

MINUTES

Quarterly Meeting of the Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission

November 2, 2011 --- 9:00 a.m.
Whiteman Air Force Base
Royal Oaks Golf Course
Building 3076
322 Spirit Boulevard
Whiteman Air Force Base, MO

I. Call to Order

A. Roll Call

In attendance: Chairman Jeff Bloemker; Vice Chairman Senator Will Kraus;
Member Representative Scott Largent; and Member J. Stanton Thompson

Via telephone: Member Dr. Annie Sobel

Absent: Member Mike Dunbar; Ex Officio Member (Designee) Katie Steele
Danner; Ex Officio Member Larry Kay; and Member Representative Stephen
Webber

B. Advisory Members: Tony Bamvakais, MONG; Dr. Judene Blackburn, Superintendent, Waynesville School District; Roger Layman, Reserves; Lt. Col. Buster McCall, Whiteman AFB; Col. Chuck Williams, Garrison Commander, FLW; and Lisa Yenter, FLW Liaison.

C. Guest: Sherry L. Anderson, DED, Corey Dillon, Senator McCaskill's office; Matt Haase; Brian Klippenstein, Senator Blunt's office; Shaelyn McCallahan, Cong. Hartzler's office; Jeffrey Thomas; and Bob Welling.

II. New Business

A. The Commission discussed the developing strategies to protect the State's existing military missions and positions the State to be competitive for new and expanded military missions; consider all current and anticipated base realignment and closure criteria; and cultivate the enhancement of military value of the contributions of Missouri military installations to national defense strategies. The challenge is to move from a short-sighted and reactionary to long-term vision and strategic plan.

B. Economic Impact Report-the challenge is to first decide where the biggest challenges facing Missouri's military installations and communities will be, and then determine how best to get there. To best develop a strategic plan, the Commission must have empirical data regarding the military economic impact to the State of Missouri.

- C. Dr. Sobel met with Dr. Greg Martin, with the University of Missouri Business School and announced that two (2) graduate student will be assigned to working with the Commission by collecting data, providing financial analysis, and identifying jobs and labor income resulting from the economic impacts of Missouri's military installations and defense spending.

A motion was made by Senator Kraus and seconded by Mr. Thompson to create a sub-committee to assist Dr. Sobel and to oversee the development of the economic impact report. The motion was adopted by unanimous consent.

Chairman Bloemker appointed the following members to the sub-committee: Dr. Sobel, Chairman; Mr. Dunbar; Senator Kraus; and Rear Admiral Thompson.

- D. Missouri National Guard Tony Bamvakais reported that the Missouri National Guard is still providing assistance to the Joplin area. The MONG is assisting the Division of Workforce Development with a Disaster National Emergency Grant of \$5.8 million to establish the Missouri Disaster Recovery Jobs Program (DRJP) for Jasper and Newton Counties. The purpose of the program is to create temporary jobs to assist in the clean-up of public areas and restoration as result of the disaster. These jobs include debris removal, restoration of public facilities, and working on projects that and provide food, clothing, shelter and other humanitarian assistance for disaster victims. More than 900 civilians are temporarily employed through the program.
- E. Army Reserves-Roger Layman announced Lt. Col. William Boothman took over the Missouri Air National Guard's 121st, Air Control Squadron at Jefferson Barracks. The 121st Air Control Squadron consists of 185 soldiers who are in the process of setting up a \$30 million air control radar system. Lt. Col. Boothman brings with him the return of air control missions to the Barracks, which increases the viability of the Base as a military asset.

Mr. Layman announced the Truman State University and the Kirksville Reserve Officer Training Corps will honor and remember service members during an annual Veterans Day ceremony dedicating "The Purple Heart" sculpture. The sculpture will be located outside the entrance to the University's Museum and Visitors Center, memorializing Truman alumni who gave their live in military service.

- F. Dr. Blackburn reported the Department of Defense budget cuts are affecting military dependents and the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education is anticipating as much as a \$15 million reduction.
- G. Fort Leonard Wood-Col. Chuck Williams introduced Lisa Yenter as the new FLW Liaison. Ms. Yenter stated she looked forward to working with the Commission members and representing FLW.

Col. Williams announced that Major General David Quantock, Fort Leonard Wood commanding general, relinquished commend to Brig. General Mark Yenter on

Friday, September 23rd. Major General Quantock will take command of the Provost Marshal, United States Army Criminal Investigation Command in Washington, D.C.

III. Announcements

Chairman Bloemker thanked the staff members from Missouri Congressional delegation attending the meeting and welcomed to attend future meetings.

Mr. Bamvakais announced that a military caucus had been formed in the Legislature. The National Guard will be sponsoring a Legislative Day at the Capitol and he will forward details as they are made available.

IV. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, Senator Kraus moved and Mr. Thompson seconded the motion to adjourn. Motion approved. Chairman Jeff Bloemker called the November 2, 2011 meeting adjourned.

Chairman Jeff Bloemker