



## THE MILITARY COALITION

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**Corporation President:** Herb Rosenbleeth, JWV, 202-265-6280  
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**Corporation Secretary:** Phil Odom, MOAA, 703-838-8534  
**John Davis, FRA, 703-683-1400**  
**Treasurer:** Mike Blum, MCL, 703-207-9588

### **MINUTES OF January 9, 2014 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: CWO&WOA, GSW, MCRA, and NCOA.

- a. Pledge of Allegiance: Co-Chairman Hayden
- b. Introductions: none
- c. Presentations: none
- d. Minutes approved for December 5, 2013 meeting.
- e. Treasurer's report approved.

2. Co-Chair Discussion Items: Co-Chair Hayden (MOAA) discussed provisions included in the defense bill and Bipartisan Budget Act, specifically, a 1% active duty pay raise and a COLA-minus 1% for working age retirees. There are currently 15 bills on COLA restoration. TMC's position is to support some sort of repeal measure that is addressed in a bipartisan manner. There is the chance that the COLA issue could be addressed in the unemployment bill or an omnibus appropriations bill. The administration is expecting to have a defense budget proposal ready sometime in February.

There will be a conference call with Sen. Graham's staff at 11:30 today.

Phil Odom (MOAA) is preparing TMC testimony.

Co-Chair Davis (FRA) announced that a visitation will be held for John Chapla from 3:00 to 5:00 pm on Saturday, January 11, 2014 at Demaine Funeral Home, 520 South Washington Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314. The House Armed Services Committee will hold a

celebration of John's life on Wednesday, January 15th from 5:00-7:00 in room 1100 of the Longworth House Office Building.

3. **Coordinator Announcements:** Please contact Jamie Naughton (MOAA) regarding Congressional directories for the second session of the 113<sup>th</sup> Congress. He can be reached at [jamien@moaa.org](mailto:jamien@moaa.org) or 703-838-5807.

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

**a. Awards.** No report.

**b. Guard and Reserve.** Co-Chair Madison (TREA) announced that the House Guard-Reserve Caucus breakfast will be held Wednesday, April 2 in the Cannon Caucus Room.

Co-Chair Hanson (ROA) announced that there are proposals to allow members of the National Guard and Reserves to be buried in state veterans' cemeteries. TMC will decline endorsing these proposals until the issue of veterans' status is resolved in the VA omnibus bill (S. 944).

**c. MilCon/MWR.** No report.

**d. MilPersonnel/Compensation/Commissaries.** Co-Chair Grugin (AFSA) announced that the committee's regular bi-monthly meetings would begin on January 10.

**e. Retired Affairs.** Co-Chair Davis (FRA) announced that the next committee meeting will be January 21 at 2:00 PM at FRA.

**f. Survivor Benefits.** Co-Chair Moakler (NMFA) announced that a provision was included in the defense bill that requires improved training for casualty assistance officers.

**g. Taxes, Social Security.** No report.

**h. Veterans.** Co-Chair Norton (MOAA) announced a meeting to be held on January 15 at 2:30 at Russell Senate Office Building 418 to discuss SVAC Chair Sen. Sander's bill, S. 944.

The next committee meeting will be held February 5 at 1:30 PM at FRA. VA dental care will be discussed. Holly Petraeus from the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau is expected to speak at a committee meeting on February 6 at 1:30 PM at FRA.

**i. Health Care.** Co-Chair Washington (FRA) announced a [TMC letter](#) to ASD(HA) Woodson regarding Molecular Pathology. TRICARE will be issuing guidance on TRICARE Prime Service Areas that were impacted with the recently passed defense bill. A provision in the Bipartisan Budget Act continues to fund the doc fix issue for three months.

Mike Hayden noted that due to a provision in the Affordable Care Act, some employers are dropping Health Savings Accounts (HSAs) that some TRICARE beneficiaries are using to pay

for TRICARE Prime premiums. The intent of the law was to preclude people from using an HSA to pay for private insurance.

The next committee meeting will be held January 30 at 9:30 AM at FRA.

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

k. **Website.** Committee Co-Chairs need to submit a list of 2013 accomplishments for posting on the website. Sample letters to members of Congress urging them to cosponsor/thanking them for cosponsoring COLA cut legislation have been posted on the [TMC letters site](#).

5. Old Business. None

6. New Business. None.

7. Good of the Order. Anthony Wallis (AUSN) announced AUSN will be hosting a reception on January 28 from 5:30 – 7:30 PM at the Cannon Caucus Room. For more information, please visit [www.ausn.org/capitolhillreception](http://www.ausn.org/capitolhillreception).

EANGUS will be hosting a reception on February 3. For additional information please email [seth.waugh@eangus.org](mailto:seth.waugh@eangus.org).

a. Appreciation was extended to FRA for hosting today's meeting. The next TMC meeting will be 10:00, **February 6, 2013** at FRA.

8. Adjournment: 10:46 AM this date.

Respectfully,  
Jamie Naughton, Coordinator