

Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission
Wednesday, April 2, 2008
GOB 450 Jefferson City, MO
www.mmpec.ded.mo.gov

Members in Attendance: Senator Frank Barnitz (during the lunch hour), Jeff Bloemker, Vice Chairman Representative David Pearce (during the lunch hour), Kent Thomas, Robert Welling, and Representative Terry Witte (during the lunch hour) and Chairman Dalton Wright

Members Absent: Senator Bill Stouffer

Guests in Attendance: 8 Individuals Representing the Committee of Fifty and Waynesville area; Over 25 Individuals Representing the Whiteman Area Leadership Council and Johnson County area; Joe Driskill, Leonard Wood Institute; Larry Erickson, Department of Natural Resources; Tanya Harencak, Whiteman Air Force Base Liaison; Pat Kerr, Missouri Veterans Commission; Matt Michelson, Senator Stouffer's Office; Allen Stark, Missouri National Guard; General Arvid West (Army Retired), Former Member of the Missouri Veterans Commission; Bill McCoy, Department of Economic Development; Mark Stombaugh, Department of Economic Development; and Krista Zurkamer, Department of Economic Development

Chairman Dalton Wright called the MMPEC April 2, 2008 meeting to order at 10:34 a.m. Chairman Wright welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked all in attendance for their support.

The Commission members, supporting staff and guests made introductions.

Chairman Wright gave special acknowledgement to the group from Waynesville joining the Commission for today's meeting. Dr. Virgie Mahan thanked the Commission for the invitation to today's meeting and began to introduce the members present from the Waynesville/Committee of Fifty group. Chairman Wright added that the group from Johnson County/Whiteman Area Leadership Council (WALC) would be joining us at lunch.

The Commission discussed the next Military Child Education Coalition Annual Conference to be held in Texas on July 23-25, 2008 and the possibility of MMPEC's participation. The Commission's budget would start at \$3000 again with the beginning of the new fiscal year on July 1, 2008. The Commission would need to pay the conference registration fee, lodging, airfare, and mileage to the airport. The least expensive participation of the conference would be by member Jeff Bloemker at \$ 1222.93; more than 1/3 of the Commission's allocated money for the year. The Commission began to discuss alternatives.

It was discussed that Whiteman Air Force Base Liaison Tanya Harencak, an active member of MCEC herself, could attend representing the Commission and report back to

MMPEC on the conference content. The Commission was in agreement that Ms. Harencak would represent MMPEC at the 2008 MCEC Annual Conference. It was also discussed that the Missouri Veterans Commission may participate also; Pat Kerr asked that Krista Zurkamer send her the detailed information on this year's conference.

The Commission also discussed budget concerns. Chairman Wright asked Ms. Zurkamer to put together some additional activities of interest to the Commission that could be referenced by the Chair. Member Jeff Bloemker added that he would forward some events onto Ms. Zurkamer to be included.

Missouri Veterans Commission Report, Pat Kerr

Chairman Wright asked for the Missouri Veterans Commission Report and asked Ms. Kerr to give a brief summary of the MVC programs. Through the Service to Veterans Program, counseling and assistance is available to thousands of veterans and their dependents throughout the state of Missouri. Currently there are approximately 543,000 veterans living in Missouri. Ms. Kerr discussed the veteran cemetery program with Missouri having four cemeteries soon to be five. The MVC Homes Program operates seven veterans' homes managing a total of 1350 beds that provide long term skilled nursing care. The current occupancy rate is at 98%. The MVC also has the Power of 11¢ inspired by the generosity of a little boy which helps to raise funds for military family relief.

Operation Outreach is a program focused on the delivery of resources, financial and otherwise to the Global War on Terror (GWOT) service members, families and veterans. Staff works to keep GWOT service members, families and veterans up-to-date on ever evolving federal, state and local initiatives designed to make the transition back into communities and the home front as smooth as possible. Since 2004, Operation Outreach has resulted in over \$900,000 in financial resources to our GWOT service members, veterans and their families. The program has also advocated for proper medical care for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and undiagnosed Traumatic Brain Injury.

The program and work of the MVC is national recognized and known. The Canadian National Veterans Ombudsman is visiting Missouri later this month to see first hand the veteran initiatives offered in Missouri. The next MVC meeting will be April 17 in Springfield, MO.

Legislative Report

The Commission discussed the current status of HB 1678 and the status of the Interstate Compact amongst other states. The bill is currently in the Senate and would be sent onto the Pensions, Veteran Affairs & General Laws Committee. As of April 1, there were nine states that had introduced the Interstate Compact legislation and ten states where the legislation had passed one chamber. The Commission expressed their hope that Missouri would be one of the first states to join the Compact. The HB 2062 was currently still in the House with the Rule Committee. The Commission again briefly went over the

various different initiatives detailed in HB 2062 benefiting our military families in Missouri. Chairman Wright commended the leadership of Representative Day, Vice Chairman Representative Pearce, Representative Witte, Senator Barnitz and Senator Stouffer for their continued work and dedication to these two forms of legislation. We are seeing great support of both bills thus far. Chairman Wright added his appreciation to Martin Dempsey for his involvement and assistance with these bills.

Natural Resources/Federal Facilities Section, Larry Erickson

Larry Erickson thanked all in attendance at the meeting for allowing him to share with them what the Federal Facilities Section is doing relative to military installations in Missouri. The goal of the Federal Facilities Section is to ensure that the investigations, management and remediation of hazardous and radioactive substances is adequately and effectively conducted at current and formerly used federal facility sites in Missouri. We assure adherence to State and Federal Laws and Regulation. We provide input on the day to day operations of the cleanup activities. We promote, encourage and provide information exchange with communities. Some of the laws that govern our work are CERCLA, Federal Facility Compliance Act, Missouri Spill Bill, Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act, Atomic Energy Act, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, and the Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act. Federal facilities are sites both currently and previously owned and operated by the federal government of which a majority includes the Department of Defense and the Department of Energy, but it can also include General Services Administration, the US Department of Agriculture, the Department of Interior and other federal civilian agencies. Sites on the National Priority list include Pools Prairie/Camp Crowder, Lake City Army Ammunition Plant, St. Louis Airport Site/Hazelwood Interim Storage Site/Futura Coating, Weldon Spring Ordnance Works, and Weldon Spring Quarry, Plant and Pits. It is the Army's obligation to ensure our soldiers of today and in the future have land, water and air resources they need to train; a healthy environment in which to live; and support of the local community and the American people. Issues we come across relative to sustainability include cleanup from past practices, demilitarization of munitions and encroachment-working with local communities to create a buffer.

Chairman Wright called for a lunch break at 11:52 a.m.

MMPEC meeting resumed at 12:32 p.m.

Chairman Wright welcomed and thanked the Johnson County/WALC group for joining the MMPEC and the Waynesville Group/Committee of Fifty. Vice Chairman Representative Pearce also welcomed everyone to the MMPEC meeting and thanked all in attendance for their interest and work for our Missouri military families. He hopes that by having both groups here today it creates a partnership allowing for continued work together. Vice Chairman Representative Pearce continued by giving a brief update on the progress on HB 1678 and 2062. He added that the support for the legislation has truly been bipartisan.

Chairman Wright thanked Vice Chairman Representative Pearce and all our legislators for their hard work this session. He continued by giving a brief overview of some of the activities and accomplishments of MMPEC in 2007.

- SB 22-Creates a board of adjustment for Johnson County planning and zoning area surrounding a military base.
- HB 444-Eliminates taxes on any Social Security or Public Pension benefits for those who are 62 years and older. This includes veterans.
- HB 654-Exempts the property of a veterans' organization from real and personal property taxes, increases the amount of matching grants for veterans' programs, and establishes the Stolen Valor Act of 2007.
- Town Hall Meeting at Whiteman Air Force Base, Warrensburg
- Town Hall Meeting at Rosecrans Memorial Airport Air Guard State, St. Joseph
- Participation in the BRAC Workforce Summit
- Participation in Congressman Ike Skelton's Procurement Conference
- Participation in the Military Child Education Coalition Annual conference
- Membership in the Military Child Education Coalition
- Membership in the Association of Defense Communities

Chairman Wright thanked all in attendance again for their work and interest in the MMPEC and our military families. Chairman Wright thanked both the Johnson County/WALC and Waynesville/Committee of Fifty groups for joining the MMPEC today and looks forward to working together in the future.

Johnson County/Whiteman Area Leadership Council, Dale Carter

Dale Carter thanked the Commission for including his group in today's events. Their organization takes an active approach when welcoming military members/units to their community. Within the Chamber is a Military Affairs Committee that continues to drive Warrensburg military friendly initiatives. WALC focuses on aiding the retention and expansion of the missions and physical plant of Whiteman Air Force Base. The work of the WALC is funded through the financial support generously given by individuals and organizations within the Johnson county community. Members of the WALC demonstrate their commitment to the military missions and personnel that help defend our nation and work together to maintain the strength of America's finest military installation - Whiteman Air Force Base.

Waynesville/Committee of Fifty, Dr. Virgie Mahan

Dr. Virgie Mahan thanked the Commission for the invitation to today's meeting and the opportunity to share with you more about the Committee of Fifty. Committee of Fifty was established in 2004 as a joint subcommittee of the Rolla and St. James chambers of commerce. The group saw the potential that Fort Leonard Wood (FLW) offers to the community and treats it as a prized employer. FLW is a huge economic driver in the local community of Waynesville. The group recognizes the importance of maintaining the current status at FLW and expanding upon that. They recognize not to take FLW for

granted – it is important to remember that the cost of FLW is a decimal point in the DOD budget.

K-12 education is a key issue for military personnel within our community and it's critical that Missouri ensure that education in the state is funded appropriately. We strive to create an open dialogue between base and school principals/superintendents. We commend the efforts and work done by MMPEC. We are pleased to see the different education initiatives being proposed this session to benefit our military families of Missouri.

Leonard Wood Institute, Joe Driskill

Joe Driskill thanked the Commission for the invitation to present before them and their guests today. Leonard Wood Institute (LWI) is a tax-exempt, non-profit Missouri corporation formed in 2004 by Missouri Enterprise, the University of Missouri, Battelle, the Missouri Department of Economic Development and Boeing. It is designed to enable business, university and non-profit partners to collaborate with the military in meeting technology-related needs of the Army and Department of Defense. In doing so they leverage the growth of defense-related companies and the economy of the region and state. In 2006 LWI reorganized; regional business, civic and academic leaders were added to the board placing a new emphasis on acquiring funding to initiate and manage research projects related to maneuver support and force protection.

The Leonard Wood Research Institute (LWRI) is a wholly owned subsidiary of LWI. Under the direction of LWI, LWRI's purpose is to provide project based financial and technical assistance to companies, universities and research institutions that can perform research and development that fulfill training-related science and technology requirements articulated by the U.S. Army's Maneuver Support Center (MANSCEN) at Fort Leonard Wood. LWRI and LWI work closely with MANSCEN's Capability Development and Integration Directorate (CDID). To understand CDID's role in developing maneuver support-related and other concepts, and in conducting experiments to validate Doctrine, Organization, Training, Materiel, Leader Development & Education, Personnel, and Facilities (DOTMLPF) integrated combined arms capabilities. Mr. Driskill reviewed the 2007 projects.

LWI was awarded \$16,000,000, FY2008-FY2009, in funding for research and development (R&D) projects through a Cooperative Agreement (W911NF-07-2-0062) that will be carried out over the next year to benefit the U.S. Army's mission at FLW and other military organizations. The funding will support twenty R&D projects that will begin work immediately in areas of interest to the Army that include chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) defense preparedness, the detection and destruction of improvised explosive devices (IED's) and landmines, the development of better metallic and ceramic armors, improved sensor capabilities for unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV's) and robots, better construction techniques for blast resistant structures, the rapid detection of underground tunnels, and the conversion of battlefield waste products, such as tires and plastics, to fuel and building materials.

LWI invited businesses, universities and other research organizations to submit R&D proposals to provide solutions to a broad range of technology needs defined by the Army. In response to the invitation, LWI received 187 proposals that requested a total of \$123,000,000 in funding. In order to select the most worthy proposals for funding, LWI used a competitive review process that assigned scores to each proposal in categories such as overall military benefit, academic soundness, and regional economic impact.

The R&D projects are also expected to create or support dozens of new jobs, attract new company offices, and bring about a multi-million dollar economic impact on the FLW region over the next year. The selected organizations will perform most of their R&D work in the FLW region, but some work will also be performed outside the region and in other states.

Bill McCoy, our National Security Industry Specialist for the Department of Economic Development, introduced himself to the Johnson County/WALC and Waynesville/Committee of Fifty group. He works alongside the National Security Leadership Council advising and assisting Missouri in defense opportunities. Part of his job is assisting Missouri companies in obtaining procurement opportunities with the Department of Defense. He also markets Missouri products to outside military industry companies. He sits on MMPEC as an ex-officio member and assists the Commission with their directives.

The minutes from the February 20, 2008 meeting were introduced and reviewed. Chairman Dalton Wright called for additions and/or corrections to the minutes.

With no said corrections Chairman Wright asked for a motion to approve said minutes.

Kent Thomas moved, Robert Welling seconded the motion to accept the February 20, 2008 minutes. All approved, motion carried.

Discussion began about the next meeting date and location. The Commission decided upon July 16, 2008 in Jefferson City starting at 10:30 am. Ms. Zurkamer would send out detailed information on the event. Chairman Wright thanked everyone for their participation today and reminded the Commission to utilize email to keep everyone advised on the progress of HB 1678 and 2062.

With no further business he asked for a motion to adjourn.

Kent Thomas moved, Robert Welling seconded the motion to adjourn the April 2, 2008 MMPEC meeting. All approved, motion carried.

With no further business Chairman Dalton Wright adjourned the meeting at 1:34 p.m.

Minutes Approved:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dalton Wright", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dalton Wright, Chair

16-July-2008

Date