

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

September 13, 2021 – 10:00 a.m.

The meeting was held via a Zoom call placed by Hannah Hooven, Office of the Missouri Military Advocate Executive Assistant.

MMPEC Members: Steve Ehrhardt, Royal Turner, Steve Wallach, Greg Frencken, Hart Nelson, Sen. Sandy Crawford, Rep. Ashley Aune, Rep. Bill Hardwick, Rob Dixon (Ex-officio)

Guests: Joe Driskill, Steve Standifird, Abe Forney, Brett Cox, Gregg Thompson, Mike DuBois, Nikita Mann, Paul Eisenstein, Ray Bozarth, Tammy Long, Don Payne, General Charles Hausman, Scotty Allen, Tracy Brantner, Steve Hyjek, Tracy Beckett, Rob Dixon, Paul Kirchhoff

WELCOME

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chairman Ehrhardt and roll was called. A quorum was established with eight statutory members and one ex-officio member designee participating.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

RESOLVED, the Commission hereby approves the minutes of the June 1 meeting, as submitted. Motion made by Commissioner Nelson, seconded by Commissioner Frencken. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

RESOLVED, the Commission hereby approves the minutes of the July 6 meeting, as submitted. Motion made by Commissioner Nelson, seconded by Commissioner Turner. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

REPORTS AND BRIEFINGS

Abe Forney – Community Alliance of St. Joseph: At Rosecrans Air National Guard Base, they recently had a communications facility ribbon cutting ceremony. The C-130H simulator facility is currently under construction. There have been some recent design changes, but the facility should be completed by August 2022. The Aircraft Apron project is approximately 15 percent design-funded right now. The entry control point for the airport is under design currently; this will give the Security Forces the enhancements they need for the airport. They recently signed a construction cooperative agreement with the National Guard for repairs to the main runway. A Security Forces building was moved to the north side of the complex and they are looking to add

on to that so they can consolidate all of their Security Forces on the airfield. They will also receive some funding shortly to rehabilitate their air traffic control tower.

Don Payne – Sustainable Ozarks Partnership (SOP): Starting October 12, a new airline on the installation will be providing daily flights from Fort Leonard Wood to Chicago. SOP is working with their Army partners on several issues, including community support of privatized housing reinvestments on Fort Leonard Wood, off-based childcare availability, and mental health care access in the community.

Gregg Thompson, DcG – Fort Leonard Wood: Mr. Thompson reported that soldiers from Fort Leonard Wood have been sent to installations across the country in order to support Operation Allies Welcome.

Steve Hyjek – Baker Donelson: Mr. Hyjek gave a report on Congressional budget issues, Department of Defense transition process, and the upcoming fiscal year.

Mike DuBois – Kit Bond Strategies: Mr. DuBois discussed Missouri's military and defense FY2022 federal priorities and FY2022 military construction initiatives.

OLD BUSINESS

Chairman Ehrhardt provided a brief overview of the search for the next Military Advocate. He reported that a search committee consisting of Commissioners Turner, Nelson, Frencken, and himself along with staff at the Department of Economic Development have been conducting interviews and will make a recommendation to the Governor and his staff.

NEW BUSINESS

Joe Driskill, former Missouri Military Advocate, was invited to be a guest during the meeting and provided some information on his transition. He briefly discussed a transition memo that he left for Paul Eisenstein at the Department of Economic Development.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business on the agenda, the meeting adjourned at 11:27 am. The motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Wallach and seconded by Representative Aune. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.