

**MONTANA NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 6683
GREAT FALLS, MT 59406-6683**

MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

HELD: 26 July 2001

A meeting of the Officers and Board of Directors of the Montana National Guard Officer Association was held at 1500 hours on 26 July 2001 at Fort Harrison. The following Officers and Directors were in attendance:

LTC Loren Oelkers, President
MAJ Bryan Fox, Vice President
LTC Steve Mehring, Executive Director
LTC Jonathan Jackson, Director
LTC John Swanson, Director
LTC Jim Oehmcke, Director
MAJ Buel Dickson, Director
CPT Tracy Anderson, Director
CPT Roy Ingram, Director
CW5 Joe Yuricic, Director

The following committee members were in attendance:

MAJ Tim Lincoln, Resolutions
W01 Elizabeth Cook, Judiciary

CALL TO ORDER/APPROVAL OF MINUTES. The meeting was called to order by President Oelkers.

COMMITTEE/OFFICER REPORT

Financial Report. LTC Oelkers gave the financial report. He reported that the Association currently has \$5,596.45. A bill (known as the AG bill) for \$868.25 has been assessed. This is a \$0.25 assessment for every Soldier and Airmen. The executive director will more closely explore the purpose of this charge.

Motion to approve. Fox/Oehmcke. Unan.

Membership Report. LTC Mehring reported that overall 83% have paid 2001 membership dues. This compares to 79% in year 2000. Accolades went out to LTC Oelkers and CW5 Yuricic for their personal involvement in soliciting membership. LTC Mehring also stated the dues income will be distributed as follows: \$16,924.00 to NGAUS and \$4,275.00 to MTNGA. In addition 1 July through 30 June is the Fiscal Year for NGAUS dues. Finally, for the MTARNG, dues packages will be distributed to the Battalion Commanders and Directors. Recent survey results show the majority of the membership still prefers to pay their dues by snail mail. A fact sheet to the members will be prepared to highlight benefits of Association membership.

Insurance Report. LTC Remick presented the association with a check for \$2,800.00. He informed the group that in the near future dependants will be eligible to enroll in SGLI program. Although SGLI is less expensive than the MT NGA program, SGLI will not provide coverage once an individual leaves the service. An information brochure will be developed for the membership highlighting the advantages of the MT NGA life insurance program.

Insurance/Corporate Committee Report. A consensus was reached to make this program a priority. A review of corporate sponsors from other state associations was conducted. Several examples such as display adds, active web links, and levels of contributions were presented. LTC John Swanson volunteered to join this

committee. LTC Jackson and his committee will meet on 20 August at the Dearborn Inn, Dearborn MT. The goal is to have something formalized and in place by 1 October 2001.

Scholarship Report. LTC Oelkers gave the report. The association honored the two essay winners with checks for \$500.00 apiece at its annual Convention at Chico Hot Springs. LTC Oelkers stated that the State Legislature has approved \$250,000.00 for National Guard member scholarships over the next bi-annum. All \$250,000.00 appropriated in the previous session was utilized with a tangible affect on retention.

Executive Directors Report. LTC Mehring spoke about the upcoming national conference being held in Indianapolis IN. He stated that the company grade officer for Air position is presently open and election will be held at the national conference. He stated that MT is ranked number two in region six for membership strength. The association bylaws provide for funding the executive directors expenses (airline ticket, registration fee, and hotel room) at the national conference each year, but the reimbursement plan for other delegates varies depending on our financial condition each year. This year the board agreed to pay up to a maximum of \$500.00 toward registration fees to the national conference. This will be prorated upon the numbers of members attending.

Motion to approve the \$500 in registration fee reimbursements. Fox/Oehmcke. Unan.

State Conference Report. LTC Oehmcke briefed that the conference for 19-21 April 2002 at the Great Falls Heritage Inn is on track. The MTNG Enlisted Association will coincide their convention at the Holiday Inn Great Falls this same time. Presently it planned to have a mixed event on Friday night with separate Saturday night banquets. The spouse's luncheon will be held at the Collins Mansion. A golf tournament is being explored. A guest speaker still needs to be retained for the banquet.

Judiciary Committee Report No Report.

Resolution Committee. LTC Mehring reported that an emergency resolution for targeting pods was submitted to NGAUS resolution committee along with a resolution to allow technicians to donate sick leave to deserving fellow technicians.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

ANG Family Day Picnic. A request was made to the association for a sponsorship donation in support of the Air Guards Annual Family Day Picnic. It was deemed that this would be a visible opportunity to show our membership that their dues go to something other than the national program.

Motion to approve \$100 donation for this event. Swanson/Oelkers. Unan.

NEXT MEETING. The next meeting will take place October 17, 2001 at 1500 hours at the Dearborn Inn, Dearborn MT.

ADJOURN. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1700 hours.

Loren Oelkers, LTC, MT ARNG
President