

THE MILITARY COALITION

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MINUTES OF 10 January 2013 MEETING

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

1. The monthly TMC meeting was called to order by Co-Chairman Strobridge. All member organization representatives were present except: REA, ROA, and AAAA.
2.
 - a. Pledge of Allegiance: Co-Chairman Strobridge
 - b. Introductions: Michelle Du Teil, daughter of Jack Du Teil (USAWOA).
 - c. Presentations: None
2.
 - a. The Minutes for the 6 December 2012 meeting, previously provided electronically, were approved.
 - b. The Treasurer's report was approved.

Co-Chair Strobridge: Both issues on which TMC "stormed the Hill" were included in the FY2013 defense authorization act. The retirement commission does not entail any BRAC-type rules, and no congressional vote on its recommendations will be required. In addition, the final legislation incorporates the TMC-supported lower pharmacy copays and COLA cap on future copay increases. MOAA is updating the NDAA matrix to reflect the final legislative outcomes and will provide it to TMC shortly. Committees need to update goals on the web site to address any goals that were addressed in the NDAA. Dick Walsh and Diana Tabler have left the SASC staff. No word yet on who will replace them. Need to appoint an Audit committee to audit TMC's books for the March meeting. Paul Arcari, Rick Jones, Deirdre Holleman and Ed Dockery agreed to serve on the audit committee. Congress acted to delay sequestration for 60 days—until March 1.

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 Moakler (NMFA) said it's a good time to submit recommendations for TMC awards since the NDAA was signed.

b. **Guard and Reserve.** Co-Chair Madison (TREA): committee met today; discussed NDAA wins and what needs to be pushed going forward. Next committee meeting is 14 February.

c. **MilCon/MWR.** Co-Chair Deirdre Parke-Holleman (TREA) had no report.

d. **MilPersonnel/Compensation/Commissaries.** Co-chair Barnes (FRA) spoke about BAH improvements for junior enlisted on sea duty and the value of resale benefits.

e. **Retired Affairs.** Co-Chair Davis (FRA) noted the NDAA includes a CRSC calculation fix that is a big win for TMC. Mike Hayden's work to get this fixed was particularly noted. The next meeting is 15 January at FRA.

f. **Survivor Benefits.** Co-Chair Moakler (NMFA) stated the committee had a few successes, including a provision in the fiscal cliff legislation that should exempt child-only SBP recipients from the alternative minimum tax. Working on updating goals, and the next committee meeting is 23 Jan 11:00 at TREA.

g. **Veterans.** Co-Chair Norton (MOAA) said two significant VA benefits bill cleared Congress and are awaiting the President's signature.

h. **Taxes, Social Security.** Phil Odom (MOAA) spoke about the fiscal cliff legislation and fixing the AMT issue.

i. **Health Care.** Co-Chair Washington (FRA) said the committee will meet with United Health next week. The MHS conference is scheduled for 11-14 February at the Gaylord. The Philippine TRICARE test is a bureaucratic mess. The next committee meeting is 31 January at FRA.

j. **Membership and Nominations.** Co-chair Rosenbleeth (JWV) had no report.

k. **Website.** Jamie Naughton (MOAA) requested committees submit any final goal changes for update on the TMC web site.

5. Old Business. USAWOA thanked TMC for help on National Guard pay issue.

6. New Business. NMFA is monitoring child abuse issue at Ft. Myer.

7. Good of the Order. IAVA will storm the hill 16 March. AUSN reception is 19 January. JWV reception is 13 February. WWP reports Christine Hill has departed and Chris Neiweem will be primary contact for TMC.

a. Appreciation was extended to FRA for hosting today's meeting. The next TMC meeting will be 10:00, 7 February 2013, at FRA.

8. Adjournment: 11:18 AM this date.

Respectfully,

Ed Dockery, Coordinator