

**Missouri National Guard Association**

**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday , 6 FEB 2025 • 1800 Hours**

**Conducted via UberConference<sup>1+</sup>**

***To Join Meeting—Two Options:***

***(1) Telephone: 573-200-6933; or,***

***(2) Internet: <https://www.uberconference.com/crowder05>  
No PIN or Access Code Required by Phone or Internet***

**Presiding Official— Amy Cottrell, Vice President**

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Establish a Quorum/  
Mr. Branson
  - The meeting was called to order at 1803. Rick Branson took roll, and a quorum was reached.
  - Approval of Agenda - Handed over to President in order to Motion to approve agenda as written, seconded and passed, none opposed
  - **Officer Reports:**
    - Rick Branson covered rollup, complimentary, annual, and life memberships. Low numbers for the 2025 CGO's and NCO's and Mr. Blaylock offered assistance to the Senior Commands to help going through names on different membership tabs.
    - Mr. Wilson and Mr. Blaylock went through the balances compared to last year and versus 2023. The balances for the association, the conference, the insurance and auxiliary. Overall \$5,412.25 ahead of the previous year.
2. Opening Comments and Agenda
3. President's Update:
  - Memberships- Went through the senate bill that impacts SED/SAD pay for those activated. Requested that the leaders for each of the MSC's to review the names of members and those that aren't members to get in front of their formations to discuss MONGA. Discussed Meet-Ups for the future, St Joe and future months. Please impart the information to the units and to fellow Soldiers to help improve memberships.

- MONGA Conference-Shelly and Shane making a lot of headway for the planning, they are looking for volunteers in areas, contact Shane Luke if you would like to volunteer.
  - o Shane Luke: Registration, Golf, Yoga (free for spouses). There are some due outs from the MSC's (Grog ingredients, raffle/auction items, might go silent auction if we can't find an auctioneer), by-laws committee meeting members, table set up volunteers are appreciated (MSC's), TAG receiving line was discussed and will be had at the dinner.
- Brothers After War Premier- 28 FEB, St Joseph MO regal theater. Documentary by Josh Radamaker, there will be mental health teams available for PTSD.

#### 4. Executive Director Updates.

- Meet Up Schedule- Went through the calendar for upcoming months with all meet ups, calls, and scheduled meetings for MONGA
- NGAUS Conference Update-Hotel selection (Drury 3/10s of a mile from the actual conference center. Hospitality rooms, food and beverage has to be something that has to be tied to a caterer so we cannot cook for ourselves, but there is a hot dinner and a couple drink tickets for those staying there. Registrations for NGAUS will start late May or early June.
- Corporate Partner Update- Many are starting to re-up their sponsorships, there are a bunch of new ones that are going to be on the list for conference supporters in many ways. Send Mr. Blaylock information for those businesses you feel may be future supporters.
- Lost Life Members- Found!!!- 2014 went from paper documentation to digital. Some of the members who were life members are not on our current books. There are several names are being added because of those who were a part of the MONGA leadership team prior to 2014 who had information on life members.
- Yellow Ribbon Coverage- 220<sup>th</sup> recent return, 1251<sup>st</sup> returning in the near future. We have more events upcoming, 1140<sup>th</sup> EN BN in August, 1175<sup>th</sup> MP CO (Fall). Not as hectic as last year.

#### 5. Resolutions Committee?

- Wes Dickman-Senate bill 163 (Tax Free Pay for SED/SAD for Soldiers), passed the veterans and mil affairs committee on 5 FEB 2025. Mr. Jewell, our lobbyist stated we should have the bill on the general floor in the next couple weeks.
  - o Several Bills are upcoming for veterans benefits
  - o House Bill 714- state contracts give vets 3 point advantage
  - o House Bill 909- AFGHAN VETERAN License plate
  - o Future Bill lowers property taxes for disabled veterans based on their disability rating
  - o Mr. Blaylock discussed a little the Defend the Guard Act and how it may be coming in the future and how we need to get ahead of it.

#### 6. New Business:

Call for new business

7. Adjournment Motion to adjourn at 1844

Adjourned 1844