Minutes

Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission Special Meeting Jefferson City, MO

June 30, 2020 – 8:00 a.m.

The meeting was held by conference call placed from the home of Joe Driskill, Jefferson City, MO, 65101, due to the special circumstances presented by the COVID-19 pandemic.

MMPEC Members: Bob Hagedorn, Royal Turner, Steve Wallach, Steve Ehrhardt, Greg Frencken, Rep. Steve Lynch, Sen. Gina Walsh, Sen. Wayne Wallingford, and Military Advocate Joe Driskill (DED Director designee)

Guests: Hannah Stash

WELCOME

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Chairman Hagedorn and roll was called. A quorum was established with eight statutory members and one ex-officio member designee participating.

REPORTS AND BRIEFINGS

Office of the Military Advocate Report: Joe Driskill gave a COVID-19 case update. There has been a concentration on increased testing and contract tracing throughout the state. He reported that the state is probably due for a series of "spikes and bumps" through the fall, but we are not seeing increases in the number of cases like states such as Florida and Texas are seeing.

Today, June 30, is a DCIP project deadline for two project applications in MO.

At Fort Leonard Wood, new General Leonard Wood Army Community Hospital groundbreaking ceremony was last week and U.S. Congresswoman Vicky Hartzler was there to provide remarks. Work in the area has focused on law enforcement strategy and the AIT barracks. Additionally, the new commanding general, Jim Bonner, took over this week.

At Whiteman AFB, the A-10 mission is safe for now. Additionally, work is being done to improve Highway 23 outside of the base.

New information has been sent to the Air Force regarding the incentives Missouri can provide as a state if the Air Force puts the new Aeromedical Evacuation squadron at Rosecrans.

In Washington, D.C., the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) is working its way through the House & Senate as it is being reviewed.

<u>Committee Evaluation Report on the Executive Director</u> – Commissioner Ehrhardt discussed the committee evaluation report on the executive director. He mentioned that a phone conference was held the previous week. In advance to that, Joe gave a nine-page report. The committee believes that Joe is

doing a great job. There were a few areas where he missed the mark, but that was mainly because his work was sidetracked as he helped respond to COVID-19.

Ehrhardt made a motion to accept the evaluation rating and Wallach seconded the motion.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business on the agenda, the meeting adjourned at 8:22 am. Sen. Walsh made the motion to adjourn, and Commissioner Wallach seconded the motion.