Rosecrans have been updated and that the installation is awaiting a new communications and simulator building. Forney also spoke about the importance of the 139th Air Wing

in helping to combat the flooding across Missouri around the time of the meeting. Forney also discussed some of the Russian planes landing at Rosecrans lately. Tama Wagner, Director of the St. Joseph Community Alliance, also gave a brief update to the Commission and underscored the importance of the 139th helping with the floods in Missouri. She also spoke about community member visits with congressional leaders in Washington, D.C. Finally, Wagner mentioned that the community is hopefully that Rosecrans will make the short list for the AEROVAC unit and briefly discussed the benefits of the St. Joseph/Buchanan County communities for the project.

Whiteman Air Force Base – Colonel Callis, commander of the 509th Mission Support Group, gave a brief update to the Commission about Whiteman Air Force Base. Col. Callis echoed some of Lt. Dampf's updates, especially about the Whiteman Air Show. Col. Callis also mentioned that the installation recently welcomed Col. Schreiner as commander of the 509th Bomb Wing. Col. Callis also updated the Commission about the progress of the combined operations building on the installation.

Fort Leonard Wood – Kent Thomas, Executive Director of the Leonard Wood Institute and Sustainable Ozarks Partnership, updated the Commission on a community member trip to Washington, D.C. to meet with congressional leaders and other stakeholders. Thomas also mentioned the Salute to Service event, which recognized high school seniors entering the military, National Guard, or military academy following their graduation this year. Thomas went on to discuss the work at Fort Leonard Wood to promote technology for Army missions. He also mentioned work the installation is doing within the communities, including producing several professional videos to highlight FLW and the surrounding communities. Thomas mentioned many other initiatives currently underway by the installation, including: support for commercial flights, veteran outreach efforts, training opportunities for service members and their families, Army credentialing program based on MOS (effective October 2019), neurotrauma research, and work with Jefferson Barracks. Thomas finally mentioned that there is a strategic analysis of the opportunities of FLW underway, which may help add federal departments onto military bases through NDAA language and intergovernmental support agreements with FLW and surrounding communities. Commissioner Ehrhardt mentioned that Kent Thomas is retiring this summer. Commissioners and advisory group members thanked Thomas for his service.

Missouri Veterans Commission – Col. Grace Link updated the commissioners and advisory members about the Veteran Innovation Task Force, which will have its next meeting on Wednesday, July 10, 2019. Col. Link also spoke about veteran homes and said that the waiting lists have significantly declined to lower than 400. Col. Link mentioned the feasibility study underway in Missouri regarding adult day health care programs. Col. Link also mentioned a national veteran legal services program, which assigns lawyers during the appeal process for veterans. Finally, Col. Link mentioned the new Missouri Veterans Commission app and outreach events throughout the state, specifically citing the veteran services offered at places like Mizzou Law. Commissioner Turner asked if MVC is looking to build any new veteran homes in light of the wait lists. Col. Link said it is not because Missouri is only licensed for Long Term Care and there is a severe nurse shortage. Commissioner Lynch spoke briefly about the wait list and the VA contracting with local nursing homes. Commissioner Nelson asked where nursing jobs for veteran homes are being posted. Col. Link said she will connect with Commissioner Nelson regarding the St. Louis Community College nursing program. Ray Bozarth, of Senator Josh Hawley's office, asked about federal funding for the veteran homes. Col. Link approximated about 85% of funds come from the VA and the rest are provided from the MO Gaming Commission. Col. Link mentioned that the veteran home costs about \$2,050 per month and is all inclusive.

Missouri National Guard – Scott Miller, Military Executive at the Missouri National Guard, told the Commission about a data mining project underway regarding unemployment and underemployment for veterans in Missouri and mentioned that the first phase of the study will be presented soon. Miller mentioned the sandbagging efforts for flooding in nine Missouri communities during the severe flooding

around the time of the meeting. Miller told the Commission that Missouri is ranked among the top three to five states for National Guard recruiting nationally. Miller mentioned the Vigilant Guard activity around the state at the time of the meeting. Finally, Miller spoke about the new State Defense Force, which is recruiting candidates from around the state to participate.

Missouri Attorney General's Office – Scotty Allen, Managing Attorney for the Military Legal Assistance Team (MLAT), gave a brief update about the Military Legal Assistance Team sponsored by the Missouri Attorney General's Office. Allen did a broad overview of the program, including which issues qualifying service members could use the MLAT for and how veterans and service members could access the services. Allen said the MLAT helps to combat predatory commercial practices which target military personnel and veterans and aims to educate the public on the military and the legal protections available to them.

Missouri Military Advocate Update – Joe Driskill, the Missouri Military Advocate and Executive Director of MMPEC, gave the Commission an update on his efforts and initiatives within the Department of Economic Development and on behalf of MMPEC. Driskill began by mentioning some vacancies in the Commission and suggested they should be filled by the Commission's next meeting in September. Driskill gave an overview of his office and the bulk of the work he does on a weekly and monthly basis. He spoke about his travel and engagements with defense communities in Missouri and the consultants he works with on a regular basis since the last meeting in March. During the briefing, Commissioner Nelson, Randell Gelzer, and Gregg Thompson mentioned the success of the first class of graduates from STLCC to work on Boeing planes, career skills programs, and how FLW is a perfect spot to grow the program. Driskill went on to highlight several key initiatives and issues being pursued by his office, including: the DED reorganization and new legislation with flexible incentives, participation in the Association of Defense Communities, a focus on quality of life issues faced by service members, their families, and veterans, a defense/military impact report update, Kansas City and St. Louis Military Affairs Committees, the National Security Crossroads, Midwest Defense Alliance, and support for the Jefferson Barracks community support organization. Commissioner Lynch spoke briefly about SB180, which he helped push through and pass on the last day of 2019 legislative session. Commissioner Turner asked who is overseeing the bill and Driskill said DED plans to oversee it. Mike Dubois mentioned that Driskill's office is wasting no time informing people about the legislation. At the end of Driskill's briefing, Commissioner Turner inquired about the term length of Driskill's position as President of ADC. Driskill said his term will be two years. Finally, Driskill gave an overview of some dates of interest to the Commission.

Consultant Update – Mike Dubois, of Kit Bond Strategies, gave the committee an update about the priorities his team has worked on to support the Office of the Military Advocate and MMPEC since the last meeting. Dubois provided an overview of the FY20 priority initiatives at each of the major military and defense installations in the state and briefed the Commission of the key MILCON priorities for FY20. Dubois spoke about the FY20 federal budget and continuing resolution to fund national defense spending. Dubois mentioned specific priorities at the Missouri National Guard, Rosecrans, Whiteman Air Force Base, Fort Leonard Wood, and NGA – N2W. During Dubois' briefing on Fort Leonard Wood, Gregg Thompson mentioned a meeting he had with the Army Corps of Engineers regarding GLWACH and Commissioner Turner mentioned funds being given to the Missouri Western nursing program. Finally, Dubois addressed the geospatial "ecosystem" development, including a discussion about the STL coalition that attended the GEOINT conference.

Lt. Governor's Office – Lt. Governor Mike Kehoe spoke to the Commission briefly about his background and his appreciation of the military. Lt. Governor Kehoe went on to discuss all of the opportunities and resources Missouri has to offer service members, veterans, and their families, mentioning specifically the military family campout at the Governor's Mansion in May. Kehoe said many service members and

veterans are unfamiliar with the programs Missouri has to offer and voiced his support for programs or campaigns to help spread awareness of the programs already in place. Dorsey Newcomb spoke about the importance of the quality of Missouri schools, especially surrounding installations, and Kent Thomas mentioned the Army career service program. Joe Driskill mentioned how timely Lt. Governor Kehoe's remarks were, especially considering Driskill's participation in a work group specifically focused on issues affecting transitioning service members.

Department of Economic Development – Director of the Department of Economic Development, Rob Dixon, gave an update to the Commission about many of the events, initiatives, and programs being pursued by DED in 2019. Director Dixon especially underscored the importance of the Department's reorganization this year and presented the strategic placemat to the Commission. After the presentation, Commissioner Nelson asked about whether DED is focusing on industry clusters. Director Dixon said the Department is focusing more on regional clusters and not specific industries. Commissioner Turner mentioned the animal health corridor and Director Dixon said the Department will continue to focus on it and similar corridors, but with less emphasis. Eric Bergrud, of Park University, asked about the fast track legislation and how to spread the info around. Director Dixon called on Joe to follow up.

OLD BUSINESS

2019 MMPEC Strategic Plan Update – Joe Driskill briefed the Commission on his office's plan to host a virtual town hall to gather input for MMPEC's new 2020/2021 strategic plan. He reviewed the Commission's current strategic plan and provided an overview of how the virtual town hall platform, called MindMixer, would work. Driskill mentioned that he would host a virtual kickoff for the virtual town hall using WebEx and asked that all Commission members join. Driskill told the Commission how his office plans to promote the website and about all of the analytics the platform provides. Commissioner Turner asked about the reach for participants. Driskill responded that his office has a comprehensive list of people they are inviting to the website, but will rely heavily on sharing to increase the reach to hopefully engage more than 1,000 people. Chair Hagedorn asked about the process of analyzing feedback, to which Driskill responded that he hopes to have a new strategic plan by the September MMPEC meeting. Chair Hagedorn suggested focusing the new strategic plan more than the current, Driskill agreed. Dorsey Newcomb asked about the timeline, which Driskill shared. Commissioner Ehrhardt asked about the sharing ability of the Save the Date send out by DED, to which Emma Dillon responded that it will definitely be sharable.

Veteran Innovation Task Force – Military Transition Assistance Work Group Update – Joe Driskill gave some background on the larger Veteran Innovation Task Force and his position on the smaller Military Transition Assistance work group. He provided a list of members on the work group and shared their mission to provide specific ideas regarding the best ways to support, connect, retain, and attract transitioning military service members, veterans, and families in Missouri. Driskill also mentioned that his office has engaged the services of Dr. Chris Stockdale, a professor at the University of Central Missouri, to conduct research on the group's recommendations and author a comprehensive plan based on his findings. Driskill provided a broad overview of the group's current recommendations and a timeline for when he expects the recommendations to be formally presented to the Veteran Innovation Task Force. Commissioner Nelson asked if OTC is part of the work group. Driskill said they are not, but he might consider it because of the focus on licensing issues. Commissioner Link thanked Driskill and mentioned he should connect with Lori Steen regarding the larger VITF meetings. Dorsey Newcomb said the one-stop concept is crucial for retaining transitioning service members. Commissioner Ehrhardt mentioned that if the Missouri Veterans Commission could track positive analytics from initial recommendations, they could perhaps make the case for more resources. Col. Callis mentioned that service members want to continue to serve and be part of a team, which could be a selling point for many

of the recommendations. Commissioner Lynch mentioned that he thought the licensure issue would be resolved this year via legislation, but that it didn't happen.

National Security Crossroads Update – Joe Driskill provided a brief update about the National Security Crossroads initiative. Driskill mentioned the many partners in the coalition pushing for the National Security Crossroads and went over the objectives of the initiative. Eric Bergrud mentioned the importance of recruiting across state lines. Driskill also mentioned a security clearance issue, which has been known to plague applicants to national security and defense related jobs. Randell Gelzer mentioned that the process is changing, but that it's still not great. Rachel Gilroy, of Congresswoman Vicky Hartzler's office, mentioned that the issue is on Congresswoman Hartzler's radar and she is actively trying to make the situation better.

NEW BUSINESS

Evaluation Action Item – Joe Driskill began by explaining to the Commission that many places want a check on performance in commissions, but because his role is appointment and he doesn't technically have an "employer," his position needed a check. Commissioner Ehrhardt said that a subset of the Commission performed an evaluation of Driskill, which attempted to measure metrics. Commissioner Ehrhardt praised Driskill for involving stakeholders and forming partnerships for the Commission. Commissioner Ehrhardt said the MMPEC review committee decided that Driskill has been "fully successful" in his service to the Commission. Chair Hagedorn and Commissioner Nelson also agreed. Driskill responded to their evaluation and mentioned that although the Commission was unable to sponsor a Military Appreciation Day event this year, Lt. Governor Kehoe will champion the effort in the future.

RESOLVED, the Commission hereby approves the performance evaluation of Joe Driskill, Executive Director of MMPEC and Missouri Military Advocate, as presented.

Motion made by Commissioner Turner, seconded by Commissioner Nelson. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Joe Driskill mentioned the member roster and again said that he hoped the Governor's Office would fill Commission vacancies by the September meeting.

Commissioner Nelson asked about the date of the next meeting. Driskill reminded the Commission that the September meeting will be on Tuesday, September 3, 2019. Commissioner Turner expressed concern that the next meeting is the Tuesday after Labor Day, but ultimately the Commission decided not to reschedule.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business on the agenda, the meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.