



THE MILITARY COALITION

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MINUTES OF July 10, 2014 MEETING

Air Force Sergeants Association. 5211 Auth Rd, Suitland, MD 20746

1. The monthly TMC meeting was called to order by Co-Chairman Hayden. All member organization representatives were present except: EANGUS, MCRA, NGAUS, NERA, ROA, and VVA.

- a. Pledge of Allegiance: Co-Chairman Hayden
- b. Introductions: AFSA introduced their COO, Mark Stevenson
- c. Presentations: none
- d. Minutes approved for June 5, 2014 meeting.
- e. The Audit Committee's report was approved. Treasurer's report approved.

2. Co-Chair Discussion Items: Co-Chair Hayden (MOAA) said that the Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission released its interim report. In it, it said that personnel costs have comprised roughly 30% of DoD's budget for 30 years, and that using 2000 as a baseline to measure growth is inappropriate.

It's unlikely that there will be progress on the NDAA until September or October, and in the meantime, TMC is looking for senators to offer floor amendments on some of our key objectives.

It's looking increasingly likely that Congress will need to pass a continuing resolution to fund the government until the end of 2014.

Co-Chair Davis (FRA) said that he has been in discussion with Senator Harry Reid (D-Nev.)'s office regarding two possible amendments to expand concurrent receipt.

3. Coordinator Announcements: No report.

4. Committee Co-Chairs briefed on key issues since the last TMC meeting. Highlights are noted below.

a. Awards. Kathy Moakler (NMFA) recommended that TMC approve the following list of TMC award recipients: Senator Kelly Ayotte (R-N.H.), Representative Jeff Miller (R-Fla.), Mr. Brad Bowman, and Mr. Jay Cornett. The motion was approved.

The TMC awards ceremony will be held September 11 at 11:30 AM at ROA.

b. Guard and Reserve. No report.

c. MilCon/MWR. Karen Golden (MOAA) gave a report about her visit to AAFES to discuss expansion of online shopping privileges.

d. MilPersonnel/Compensation/Commissaries. Co-Chair Grugin (AFSA) asked if anyone has received word from anyone asked to participate in MCRMC's survey on compensation and benefits.

The next committee meeting will be July 18 at 10:00 AM at NMFA.

e. Retired Affairs. Co-Chair Davis (FRA) provided information on two possible amendments that Senator Reid is considering that would expand concurrent receipt: one is the legislative language of S. 234, and the other would lower the CRDP threshold from a 50% disability rating to 40%.

The next committee meeting will be July 15 at 9:30 AM at FRA.

f. Survivor Benefits. Co-Chair Moakler (NMFA) said that the VA recently updated regulations on payments for burial benefits.

g. Taxes, Social Security. No report.

h. Veterans. Co-Chair Brown (AFSA) provided updates on VA health care access reform. The biggest hang up on legislative progress is CBO scoring.

Co-Chair Norton (MOAA) announced that there would be a brief committee meeting following the regular TMC meeting. There will be no committee meeting in August; the next committee meeting will be in September.

i. Health Care. Co-Chair Beasley (MOAA) provided information on a recent meeting with health officials regarding their budget creation process. SecDef has asked for a review of military health care, to be completed by the end of August.

The next committee meeting will be July 31 at 8:30 AM at FRA.

j. **Membership and Nominations.** No report.

k. **Website.** No report.

5. Old Business. No report.

6. New Business. SMCAF announced that they would be disbanding after 65 years. Their final meeting will be in October, at which point they will send a formal letter, withdrawing from TMC.

There will be a discussion regarding the creation of a communications committee following the regular meeting.

Registration opened for MOAA's Warrior-Family Symposium, to be held on September 10.

7. Good of the Order.

a. Appreciation was extended to AFSA for hosting today's meeting. The next TMC meeting will be **10:00 AM, August 7, 2014** at AFSA.

8. Adjournment: 11:13 AM this date.

Respectfully,
Jamie Naughton, Coordinator