



## THE MILITARY COALITION

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Corporation President: Herb Rosenbleeth, JWV, 202-265-6280  
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Treasurer: Mike Blum, MCL, 703-207-9588

### MINUTES OF DECEMBER 5, 2013 MEETING

Fleet Reserve Association. 125 N. West St. Alexandria, VA 22314

1. The monthly TMC meeting was called to order by Co-Chairman Hayden. All member organization representatives were present except: AMVETS, AAAA, NCOA, and WWP.
  - a. Pledge of Allegiance: Co-Chairman Hayden
  - b. Introductions: John Davis introduced Tom Snee. MCL introduced association president Jim Tuohy. NGAUS introduced Adam Maisel. Don Hess was in attendance.
  - c. Presentations: none
  - d. Minutes approved for November 7, 2013 meeting.
  - e. Treasurer's report approved as amended by Treasurer Blum.
2. Co-Chair Discussion Items: Co-Chair Hayden (MOAA) talked about 2 amendments that stalled progress of the defense bill, leaving many important amendments in limbo. TMC will launch a conference letter next week. It will be out for review shortly.

Co-Chair Davis (FRA) announced that a three month "doc fix" for the SGR will be voted on.
3. Coordinator Announcements: None.
4. Committee Co-Chairs briefed on key issues since the last TMC meeting. Highlights are noted below.
  - a. **Awards.** Co-Chair Hanson (ROA) announced that the 2013 TMC Awards were presented to the recipients' offices. ROA will be losing its exclusive deal with its caterer, meaning a possible increase in the cost of next year's awards ceremony.

b. **Guard and Reserve.** Co-Chair Madison (TREA) presented the committee goals, which were approved.

The next committee meeting will be December 12 at 9:30 AM at TREA.

c. **MilCon/MWR.** Goals were postponed until transmitted electronically. Barring any objections, the goals will be approved 72 hours after being distributed.

d. **MilPersonnel/Compensation/Commissaries.** Co-Chair Grugin (AFSA) presented the committee goals, which were approved. At the MCRMC meeting in Hampton Roads, approximately 150 people showed up. Mike Hayden (MOAA) announced tuition assistance cuts for the services, and the Army has informally floated 15 cost cutting measures for DoD in 2015.

Committee meetings will be held the second Friday of odd months at 9:30 AM. Location: TBA.

e. **Retired Affairs.** Co-Chair Hayden (MOAA) presented the committee goals, which were approved.

The next committee meeting will be January 21 at 2 PM at FRA.

f. **Survivor Benefits.** Co-Chair Holleman (TRAE) presented the committee goals, which were approved.

g. **Taxes, Social Security.** Co-Chair Odom (MOAA) presented the committee goals, which were approved.

h. **Veterans.** Co-Chair Brown (AFSA) announced that the COLA for VA benefits will be 1.5%. Co-Chair Brown presented the committee goals, which were approved.

The Vets committee holiday party will be held at O'Connell's. Details to follow.

i. **Health Care.** Co-Chair Washington (FRA) discussed a recent meeting with GAO regarding TMC goals.

Committee goals were presented and approved.

There will be a TMC letter going around for coordination on lab test reimbursements.

j. **Membership and Nominations.** Co-Chair Rosenbleeth (JWV) announced there was a membership application received from VetsFirst. The committee unanimously agreed to not recommend the organization for inclusion in TMC based on the Coalition's membership criteria. Co-Chair Rosenbleeth also recommended the appointment of 5 TMC Co-Chair Emeriti: Steve Strobridge, Paul Arcari, Joe Barnes, Mike Cline, and Mike Ouellette. The recommendations were approved and will be presented this fall.

k. **Website.** No report.

5. Old Business. None

6. New Business. Paul Arcari (NMFA) recommended reappointment of the standing audit committee. Co-Chair Hayden (MOAA) announced a December 10 meeting with committee co-chairs at 3:00 PM at FRA regarding the top two or three issues that should be included in TMC testimony.

7. Good of the Order. Chris Slawinski (FRA) asked people to please not park in the South parking lot. Many of those spaces are leased out; please park on the street, where available.

An appreciation luncheon for Joe Barnes will be held at 11:30 AM at Theismann's.

Kate O'Gorman (IAVA) thanked everyone for their participation in the TMC press conference. The event created more than 172 million impressions, which would have cost \$233,193 if that coverage had been bought.

a. Appreciation was extended to FRA for hosting today's meeting. The next TMC meeting will be 10:00, **January 9, 2014** at FRA.

8. Adjournment: 11:10 AM this date.

Respectfully,  
Jamie Naughton, Coordinator