



## **NORTH CAROLINA MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMISSION**

**Minutes of the 3rd Quarter Meeting of the NC Military Affairs Commission (NCMAC)**  
**Tuesday, August 20, 2019 Department of Insurance (DOI) Building, Room 240,**  
**325 N. Salisbury Street, Raleigh, NC**

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Col. Frank Bottorff, USMC Retired, Cherry Point  
Julie Daniels, Seymour Johnson AFB  
Hon Chuck Allen, Seymour Johnson AFB  
Hon Will Lewis, Cherry Point  
SgtMaj William Hatcher, USMC Retired, Camp Lejeune  
COL David Hayden, USA, Retired, Public Member  
Grier Martin, At Large  
David "Crockett" Long, Public Member  
Timothy McClain, Public Member  
COL Kirk Warner, USA, Retired, Fort Bragg  
MG Gerald A. Rudisill, Jr, USA Retired, National Guard  
Patricia Harris, USA Ret., Public Member (by phone)  
ET Mitchell, Cherry Point  
BG Arnold Gordon-Bray, USA Retired, Public Member  
Paul Friday, Camp Lejeune  
Gen Edward Reeder, USA, Retired, Fort Bragg  
Daniel "Sonny" Roberts, Cherry Point  
Ronald Lingle, Camp Lejeune

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Rep. John Bell, NCGA (Non-voting)  
Rep. George Cleveland, NCGA  
Sen Harry Brown, NCGA  
Stan Walz, USCG Retired, Coast Guard  
Sen Norman Sanderson, NCGA (Non-voting)

**EXOFFICIO MEMBERS:**

Larry Hall, Secretary DMVA  
Will Best, DOC

**CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME REMARKS:**

Chairman Grier Martin called the meeting to order at 1:32 pm and welcomed everyone to the meeting. There were 18 voting members present/phone for a quorum.

**NCCC:**

Mike Scalise, MCI-East  
Bryan Ayers, MCI-East

**ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES:**

Ron Massey, City of Jacksonville  
Chad Sydnor, Cassidy & Associates  
Matt Bales, Cassidy & Associates  
Ed Turlington, Brooks Pierce  
Joe Tew, NCMBC  
Gregg Fambrough, 4MSG/CCE SJAFB  
Shevelle Godwin, Fort Bragg Cty Schools  
Iris Pierce, Fort Bragg Cty Schools  
Janet Bradbury, Sen Burr's office  
George Fulenwider, USCG Sector NC  
Siobhan Norris, UNC System  
Tammy Everett, DANC  
Stuart Ruffin, DANC  
COL Wes Morrison, NCNG  
LTC David Baker, NCNG  
Pokey Harris, NCDIT/911 Board  
Nate Denny, NCDIT  
Kevin Nathanson  
Kathie Sidner

**DMVA DEPARTMENT STAFF:**

Ariel Aponte, DMVA  
Kelly Jackson, DMVA

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**CONSENT AGENDA AND MINUTES:**

Chairman Grier Martin asked for a motion to approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter NCMAC meeting minutes dated May 21, 2019. A motion was made by Chuck Allen, seconded by Gerald A. Rudisill, Jr and passed unanimously without discussion. Chairman Grier Martin asked for a motion to approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Legislative Affairs meeting minutes dated April 25, 2019. A motion was made by Chuck Allen, seconded by ET Mitchell and passed unanimously by the Legislative Affairs Committee. (Chuck Allen, ET Mitchell, Paul Friday and Will Lewis).

**PUBLIC COMMENTS/OPEN ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Chairman Martin called for public comments and announcements. There were no public comments or announcements.

**DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS (DMVA) UPDATE: SECRETARY LARRY HALL**

Secretary Larry Hall gave an update on the DMVA. He said that he knew that most of us had been at the Strategic Planning meeting this morning. I just want to let you know a few items that are going on in DMVA. We had an opportunity to do some strategic visits primarily with Fort Bragg with the Garrison Commander to address some issues. Some of those issues were on a sheet of concerns that was staffed with you. We have had the opportunity to go to the State's Drone Summit and many of you know the operations that are happening throughout the State to increase operations both commercial, militarily and otherwise regarding drones and the necessary coordination's that we will need to do with that. I want to update you on the completion of our Sandhills' Cemetery remodeling and renovation. Look for a Grand re-opening event for that cemetery. We have added an additional 1500 gravesites creating a new service fill and reworked the road network and some new landscaping. That has been a major project and costing approximately \$6 million. We have done the same thing in Black Mountain outside of Asheville. There will be an announcement on that also. There will be an announcement of the ground breaking for the nursing home in Forsythe County. This facility will have 120 beds and being funded through the Veterans Administration. We are looking at another nursing home in Raleigh and have acquired the site. We hope to have it on schedule and the plans done for the ground breaking soon. We continue to work on these projects but also continue to work with our veterans and their families on their benefits. We appreciate your support on these items. Edward Reeder asked a question about the \$6 million for the Sandhills Cemetery? Are those funds already obligated and are those funds for 2019? Sec Hall said those are funds that will happen, and we have received most of that funding. The work is about complete, and we are in the inspection phase now. This was a grant that we had received. All of these projects, the cemeteries and nursing homes are grants that were written a couple of years in advance and then we make the necessary repairs. Edward Reeder said that this is fantastic. As a Commander for the Special Forces, I have had to bury some of my soldiers in State Cemeteries and they are always very pristine unlike the Sandhills Cemetery. I removed my dad from the Sandhills' Cemetery due to concerns. Sec Hall said that we have put a lot of work into the Sandhills Cemetery and have heard those concerns. We have had special challenges with that location, but we have addressed those concerns and want our cemeteries to be fitting for the last resting place for our Heroes.

**DEFENSE ALLIANCE OF NORTH CAROLINA: STUART RUFFIN**

Stuart Ruffin introduced himself to the Commission and said that LTG (R) Glueck was planning to be at the meeting was called to Washington but sends his regards and regrets. He thanked Chairman Martin

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and Sec Hall for giving him the opportunity to talk about a change which we think is a significant improvement and development in the best military support structure in the nation, here in North Carolina. The NC Military Foundation and the NC Defense Business Association (NCDDBA) have both operated in the state for over 10 years. They have been critical in driving major economic development initiatives and coalescing the defense community, the business community and academic side around growing the defense economy. You may have seen some of our successes such as the Army Futures Command recruitment last year, the Cluster Analysis, series of Forums and other social events to bring this community together. These groups have been the key cogs in NC Defense structure for a very long time. In the past 6 months, a small group with members from both boards have been working together to see what the future looks like and how can we best achieve our mission to grow the state's defense economy. What we decided was there was not a good reason to have two organizations instead of one organization. I am pleased to announce that we are going to merge these two entities to create The Defense Alliance of North Carolina (DANC). With any merger there will be a series of changes. The theme of this is enhancing mission effectiveness and keeping a lot of things the same is a part of that. You will see many of the same forums and events from the past under similar leadership with a revitalized mission and an opportunity to support NC's defense economy. I would like to introduce Tammy Edwards. She was the Executive Director for the NC Defense Business Association. She will continue to be a major supporter and influential leader of the Defense Alliance of North Carolina. She will be coming on as our Senior Director with the Defense Alliance. Stuart Ruffin said as many of you know that he will be moving to South Carolina. The new Executive Director of the Alliance will be Paul Friday. We are happy to have his leadership as part of this organization. There will be a lot more information coming out very soon about the Alliance and how it is going to help each of you. The date you need to remember is October 2, in Cary for a Chairman's Luncheon. We will be talking about all the things we have planned for this organization. Paul Friday will be the Executive Director at that time, so this will be Paul Friday and Tammy Everett's show. The last thing I want to leave you with is the value you got from each of these organizations and we are focused with preserving that value. Leveraging this Board of 3 and 4 Star Generals. It is my sincere hope and belief that this a tremendously positive change for the defense economy and for all of us. I appreciate your continued support.

Chairman Martin asked if there were any questions or comments. David Hayden had a comment. He said that his is a big deal for NC. He has been on the Board of the NCDDBA for over 8 years. It is a great networking organization for the State of NC and for companies that work in the defense industry or want to work in the defense industry. Partnering with the NC Military Foundation with its strategic leadership, a lot of senior leaders that we all know and have served with in the past. Both Boards jumped at the chance to join together to streamline and create a dynamic organization. If you have any interest in growing the defense industry, I would encourage you to look at the Defense Alliance for NC. I think it will make a difference in our State. It will require everyone to know about this organization and be a part of it if they can to help it reform what it is intended to do which is grow the defense industry in NC, to protect our military footprint and our military service members. If you sense an overlap in what this organization does and what we are part of. Yes, it is an overlap, but they are a private entity.

Paul Friday said that he wanted to take this opportunity with Stuart Ruffin here in front of us. I have never been a part of any transition where a person was working so hard to set up his new life in another State but has spent a lot of time and energy working with Tammy Everett, Chip and myself. I think that

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there is a secondary motivation, that he knows me too well and knows that I need a lot of help. He is been at my side and a great mentor. We all owe him a debt of gratitude for what you have done for all of us.

Sec Hall said that he wanted to do two things. The first is to introduce Ariel Aponte, DMVA Assistant Secretary for Veterans Affairs. He is a Special Forces Army Warrant Officer. He also wanted to thank Stuart Ruffin for the great work that he has done. The work that he did for the Army Futures Command from day one is still paying off with additional opportunities coming back to NC. Sonny Roberts said that he wanted to thank Stuart Ruffin for all his good work. We are going to miss Stuart Ruffin. Stuart Ruffin said that he wanted to thank everyone for all the kind words. This is a bitter sweet time for him, but he is excited for the DANC.

Chairman Martin informed the Commission that he had to leave the meeting to attend a General Assembly meeting and Vice Chairman Frank Bottorff would preside over the meeting moving forward.

**BASE SUSTAINABILITY AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS: FRANK BOTTORFF**

Vice Chairman Frank Bottorff reported on the Base Sustainability and Community Affairs Committee. We had a meeting on Tuesday, July 30, 2019. Vice Chairman Bottorff said that there are a number of things that we discussed that are on our agenda, so he would hold any discussion on those topics until later. We received a Sentinel Landscape update from Dewitt Hardee, NC Department of Agriculture. We will try to get a briefing from him at the next NCMAC meeting. We discussed the Census that is on the agenda for later. We discussed the Community Grant guidelines which is also on the agenda. We did get an update on the current grants that are ongoing, and they are on schedule. Those grants are for the City of Jacksonville and Allies for Cherry Point's Tomorrow. The two topics that we did spend time on were the Department of Commerce update and we went off on a tangent of wind. What we realized was that there is still a lot of misunderstanding or not enough information on the whole wind subject. We know that the state did a map study and I don't think that the information, back to strategic communications has been sold or updated very well. We are looking at ways to get information in a usable format that would be helpful to explain why we think further steps could be beneficial to the State of NC. What those further steps could be is up to the Legislature. There is a tasking that came out of the discussion, but we have not gotten to it yet. It will start with Frank Bottorff, Paul Friday and a couple of other individuals. We need to take some of the maps that were created and get layers of those maps that are releasable to the public. One for each Service so we can show what air space from ground to whatever is important to each service in NC. Then overlay them one at a time and build those layers together. Then show them collated, which now shows a large space in NC that has potentially negatively impact military training if you put wind mills or any tall structure in that area. Then add appropriate bullets to explain why we think it is important to continue our efforts. As we build that, we will get that out to the Commission members. I think then we can put together a small brief, 7-10 slides that tells the story of why this is important to us. I think that will help everyone. This is a tasking, but we have not started anything yet.

The other item that was brought to us was a Resolution about the Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) 911 centers on the installations. To get them into the approved State PSAP program so they would be eligible for State funding. The reason for that effort is that most military installations have their own

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911 Centers on base. Every person on base that has a phone is already paying into this system through their phone bill monthly. The missing link in our discussion was that we don't know what that cost will be yet. Secondly, the military has not asked for us to take that step. We did address the Resolution at the Base Sustainability & Community Affairs meeting but not at the Executive Steering Group (ESG) meeting. We did not know at the end of the day what it would encompass. Frank Bottorff said that to his knowledge the military has not formally asked for that to be done. Sometimes we don't touch an issue unless it has gone through the NC Commander's Council (NCCC). That does not restrict us from addressing it anyway. At a minimum for this issue either all installations or an individual Installation could ask to be considered. So what steps do we think are going on right now? That the Installation requests the State 911 Board to do the assessment for the Next Gen 911 system. We are going from a standard telephone line to an internet based fiber system. This will give them a lot more capability. The State is assessing every PSAP in the State and I think that is about 129 PSAPs. Then they will figure out how to make the transition for each PSAP in the State. AT&T is the contractor for this project. The 911 Board has said that any Installation can request to have the assessment from AT&T and they will conduct the assessment. The transition to fiber, is the transition of the fiber and capability upgrades of the hardware. The City of Havelock has been through the assessment and besides what is in the State contract, AT&T identified \$48,000 of hardware upgrades that are needed before we can make the connection. Every PSAP is going to be different depending on the age and their existing hardware. In the end that cost was covered by the 911 Board.

At the ESG meeting we decided that if the military asked for this we would consider a Resolution. There is already a Bill from the House for this to be considered and it is House Bill 600. They are considering just saying that the military would be included in the PSAP system if they desire. We have not received a request for the NCCC for a Resolution. Chairman Martin has suggested for the NC Military Affairs Commission to show support, that we agree to the maximum extent to ensure that the PSAP on and off base are fully compatible. He has drafted a Resolution to say that. This does not say that the State will pay anything at this time. It is up to the Commission if we want to address this in anyway or just do a general Resolution of support. I have a copy of the general Resolution that was developed by Chairman Martin.

Ron Massey said that he has had discussions about this topic with the NCMAC in 2015. There was legislation proposed at that time, but it did not go anyplace. There have been discussions between Sen Harry Brown and the 911 Board. This is not a new topic of discussion. This upgrade will give us the capacity that we need if there were to ever be a severe incident, rather than transferring calls out of town. We have a call tomorrow with the 911 Board Executive Director to go over what current agreement we have with the Base with regards to back up PSAP and what the law allows in the State 911 Board rules. One of the reasons for changing some of the law is related to the 911 Board designates the PSAP as primary PSAP and then they are eligible for State funding. None of the military bases are in that category. So, one of the thoughts on legislation is to put the military bases PSAP in a category so they are eligible for State funding. We continue to work through this and we want to transition Camp Lejeune to the Next Gen 911 system when the City of Jacksonville transitions. We want our current back up arrangements to continue. We will see where the legislation goes that is in the General Assembly.

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Vice Chairman Bottorff said that he thought the reason everyone has struggled with this topic is because they haven't gone through the assessment. I think when we get the right data I will be raising my right hand in support of this one. I think if you come from a military background and emergency operations you can't understate the important of seamless integration of on base emergency operations. Ron Massey said that his is a Resiliency issue. Vice Chairman Bottorff said that whether this Resolution gets approved today or there is more discussion needed the transition for the Next Gen 911 system will take a couple of years. David Hayden asked if this Resolution required the NCMAC to expend any funds? Vice Chairman Bottorff said that there was no funding obligation for the NCMAC. Kirk Warner said that this Resolution is a no brainer. He made a motion to approve the Resolution as it is written. The motion was seconded by Sonny Roberts.

Vice Chairman Bottorff asked if there was any discussion. Sec Hall said that as this supports the principle of Interoperability, we also need to keep in mind that as Vice Chairman Bottorff has said that the request for an assessment has not been requested by a military installation. At the ESG we asked them to make a request and that the discussion at the ESG did not go very far as they have not been disposed to do that. I am not speaking in opposition of this but just providing information. I think this addresses the concept, which is fine as opposed to a specific deal which could change over time. Then you are on record as supporting something that in 45 days does not resemble it. The bases themselves have to take into consideration are they opening their base communication systems to outside actors if our emergency system does not have the same level of security and protections. It is understandable that they would have some concerns, have not addresses all of these things and have not requested the assessments. I think it is a good idea to be at the ready but at the same time understand that we are going to have to wait to see if they open up that communication or create a parallel system on base. Sec Hall said that he is providing information and not opposed to this. I support the concept as opposed to trying to support an individual Bill. Crockett Long said that he has had dealings with individuals that are involved with the 911 Board, and the funds that are paid into that fund. It is similar to a hotel tax. There are a lot of people who want that money. I would like to see more information because this is a complicated issue. Vice Chairman Bottorff said that everyone who lives on the installation is paying into this fund. I think it will be beneficial if we can get the fiscal information. Arnold Gordon-Bray asked what the motion was? Kirk Warner said that the motion was to approve the Resolution as written. Arnold Gordon-Bray said the last paragraph of the Resolution is the motion or concept. Vice Chairman Bottorff said that the motion is to approve the Resolution as written. A motion had been made by Kirk Warner and seconded by Sonny Roberts. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote. The motion carried.

**QUALITY OF LIFE (QOL): KIRK WARNER**

Kirk Warner reported on the Quality of Life Committee. We had our 3rd quarter meeting on Tuesday, July 16, 2019. We had 16 in attendance for the meeting. One of our key priorities is K-12 education. We also had an update from the Department of Public Instruction (DPI). We had a robust discussion from the Military Liaisons from Fort Bragg schools. They raised some issues of transferability within the school system. We also have ongoing support for the DPI bill that adds a State military liaison officer and 2 county military liaison officers. We think that will allow us to do a lot of things. We are hoping that DPI will create with our assistance the Purple Star program. There are other states such as TX, OH and SC have passed legislation for this program. This program develops awards that are given to school

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systems that demonstrate military friendly practices and a commitment to military students and families. We are looking to see if this needs to go through the General Assembly and also if DPI will own this program. Also, if it will need a budget. The State Military Liaison Officer (MLO) would be appointed to administer that program. We had a discussion on the deployment of the 30<sup>th</sup> Armor Brigade Combat Team and will be hearing from COL Wes Morrison, NC National Guard later in the meeting. This deployment does affect almost every County in NC. The briefing will talk about this deployments impact on their families and employers around the state. When the Active Duty Service members deploy, their employers are also deploying. When the National Guard and Reserve deploys the employee deploys and the employers don't deploy. That is a big difference. This deployment will also have an effect on our State Emergency Response. You will also hear from Siobhan Norris, UNC System later in the meeting and she will talk about Senate Bill 761, College Credits. We also got an update on the NC National Guard from LTC Baker. Finally, we got a briefing on NC Work Based Navigator from Carolyn Sullivan. We are looking at some other issues that were raised with legislation, the Soldiers and Sailors Relief Act that moved to the National Guard and recognizes State activations, Title 32. We will talk about that again and may need to amend that one more time, about lease terminations. We will be working with them on that matter.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: DAVID HAYDEN**

David Hayden reported for the Economic Development Committee. We had our 3rd Quarter meeting on July 17, 2019. We heard from Arnold Gordon-Bray about issues and concerns on Fort Bragg. We had a good report about the Eastern part of the State. The highlight was that we will be receiving federal funding for hurricane recovery efforts. You will notice the absence of a couple people that normally attend this meeting. Our representative at Economic Development Partnership for NC (EDPNC) and Scott Dorney, NC Military Business Center (NCMBC). Scott Dorney did send a representative from NCMBC, Joe Tew. The reason they are not here is that the Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) is having an industry day regarding Hurricane Florence recovery. They have \$17 Billion they need to spend, and they have a lot of companies that what to take advantage of that opportunity. They will be talking about 31 different military construction projects. This is a big deal. The NC Military Affairs Commission funds a position with EDPNC. Brad Helton was in that position but has left that position. His focus was on the defense industry in NC. We have now hired Denny Lewis to fill that position. He is a retired Army Colonel, West Point 1974. He has long been involved in the Defense Industry in Washington, DC and in NC. I think he was an excellent pick for this position. He has already hosted a round table discussion about the upcoming Association of the United States Army (AUSA) meeting in Washington, DC. Gen Dempsey, former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff will be receiving the Marshall Award which is a huge honor in the Army. There was an invitation sent to the Governor to attend this meeting, but not sure if he will be available to attend. David Hayden asked Sec Hall if the Governor would be attending the AUSA? Sec Hall said that they were still working that item, but the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs would have representation at the AUSA. The NCMBC is appreciative of the additional funding that is in the budget and they have great plans for the funding to enhance supporting the defense industry in NC. The last thing that I wanted to focus on is the NC Military Foundation's Defense Asset Inventory and Target Industry Cluster Analysis Study. We contracted with the NC Military Foundation to update a study that was completed 10 years ago. There are 4 phases to this study. They have completed phase I and given us the results of that phase.

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This is a very useful resource and will be done on target. I think the last 3 phases will be completed quickly.

**LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS: SALLY-ANN GUPTA**

Kelly Jackson informed the members that there was an update in their folder from the Legislative Affairs Committee. If they had any question about a bill to let her know and she would send the question to Rep. Cleveland.

**BYLAWS WORKING GROUP: KIRK WARNER**

Kirk Warner had no update, but he informed the members that Chairman Martin had asked the Bylaws subgroup to review the processes and policies for the NCMAC. I think that group was Frank Bottorff, ET Mitchell and Sally-Ann Gupta. I will be getting this subgroup together and if any other members are interested in being part of this subgroup please let me know that you want to be included.

**FINANCE AND BUDGET WORKING GROUP: FRANK BOTTORFF**

Vice Chairman Frank Bottorff updated the Commission members on the budget. He had a handout for the members with the budget information. Current Status of fund. The carry-over of funds from FY 2018-2019 to FY 2029-2020 is \$1,667,299.75. The NCMAC does not own the money. The DMVA gets the money and they are legally responsible to divvy it out but needs permission from the NCMAC to do so. This is our spending plan for the next year.

| <b>Description</b>     | <b>19-20 Plan</b>  | <b>19-20 Expended</b> | <b>18-19 Remaining</b> |
|------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Administration         | 40,000             | 504.64                | 34,495.36              |
| Conferences            | 40,000             | 0                     | 40,000                 |
| Contracted Services    | 331,500            | 25,500                | 306,000                |
| Minor contracted Svc   | 15,000             | 2,000                 | 13,000                 |
| Marketing/STRATCOM     | 200,000            | 0                     | 0                      |
| Other Stab Initiatives | 95,000             | 0                     | 95,000                 |
| Defense Asset Inv      | 150,000            | 40,281.00             | 109,719.00             |
| NC4ME                  | 40,000             | 0                     | 40,000                 |
| EDPNC                  | 120,000            | 30,000                | 90,000                 |
| OEA Grant              | 0                  | 0                     | 0                      |
| Sentinel Land          | 150,000            | 0                     | 150,000                |
| Community Grants       | 225,000            | 0                     | 225,000                |
| <b>Total</b>           | <b>\$1,406,500</b> | <b>\$98,285.64</b>    | <b>\$1,308,214.36</b>  |

Vice Chairman Frank Bottorff said that the contract for Cassidy and Associates is \$306,000 for 1 year. In that contract, they are required to travel twice quarterly to attend the Executive Steering Group and the NC Military Affairs Commission meeting. I think there is a benefit to have them do other things such as installation visits or strategic planning. That would fall outside of the contract. I have put additional funding in that line item of the spending plan and we will coordinate with the state to see how we can accomplish what we need from this contract. The other stabilization initiatives are for items that we need to start this year. We are able to continue spending even through the state has not approved a budget since we had the carry over funding. We have expended funds of \$98,285.64. These funds had



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been approved previously. We are required to pay bills within 30 days of receipt. We need to approve the spending plan. Is there any discussion on the spending plan? We must complete our strategic plan by November 2020. We need to develop a Request for Proposal (RFP) by the next meeting. We also talked about additional staff during the strategic planning event. We have been talking about a Strategic Communications plan and then marketing that plan. We have a lot to think about but at a minimum we need to approve the spending plan.

Chuck Allen said that we need to move forward on getting a Strategic Communications plan. I think we need to use some of our funding for that. I think that a Strategic Communications plan is more important than the Community Grants. I think the best thing we can do for the military is to market the military and what this Commission does. Frank Bottorff said that he agreed with Chuck Allen and this budget is a living document. We can take out the Community Grants or move other money around. Arnold Gordon-Bray said that he thought the question that Frank Bottorff was asking is do we approve the budget as it is being presented with the flexibility which is designed in and you have multiple places to address the marketing issue. I think that we should set up what the communications should be, but the marketing side is where we need support. But either way it is in there.

Arnold Gordon-Bray made a motion to accept the budget as presented and with the flexibility and design to address the other issues at a different time. The motion was seconded by Kirk Warner.

Frank Bottorff asked if there was any further discussion? ET Mitchell said that she agreed but also disagreed. We are going to have to make some priority decisions especially if we ramp up and become more active. I would suggest that the NCMAC consider putting a place holder category for Strategic Communications. If we are going to hold money for some of these things, then put that on there as well. That will force us to recognize that there is a cost and evaluate it as a priority. I think we need to move forward with this. Arnold Gordon-Bray said the reason that I didn't do that is we get into a whole new discussion and argument. But now we have the flexibility to talk about it. If we want it to be a line, then we need to decide what that line means. ET Mitchell said that she understood the value of that, but my sensitivity is more like Mayor Allen's in not seeing progress on this issues in 4 years. Also, I am at the end of the County that does not have a Military Community in it. This is not front and center in their perspective. Frank Bottorff ask ET Mitchell if she was asking to change or modify the motion and second? ET Mitchell said that she would like an opinion from the members of the Commission. Do we need to have a place holder on the budget? Arnold Gordon-Bray said that he would modify his motion to add a line item that was STRATCOM/Marketing. Frank Bottorff asked how much money do they want to put against that line item? Chuck Allen recommend that we put \$200,000 from the Fund Balance \$406,799,75. Arnold Gordon-Bray modified his motion to add \$200 to the STRATCOM/Marketing budget line.

Arnold Gordon-Bray made a motion to accept the budget as presented, add a line items named STRATCOM/Marketing of \$200,000. The motion was seconded by Etteinne Mitchell and passed unanimously.

**CASSIDY & ASSOCIATES: CHAD SYDNOR**

Chad Sydnor introduced himself and other members of this team. They included Matt Bales, Cassidy &

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Associates and Ed Turlington, Brooks Pierce.

**Bipartisan Budget Act of 2019:**

- August 2, 2019 – President Trump signed H.R. 3877 – Bipartisan Budget Act of 2019
- This legislation effectively ends sequestration – Budget Control Act of 2011.
- Resolves DOD funding dispute by setting defense spending for the next two years.
  - FY20 - \$738 Billion
  - FY21 - \$740.5 Billion

|   | FY 2019       | FY 2020       | FY 2021         |
|---|---------------|---------------|-----------------|
| <b>Prior BCA Budget Cap for National Defense (050) Base Budget</b>      | \$647B*       | \$576.2B      | \$590.2B        |
| <b>Budget Cap Increase in BBA 2019</b>                                  | -             | +\$90.3B      | +\$81.3B        |
| <b>Newly Revised Budget Caps for National Defense (050) Base Budget</b> | \$647B        | \$666.5B      | \$671.5B        |
| <b>Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO) / Emergency Funding**</b>      | \$69B         | \$71.5B       | \$69B           |
| <b>TOTAL National Defense (050)</b>                                     | <b>\$716B</b> | <b>\$738B</b> | <b>\$740.5B</b> |

**Bipartisan Budget Act of 2019:**

- What does all this mean?
- It means that we have budget certainty within DOD for the next 2 years.
- It also means that sequestration is over because the Budget Control Act of 2011 expires at the end of FY21.
- **HOWEVER**, Congress must still pass the FY20 appropriations bills and resolving the differences between the House and Senate bills, once the Senate produces their bills, may not be an easy task. The government will certainly begin FY20 on a CR but there is still a possibility that it could drag on longer than anticipated.

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- After FY 2021, there will be no ceiling on the defense budget and no floor. The structure and timing of negotiations that the BCA created since 2011 will no longer exist, and Congress will be left to return to regular order in the budget process. Regular order, however, is something with which the current Congress and White House have little practice or experience.
- **Debt Ceiling:** Last month Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin stated that the government could run out of room to keep paying its bills in full and on time in late summer. The debt ceiling was reached in early March. The new budget deal includes lifting the debt limit until July 31, 2021.

**FY20 Appropriations:**

- **Military Construction**
- House – H.R. 2745
  - Funded all NC Projects except ACV-AAV project at Camp Lejeune
  - ACV-AAV project to be funded through disaster relief funds
  - II MEF Operations Center – Incremental Funding
  - Provides funding for UFR List projects
  - Emergency funding for natural disaster relief:
    - \$1,210,948,000 (Navy & USMC)
    - \$733,752,000 (USAF)
    - \$50,000,000 (Army National Guard)
- Senate - TBD
- **Defense Appropriations**
- House – H.R. 2968 – Marked to \$733B. BBA of 2019 is \$738B - \$5B increase.
- Significant Increases in O&M
- \$82,746,404,000 increase but this due to DOD budget increasing OCO spending to compensate for BCA. No longer an issue.
  - Navy Aircraft Depot Maintenance increased \$1,154,181,000
  - USMC Depot Maintenance increased \$232,991,000
  - USMC FSRM increased \$443,292,000
- Procurement
  - No additional F-35B/C beyond PB request
  - USAF +12 F-35A
  - F-15EX funded – 8 Aircraft
- Senate – TBD

**FY20 NDAA:**

- Senate passed a \$750 billion NDAA on June 27th. \$12B above the caps set in the BBA of 2019.
- The \$733 billion House NDAA bill passed on July 12<sup>th</sup>. \$5B below BBA caps.
- Items of note:
  - House Bill (H.R. 2500) – Section 2878 – Renaming the Lejeune High School in honor of Congressman Walter B. Jones.
    - Guidance Requested from NCMAC on whether to oppose, support, or remain neutral.
    - The current environment within the community appears to be one of opposition.

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- Senate – No similar provision
- Marine Corps Order 5750.1H – Manual for the Marine Corps Historical Program governs the naming of buildings aboard USMC Installations.

**FY20 NDAA MILCON Authorizations:**

**House NDAA**

- Sec. 3001 – Authorization of Emergency Navy Construction
- Camp Lejeune - \$967,210,000
- Cherry Point - \$175,456,000
- Defense-Wide - \$68,282,000\*
- Total - \$1,210,948,000\*
- \*Note-Matches emergency appropriation amount in MILCON/VA appropriations
- House Bill does not delineate where the defense-wide funding goes.
- Sec. 3003 – Authorization of Emergency National Guard Construction
- Army Guard - Fort Fisher, NC - \$25,000,000

**Senate NDAA**

- Sec. 2905 – Disaster Recovery Projects
- Camp Lejeune - \$861,587,000
- Cherry Point - \$64,561,000
- Defense-Wide - \$75,313,000 (Lejeune)
- Total - \$1,001,461,000
  - Delta w/ House Bill: \$209,487,000
- Army Guard - Fort Fisher, NC - \$25,000,000

**FY20 NDAA:**

- **Senate NDAA**
- Sec. 4602 – MILCON for OCO – NC TOTAL - \$1,026,461,000
  
- **NAVY**
- **Lejeune**
  - 1/8 BN HQ Replacement - \$20,635
  - 22<sup>nd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, and 26<sup>th</sup> MEU HQ - \$31,110
  - 2D TSB HQ Replacement - \$17,413
  - 2D Tank BN/CO HQ - \$30,154
  - Bachelor Enlisted Quarters - \$62,104
  - C-12W Aircraft Maintenance Hangar - \$36,295
  - CLB HQ Facilities Replacement - \$24,788
  - Courthouse Bay Fire Station - \$21,336
  - Environmental Management Division - \$11,658
  - Fire Station Replacement, Hadnot Point - \$21,931
  - Hadnot Point Mess Hall Replacement - \$66,023

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- II MEF Simulation/Training Center - \$74,487
  - LOGCOM CSP Warehouse - \$35,874
  - LSSS Facility Replacement - \$26,815
  - MCAB HQ Replacement - \$30,109
  - MCCSSS Log Ops School - \$179,617
  - PMO/H&HS & MWHS-2 HQ - \$65,845
  - Replace NCIS Facilities - \$22,594
  - Regimental HQ 2<sup>nd</sup> MARDIV - \$64,155
  - Replace WTBN HQ - \$18,644
- **Cherry Point**
    - BT-11 Range Operations Center - \$14,251
    - Motor Transportation Shop - \$32,785
    - Station Academic Facility - \$17,525

**FY20 NDAA:**

- DEFENSE-WIDE
  - *Lejeune*
  - Ambulatory Care Center (Geiger) - \$17,821
  - Ambulatory Care Center (Johnson) - \$27,492
  - Replace MARSOC ITC Team Facility - \$30,000
- 
- ARMY NATIONAL GUARD
  - *MTA Fort Fisher*
  - Administrative Building, General Purpose - \$25,000

**USMC Disaster Funding:**

- Requirement - \$3.4 billion
- \$400M transferred to USMC via reprogramming
- Supplemental – Final (June 6)
  - \$381M O&M
  - \$600M MILCON
- FY20 MILCON Appropriations
  - House - \$1,210,498,000 Emergency Appropriation
  - Senate – TBD
  - Senate MILCON/VA Chairman, Senator John Boozman (R-AR) visited Camp Lejeune on May 24<sup>th</sup>.
- FY20 Defense Appropriations
  - O&M Accounts – FSRM
  - House:
    - FY19 - \$6,540,049,000 (enacted)
    - FY20 - \$7,945,854,000
    - Increase - \$1,405,805,000 from FY19

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- Increase - \$4,017,809,000 over PB
- FSRM increased \$443,292,000
- Senate TBD

**Border Wall Impact on NC:**

- On February 15, 2019, President Trump took Executive Action to dedicate resources to his border wall plan. This includes the following:
  - \$1.375 billion contained the Department of Homeland Security appropriations bill
  - \$601 million transferred from the Treasury Forfeiture Fund
  - Up to \$2.5 billion transferred from the DoD Counterdrug funding. \* SCOTUS allowed on July 26<sup>th</sup>.
  - Up to \$3.6 billion reallocated from the Department of Defense military construction projects (MILCON funding).
- Legal Authority - 10 U.S.C. § 2808 Construction authority in the event of a declaration of war or national emergency
- **SECDEF Memo**
- Acting SECDEF Shanahan issued a memo asking the comptroller to identify existing military construction projects of sufficient value to provide up to \$3.6B in funding.
- The restrictions on which projects can be considered are:
  - Family housing,
  - Barracks,
  - Dormitory projects,
  - Projects that have already been awarded, or
  - Projects that have fiscal year 2019 award dates.
- **NC Projects Potentially Impacted**
  - Camp Lejeune - 2nd Radio BN Complex, Phase 2 (April 2020 award date) - \$25.65M
  - Camp Lejeune – Ambulatory Care Center Addition/Alteration (January 2020) - \$15.3M
  - Seymour Johnson AFB – KC-46A ADAL for Alt Mission Storage (April 2020) - \$6.4M

**BREAK:**

**CENSUS UPDATE: RON MASSEY**

Ron Massey gave an update on the Census for NC. He said that we have been working on this for the past 10 years, since the last Census. First, the way that they count deployed military had been a problem. That has been worked out and we are at the point where we are ready to have the ball game. In April everyone will get to fill out the Census. The bases need to be engaged with their local community Complete Count Committee. We have to get the message out and that has to go out through the bases to the family members. The families need to fill out the Census forms so that we get all of the people counted that are stationed at our bases. There can be problems when the sponsor is deployed, and the family member is still here and not knowing that they should be filling out the Census form. All the Census does is report where you are on the April 1<sup>st</sup>. It does not change anything else such as Home of Record (HOR), income tax information or other information. That is the message that we must get out to all of the family members and military personnel. The Complete Count Committee is working on how that information gets out to everyone. We are still not sure how they are going to

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canvas on the bases. Many things are happening electronically in the community as a whole. The Census Bureau works with DoD and have agreements on how things will work. Then that information goes out through the Chain of Command. All of that information comes together through the Complete Count Committee. That is also how you can reach the Census Bureau Representatives. When you interact with your bases, please ensure that they are working with the Complete Count Committees in their areas. We are going to continue to educate people and there will be more advertisement as we move forward. David Hayden asked when does this process start? Ron Massey said that it starts on the April 1, 2020. Then when they don't get responses then they will start going door to door. I don't know what the final date to gather this information will be. They will check with those that have not responded. When it comes to the military personnel in the barracks, they rely on the units to complete that data for the group quarters and send that information in. In the Camp Lejeune area over ¾ of the families live off base.

ET Mitchell asked if anyone had reached out to the local media such as the local stations in each area? That is what most people listen to. Ron Massey said that is what the Complete Count Committee will be responsible to do. They try to go and engage particular contingencies or hard to reach groups. They work with local organizations to get the groups that normally will not respond to engage these people/groups. They try to get familiar faces into those areas. The Complete Count Committee is very important in this process. ET Mitchell asked if there was a designated plan for public information type outreach from the media. Ron Massey said that the Complete Count Committee controls that process in addition to what the Census Bureau does. The Complete Count Committees are critical to the local public publicity. Vice Chairman Bottorff said that currently they are trying to validate numbers and that new housing areas are included. Ron Massey said that outreach is being done. Kirk Warner asked who was paying for the advertisement? Ron Massey said that the Census Bureau pays for a lot of that but locally each community sets aside some funding annually for that effort. There is also a State Complete Count Committee. The media person for Jacksonville, Glen Hargett, Assistant City Manager, is on the State Complete Count Committee. Kirk Warner asked if there was any role for the NCMAC? Ron Massey said that they brief at the Commander's Council quarterly to keep them updated. Gerald Rudisill asked about deployed soldiers and being counted? Ron Massey said that they are counted from where they were deployed from. If they are coming back to NC, the rules say that they will be counted where they are stationed. That did not happen in the last Census 2010. We have been working for the last 10 years to get that rule in place. What is important for the Guard and Reserve is that the family needs to complete the Census. Vice Chairman Bottorff said that was a problem last time and they were counted incorrectly. They were counted for NC but not the local municipality in which they lived. The numbers made it back to NC but did not go down to the county or city. Ron Massey said that if they can't tie it to a location, it goes into the 101<sup>st</sup> County. We only have 100 counties, so that 101<sup>st</sup> county does not help. Vice Chairman Bottorff said that we probably lost a Congressional Representative. Ron Massey said that in his area they were undercounted by 20,000 people.

**30<sup>TH</sup> ARMOR BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM DEPLOYMENT:**

COL Wes Morrison, Chief of Staff for the North Carolina National Guard (NCNG) gave a presentation to the Commission and showed a couple of videos. COL Morrison brought greeting from MG Greg Lusk, Adjutant General for the NGNC. COL Morrison said that he had become an officer in the National Guard

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due to a conversation that he had had with MG (R) Gerald Rudisill when he was the Adjutant General for the National Guard. In 2018 the NC National Guard mobilized over 1000 citizen soldiers. Our State mission included hurricane Florence. First video. The federal mission for the National Guard has become routine since 9/11. The National Guard has 5 different Major Subordinate commands.

The 449<sup>th</sup> Theater Aviation Brigade (TAB) is located in Morrisville. They have all of the army aviation assets on the army side. They deployed in December 2017 and returned in August 2018 in support of Operation Inherent Resolve (Iraq) and Operation Spartan Shield (Iraq and Kuwait). They operated at 13 different locations and had command and control over 90 aircraft. They moved over 60,000 passengers, conducted over 38,000 total rotary wing Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) and fixed wing combat flight hours and 200 enemy engagements. The 449<sup>th</sup> TAB was presented the 2018 Outstanding Unit Award for all components at the annual Army Aviation Association of America meeting in April. Subordinate to the 449<sup>th</sup> TAB is the 1-130<sup>th</sup> Attack Reconnaissance Battalion (ARB). The 1-130<sup>th</sup> ARB conducted combat and general aviation support operations in Afghanistan from June 2018 – March 2019. The Task Force Panther was comprised of about 75 percent National Guard (NG) and 25 percent Active Duty (AD) personnel. They launched aviation assets 24 hours a day and during their deployment they did 16,000 combat flight hours. That is double what they would do in a normal year in terms of flight hours and training. Shortly after their return the 1-130<sup>th</sup> ARB voluntarily mobilized as support for the mobile training team. They are providing support at Fort Rucker, AL so the active duty can provide more seats for Apache Helicopter pilots going through training.

The 60<sup>th</sup> Troop Command that is located in Raleigh has command and control over the 5-113<sup>th</sup> Multiple Launch Rocket System (MLRS) Battalion. They deployed 120 personnel in support of Operation Spartan Shield and Operation Inherent Resolve under a non-standard Modification Table of Organization and Equipment (MTOE), which means they deployed with the rockets. That is the first time since 9/11 that this unit has conducted an artillery mission. They provided fires and support in the defeat ISIS fight and provided fires and support in the final destruction of the physical Caliphate. They conducted operations in Kuwait, Syria, Iraq, and Qatar. The Alpha Battery of that Battalion has picked up that same mission and return in January 2020. We have 2 Special Forces Companies. Operation Detachment Alpha (ODA) Team just returned from Iraq about 7 months ago. We currently have Bravo Company deployed in Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Columbia conducting support operations for the Southern Command. Troop Command also has the 430<sup>th</sup> Explosive Ordnance Disposal unit (EOD). They lost a soldier in Afghanistan during their deployment. That unit is based out of Little Washington, NC.

The 130<sup>th</sup> Enhanced Maneuver Brigade (MEB) has our Engineering assets. The 878<sup>th</sup> Engineer Company was deployed from April 2017 – December 2018. They provided engineer support throughout Operation Spartan Shield and Operation Inherent Resolve in the Central Command (CENTCOM) area of operation. 505<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion also deployed in December 2017 – August 2018 and operated in the CENTCOM area. They performed horizontal and vertical engineering operations in Iraq, Afghanistan, Jordan, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Kuwait and Egypt. They set a CENTCOM record for 120 major construction projects and 100 work orders valued at \$153 million. 514<sup>th</sup> Military Police (MP) company was sent to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba in August of 2019 and just returned. We get this mission about every other



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year for our MP companies. They conducted fixed site security, detainee escort and are the Quick Reaction Force (QRF).

The 145<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing is out of Charlotte, NC. They are in the process of converting from C-130's to C-17's and continue that process this year. They also commanded and lead a joint task force this summer. This was part of our Partnership for Peace with Botswana.

The 113<sup>th</sup> Sustainment Brigade (SB) is located in Greensboro. They have 2 Finance Detachments and those units have been rotated in and out of CENTCOM conducting finance support. The other units in the SB such as their Brigade Headquarters and transportation units have been providing support for the rehearsal exercise for the 30<sup>th</sup> Armor Brigade Combat teams. The SB is a Theater opening force, so their job is to go in and support units like the Brigade Combat Team and help them get into the Theater. The SB ran our railheads for the Brigade Combat Team and also the personnel inflow and outflow. They also moved the Brigades tanks and Bradley's by heavy equipment transporters.

The 30<sup>th</sup> Armor Brigade Combat Team is located in Clinton, NC and the Battalions are located in Wilmington, Fayetteville, Charlotte and Durham, NC. There are approximately 2500 personnel in the Brigade. The 30<sup>th</sup> ABCT will be taking over Spartan Shield. The average soldier in the 30<sup>th</sup> ABCT performed a minimum of 28 days from July – early August. They have recently come home from the National Training Center (NTC) training for about 2 weeks and then we have been conducting deployment ceremonies. These soldiers are on bridging orders so that their employers don't see a difference. Once they depart from their employer the National Guard keeps them on orders. Those soldiers are now deploying to Fort Bliss for their pre-mobilization training.

This is not my father's National Guard. The average soldier in the 30<sup>th</sup> ABCT conducted 96 days of military training. It is not 2 weeks in the summer and one weekend a month. The National Guard needs the support of our employers and families to keep doing what we are doing to keep up with the operation tempo that we are under. We are told that this is not going to let up in the near future and then you add to it the domestic response. The optempo is going up and we are meeting the mission both home and abroad.

### **UNC SYSTEM/SB 761: SIOBHAN NORRIS/KEVIN NATHANSON**

Siobhan Norris introduced herself to the Commission members and a couple of her Co-workers Kathie Sidner and Kevin Nathanson. Kevin Nathanson gave a presentation on Military Service Course Equivalency Database Project.

#### **A New Model: the value of proactive evaluation:**

By reversing the credit evaluation process, the pressure of expediency is reduced, and the quality of credit evaluations will improve as departments perform one thorough set of evaluations vs. many repetitive ones. This ultimately produces better graduation outcomes and lower overall costs throughout the system.

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- System collaboration by subject-matter experts: Faculty panels thoroughly evaluate training and experience – once -prior to having prospective students “waiting in line” to see what credit they may receive.
- High-quality, specific course equivalencies: Proactive evaluation results in equivalency definitions as specific course numbers, which greatly improves the “graduation value” vs. more expedient but less valuable generic credit or course waivers.
- Improve progress and reduce time to graduation: Students are not re-taking courses in areas they mastered in the military, and can graduate on the most efficient schedule, reducing costs to both them and GI Bill funding.

Senate Bill 761 Requirements: Section 3. The Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina and the State Board of Community Colleges shall jointly develop a plan for implementing a uniform system of granting course credits to all students enrolled in constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina and all students enrolled in State community colleges base on the students’ military training and experience.

Three key takeaways:

First, credit will be granted with a “uniform system.”

Second, credit will be “course credits” – not electives, generalized credit, or course waivers.

Third, credit granted for both training and experience.

Project Timeline:

- Legislation: SB 761 enacted in 2014
- Collaboration: UNC System and NCCCS worked together to craft the strategy needed to achieve legislative requirements
- Report/Plan: Co-wrote a report and implementation (evaluation panels) plan for the legislature that was approved in 2016-2017.
- Database Design & Development: Designed database and briefed/demonstrated it to UNC BoG (approved).

Inputs and Outputs:

- DoD MOS & Course Catalog
- ACE Recommendations
- UNC Catalogs
- NCCCS Catalog
- UNC/NCCCS Faculty Panels Credit Determination

Needs – looking to the future:

- Improve inventory of equivalencies: Funding, staffing, and call to action emphasis to convene panels within our systems to undertake immersive evaluation efforts to building up course equivalencies.

- Training, deployment and support: Faculty and staff need training on JST procedures, sample workflows, and a support system to handle questions and technical issues. To be effective these activities need to be ongoing.
- On-going operational funding: Both military and institutional course changes are perpetual, as is accreditation review; the system will fail if not operationalized and frequently refreshed.
- Establish easy evaluation for vets & active duty: We are preparing a “digital toolkit” that institutions will use to connect directly to real time equivalency data and can host tools on their websites for veterans to use evaluate their credits.

**COMMUNITY GRANT GUIDELINES: FRANK BOTTORFF**

Vice Chairman Frank Bottorff gave an update on the Community Grant Guidelines. He asked if there were any comments about the document? David Hayden asked in the second line in the first paragraph under Background. “Monies shall be used to fund actions designed to make the State less vulnerable to closure pursuant to federal Base Realignment and Closure and related initiatives”. So, you have that “The North Carolina Military Affairs Commission (NCMAC) shall approve the use of The Fund for this purpose”. That is very broad statement. In addition, the NCMAC Is authorized to use up to \$225,000 of the funds allocated from The Fund to provide grants to local communities or military installations”. So, what you are telling me is that the general grant is for just about anything , as long as it serves a purpose of this organization and then you have a carve out of up to \$225,000 to provide grants to local communities or installations. Vice Chairman Frank Bottorff said that our budget in general, our money goes into the Military Preservation Stabilization Fund. So that is a general statement of the NCMAC budget. Of the NCMAC budget, up to \$225,000 can be used for Community Grants. There is more restrictive language in the legislation for Community Grants. Arnold Gordon-Bray asked where would we get purposed grants for the advancement of informing people about the military, its opportunities and spaces? I took some people from Rocky Mount to Fort Bragg and they want that to be an annual event to go to something at a military installation. I have 3 WWII Veterans in one of my organizations but most of them are civilians. Do we want to be advocates for what we have in this state? Is there a way to consider how we would do something like that? Kirk Warner said that is a marketing issue. Arnold Gordon-Bray said so he is turning this into a question for people to think about. Paul Friday said that if you look at the Charter and the legislative language for the Commission it becomes a prioritization in what we want to do. The window is pretty wide of the definition of what we want to do with some limitations. We have pretty broad latitude. Crockett Long said that he would like to get his Beverage community folks on board and give them a tour of the bases to get them involved in their communities to support the military. I want to be a contributor to this board in a positive way. Kirk Warner said that Fort Bragg has a Leader/VIP visitation event that is conducted for a day. This is a great program that would fit that bill. They try to get business leaders involved. Vice Chairman Bottorff said that Crockett Long brought up a great point. The broader question is how do we get the message out to communities and business leaders throughout the State? This is something that we need to work on. Sonny Roberts said you can start by taking a military family out once a quarter and wine and dine them. This is one way to show others the contributions of military families. Vice Chairman Bottorff said that is a great way to do something. Vice Chairman Frank Bottorff asked for a motion to approve the Community Grant Guidelines. A motion was made by ET Mitchell, seconded by Kirk Warner and passed unanimously without further discussion.

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**OTHER BUSINESS:**

Vice Chairman Frank Bottorff asked if there was any other business that needed to be discussed today? Kelly Jackson reminded the Commission members that the State had changed the travel policy and the Commission members are no longer eligible for meals for a day trip. They can only receive meals if their trip includes an overnight stay.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Vice Chairman Bottorff requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Arnold Gordon-Bray made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Kirk Warner and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 4:35.