

**Missouri National Guard Association**

**Executive Council Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday , 6 March 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 Cottrel, President**

**1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Establish a Quorum/**

**Branson**

-The meeting was called to order at 1806. Rick Branson, Secretary, took the roll call, and a full quorum was reached.

-Approval of Agenda - -Hand it over to President in order to Motion to approve minutes of the last meeting as written, seconded and passed, none opposed. Agenda was also approved in the same manner as the minutes.

-Officer Reports:

-Branson covered rollup, complimentary, annual, and life memberships, Mr. Blaylock gave more information to state we are above where we were last year and more paying members than there were in the past as well.

-Wilson covered the status of funds for MONGA

**2. Opening Comments and Agenda**

**Cottrell**

-Legislation – update on bills, file and intent with the secretary of state and the filings with the Missouri national guard to not deploy to Gaza but not likely to move forward.

-Defend the guard act- TAG spoke with the sponsors and had talking points about why we are not supportive of that bill.

-Mr. Blaylock stated that the politicians are firmly committed to the bill moving forward even though we are not behind it. Derrick Jennings stated the same about the politicians being firmly supporting the bill.

-No Tax for SED/SAD after Jan 1 2026 and is working the language for any type of activation.

- Hunting and fishing licenses for Soldiers still moving forward
- March 10<sup>th</sup> will be a hearing to extend civil protections for Soldiers as well. Like USERRA under the federal side, but the bills for Missouri that are moving forward will help duplicate the efforts for the State level.
- Looking to increase more funding for military funeral honors.
- August 1, the state schools will start waving fees for Soldiers.
- JB looking to get renovations that are moving through the house of rep currently
- St. Bernadette church is still in the works to acquire, but the church must be desanctified by the Vatican.
- the 3-point veteran contracts is still due pass
- the Afghan veteran license plates went to committee
- Property taxes to be lowered by percentage of disabled veteran VA rating still in the works.
- Conference- Shellie- The hotel isn't providing AV assistance, so we are looking internally for assistance there. Need volunteers for golf to assist distinguished visitors. Need final information for the airman and best warrior of the year for the awards. Still working the menu for the conference as well.
- Asked if there were any goody bags that the air guard might have for the conference. Air guard personnel responded with some ideas and they may contact some of the wings that will step up and take care of that.
- Mr. Blaylock stated poker chips and drink holders will be donated and sent to him to bring to the conference. He will also talk to the exhibitors and see if they have things to add to the goody bags.
- Shellie brought up the yoga and paint and sip and how to select those. Mr. Blaylock stated he could change some of the options to make it easier to select those options.
- Mr. Blaylock- 126 people for the mixer, 120 for the banquet, 122 for Saturday during the day, 19 for paint and sip, 10 for yoga, 26 exhibitors so far, golf tournament has 6 full teams of four and 17 individuals- 47 players total. Gonna have a beat the golf pro area where you can do shots to try to beat them. We are behind by about 38 people than this time last year.
- There will be some resolutions and distinguished visitors for a special meeting and Derrick Jennings will be joining the president and them for a meeting.
- Will there be a town hall to give state leadership the opportunity to speak? Looks like we will have that. During the coffee with the TAG
- There will also be an opportunity for the vendors to give their elevator speech to the crowd as well. During the coffee with the TAG
- Mr. Avery wanted some time to have a breakout as well and we are going to give it to him. Will do this to get him the opportunity to answer some legal questions around 11 on Saturday.
- Derrick Jennings requested the agenda for the TAG about a week out so the TAG has time to prepare. NLT 1 APR would be acceptable. A draft is going to be pushed tomorrow to help shape the conversation.

-Board Positions-VP's will be bringing these up during caucus's to get names for recommendations.

3. Executive Director Updates.

-Meet Up Schedule- Want to get items on the books for May thru July, potentially St. Louis Area and would like to lock some in to become predictable. A best practice would be around a drill period to get more of a turnout.

-NGAUS Conference-Planning still ongoing, information will be pushed around the early April.

-EANGUS Conference- EANGUS site will be updated and Mr. Blaylock will be pulling information and pushing that.

-Conversations with the Missouri National Guard Foundation and they are willing to fund some enlisted E4 and E5 types and CGO's to attend NGAUS and EANGUS. The partnership is being rebuilt to help all parties concerned.

-Vendors were listed, larger ones and newer ones were all shared. Still looking for partners as well.

-Calendar Overview-big items covered for meet ups and events upcoming and other activities that we can attend. The AFBA annual meeting for SSLI will be held in May. July has the NGAUS capital summit upcoming.

-Mr. Blaylock went through each of the MSC's and how many personnel they have signed up for the conference.

4. New Business:

Call for new business no new business.

5. Adjournment Motion to adjourn at 1856

Adjourned 1857