

***EANGMT Executive Board Meeting  
13 December 2005, 6:30 p.m.  
Rosie's Missouri River Inn***

**OPENING ITEMS**

- Call to Order
- Roll Call of Members

*Executive Members Present:*

President – MSG Jim Gustafson	Executive Member Air – SMSgt Mark Giskaas
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President – CSM Ronda Scott	Executive Member Army – SFC Risi Stewart
Treasurer – SFC Dana Lahti	Executive Member Army – SFC Tim Sowa
Secretary – SSgt Patti Hagan	

*Others Present:*

CMSgt Roger Hagan                      MSgt Blue Manzanares

*Executive Members Not Present:*

1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President – SMSgt Lisa Smith	Executive Member Air – CCM Steve Lyczewski
Executive Member Army – MSG Neil Young	Executive Member Army – SFC Nick Conway
Executive Member Army – SFC Dave Polansky	Executive Member Army – SGT Cynthia Marshall
Retired Member Air – MSgt (Ret) John Haffner	Retired Member Army – Vacant
Past President – MSgt Ruth Mortag	

- Appointment of Proxy's approved by majority vote: MSgt Blue Manzanares to represent for CCM Steve Lyczewski and CMSgt Roger Hagan to represent for SMSgt Lisa Smith.
- Minutes of the last quarterly meeting, 27 August 2005, were accepted as written.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. Scholarship Report – MSgt Jeff Wheeler has not notified the Treasurer or the President of the names of the scholarship winners. Jeff has submitted a letter of resignation to be voted on under new business.
2. Financial Report – SFC Dana Lahti: a CD of the associations was rolled over. Attached written report accepted as written.
3. Membership Report Army/Air – CSM Ronda Scott: currently at 632 with 18 she just turned in. Blue Manzanares just gave 15 more and she received 5 more today. Should be able to make our goal set with the National office. Any USAA free memberships must be turned in no later than 16 December 2005. For other memberships, they must be received by 31 January 2006 in order to count towards our goal. Verbal report accepted as given.
4. Legislative Report – CMSgt Roger Hagan: the state legislature convenes for four days starting tomorrow. Chief Hagan is staying away from the legislature but will be working around the fringes in order to make sure they do not make changes to what we have accomplished in this last year. Starting in February all Fish Wildlife and Parks licenses are new 1 Feb each year. Starting in 2006 many of our soldiers/airmen who were deployed will be eligible for a highly discounted hunting/fishing combination licenses. Concerning the federal budget, we still do not have a defense appropriation or a defense authorization the continuing resolution expires on 16 December. Congress is back in session trying to work that out. If they extend the continuing resolution authority into next month all the enlisted recruiting bonuses expire 31 December regardless. Consequently we will be in trouble with recruiting and retention at that point. Back to the State legislature, the Department of Military Affairs met with the Board of Regents to discuss tuition

- assistance. Also concerned about the veterans having tuition assistance available after returning from a war zone. In the federal budget hanging in the balance is TRICARE for all, which will be a cost share where you pay a premium but you do not have to be mobilized into a war zone in order to be eligible. Also an early retirement piece is in there. It is not age related but for every 90 days served in a war zone you can retire 90 days earlier than age 60. Therefore, they are starting with recognizing those who have served in a war zone and backing their retirement date off. Hopefully this is a start to where we want to go with the 55 retirement. This will go back to anyone involved in the war since 9/11. Holiday Cruise Lines which is based out of Barbados is offering a free seven day cruise of the Bahamas for anyone mobilized to a war zone in the year of 2005. Information can be obtained from Chief Hagan. Verbal report accepted as given.
5. By-Laws/Constitution Report – no report at this time.
  6. Website Report – no report at this time.
  7. EANGUS National Conference 2006 Report – CMSgt Roger Hagan: the 35<sup>th</sup> annual conference will be in Salt Lake City, Utah at the Salt Palace instead of Biloxi, Mississippi, due to Hurricane Katrina. The conference will be the same dates as scheduled for Biloxi, 20-23 August 2006. Area VI will be blocking 100 rooms at the main hotel in which 15-20 will be for the state of Montana. Area VI will be helping Utah put this conference on. The Mississippi theme will still be used. The Area VI Mid-Winter Conference will be 20-22 January 2006, at Circus-Circus in Reno, Nevada. A sidebar from MSG Jim Gustafson, regarding the bonus program for the Army side. The plan is out there for independent contractors. If an M-day type soldier, not an AGR, has to take a two hour class online, once they complete that class if they bring a lead to a National Guard recruiter that enlists that soldier they will get a credit card with a \$1000 debit on it. The day that soldier ships to basic training you will get another \$1000. If you bring in a prior service soldier you get \$1000 and four months after you get another \$1000. The first five states are testing in March, Montana is not included. Verbal report accepted as given. Reminder that we can now take our Soldiers/Airman of the Year in per diem status to the national conference.
  8. Insurance – CMSgt Roger Hagan: information to obtain insurance is on the website. The Association needs to push on the officer's association to push on the Shuey Agency to establish someone in the State of Montana as a licensed insurance agent. CMSgt Roger Hagan is currently licensed under the Shuey Agency just to keep his insurance license current but is not interested in being the Association representative. CCM (Ret) Paul Heppner has passed his insurance exams and is licensable. We need to work with the officer's association to see if Chief Heppner would be interested in doing that and to see if the Shuey Agency would be interested in putting him on as their representative in Montana. The income from the insurance program is \$474.15 on 12 September 2005.
  9. Retirees Report – no report at this time.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- Audit Report Update: SMSgt Wayne Losing will help with the audit committee and will audit our books for the state conference. The Form 990 still needs to be filed with the IRS. Suggested to contact CPA downtown to find out how we go about to file the Form 990. Also suggested to contact MSgt Ruth Mortag as she has had contact with the IRS and may be able to clarify on this situation.
- Purple Picture: CSM Ronda Scott asked Denny Eickert for whatever he had on this but he did not turn anything over to her. As quoted from the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual State Conference minutes, "A humvee and/or helicopter will depict the Army Guardsmen, an F-16 to depict the Air Guardsmen, and a Minuteman for the National Guard as a whole. Also would like some kind of quotation to put on the picture and something to depict the firefighting the Guard has been involved in." Tabled to next meeting.
- Donation Limit: a position paper was to be put together by President MSG Jim Gustafson with inputs from Treasurer SFC Dana Lahti and MSgt Steve Hagan but has been started. In a historical perspective from CMSgt Roger Hagan, a budget was set up in advance per year. A committee was established to choose and

recommend to the executive board on a quarterly basis in order to have some fairness and balance on the donations. Tabled until next meeting.

- Support for Military Organizations: again the letter has been signed by MG Mosley but CCM Steve Lyczewski has not sent a copy of the letter to Secretary SSgt Patti Hagan for the association's files.
- USAA Memberships: CSM Ronda Scott turned in at least ten recently and some are still pending. The deadline to turn in the applications is this Friday, 16 December 2005. If persons have paid for their memberships and are eligible for the free one-year membership, it is extended onto their membership. There is no signature required on the form but need to get the persons approval to put them in for the one-year free membership. We are 800 down Area VI wide of our goal for 31 December 2005. The membership count is what sets our number of delegate votes for the national conference. EANGUS sends renewal notices to members. They may start sending a spreadsheet to the membership chairman each time the notices are mailed out.
- Replacement Recommendations for Vacant Board Positions: nobody has come forward to fill any of the vacant positions. SSgt Patti Hagan will put in another notice in the newsletter asking for volunteers.
- Scholarship Money: it was voted on previously that the scholarship should be \$500 per award. Therefore, if USAA only sent us \$500 then the Association would put in another \$500 in order that we could grant two \$500 scholarships instead of \$250 each. It was not specified in the minutes that it was a one time thing or a lifetime thing. SSgt Patti Hagan has brought this up for clarification. Suggested by MSG Jim Gustafson that we have one auction item at our annual banquet in which the proceeds are dedicated to the scholarship fund. Motion made for the board to supplement the scholarship fund to equal \$500 per applicant. It was 2<sup>nd</sup> and accepted. Motion made to look for a scholarship raffle item per every annual conference with the proceeds from that individual item to go to help supplement the scholarship fund. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> and accepted. SFC Tim Sowa is appointed as the person in charge of this and will get together with Blue Manzanares to coordinate for the upcoming state conference.
- State Conference 2006: a handout was given with the lunch and dinner choices and costs for the Grouse Mountain Lodge. Baseline price for conference is \$40 per person without supplementing for lower enlistees. For dinner, there is \$32 or a \$23 dinner choice. Lunch will be \$16. Agreed upon to go with the lower dinner in order to make the price for the conference at \$40, taxes/gratuity are included. There is no extra cost for our meeting rooms because of the volume of people expected. The auxiliary incurred \$200 worth of charges for their meeting space. It is for the separate room that they have requested for the silent auction items. As long as we meet the number of 70 rooms then we will not incur any extra costs. Motion to set the registration fees for E-5 and below at \$30 per person and for E-6 and above at \$50 per person and if the income will support paying for the auxiliary's silent auction room that we pay for it out of revenue. It was 2<sup>nd</sup>. Discussion was made that the auxiliary gives us money anyways. Amendment to the motion made to include a \$5 break for registration as a couple. That would be \$95 for E-6 and above and \$55 for E-5 and below. It was 2<sup>nd</sup> and accepted.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- Resignation letter by MSgt Jeff Wheeler, Scholarship Committee Chairman, was received in September. He was asked to stay but no response was received. As a committee chairman it does not have to be voted on. Therefore, the resignation is accepted. If anyone has an idea for someone to fill this position please let President Jim Gustafson know. Committee Chairmen do not have to be at the meetings but must send written reports, even if it is a "no report at this time", to the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President for each board meeting.
- Auxiliary asked to make sure that it is specified that their memberships run January to January regardless of when the membership is paid for. The EANGMT website does have a page for the auxiliary. It will be looked at to make sure that this is specified.

- We Care For America Foundation: per CMSgt Roger Hagan if you go out to the EANGUS website there is a link for the We Care For America Foundation. This is a non-profit entity of EANGUS that is used to recognize those guard members who are in financial straits or any kind of catastrophic needs. It requires an application be filled out and routed through the Command Sergeant Major or the Command Chief of the State or the Family Programs Manager of the State or the Adjutant General and then routed to the National Office. The board approves or disapproves the requests.
- Big Sky Ski Resort sponsored this past weekend all military families for a weekend of skiing. SMSgt Mark Giskaas and his family participated in this benefit. The cost was \$75 per room. They received a condo. The lift tickets were free. The equipment was the cost that they charge their employees. They had a breakfast buffet that was included and they had a reception that night. The dinners were 25% off for military and some of the stores were also giving military discounts. There were 400 military members and families who took advantage of this benefit. This was Big Sky Ski Resorts fourth year in doing this. Suggestion made by CMSgt Roger Hagan that the Association send some kind of recognition or thank you acknowledging their contribution. They have also opened it up for half price skiing and half price lodging for Christmas and New Year. MG Mosley has sent a letter thanking them. Suggested by MSG Jim Gustafson to buy a print and write a thank you. President Gustafson will look into getting something put together. Blue Manzanaras will look into having SMSgt Eric Peterson of the 120<sup>th</sup> Communications Squadron making up the Purple Picture so that we could send this to Big Sky Ski Resort.
- Montana Guardsman Bronze: all of the molds for the MT guardsman bronze are being kept by CMSgt Roger Hagan. Currently not selling any of the bronzes or casting them. An artist will be living in Shelby next summer, doing the Dempsy-Gibbons Fight bronze for the city of Shelby. The artist is Garif Curtis who did the bronze in the capital of Mike and Maureen Mansfield, he did the memorial bronze for the 221<sup>st</sup> Red Horse in Virginia that crashed and died in an airplane crash. He has done bronzes for the Army Guard in Oregon and the Army Post in Fort Lewis. Currently he is the front runner to sometime finish the Bob Scriver bronzes. No promotion or sales for the next two years.
- Resolutions: the resolution committee is Bob Bennett and Paul Heppner. CMSgt Roger Hagan will send out a notice to call for resolutions for the April conference.
- By-Law Changes: SSgt Patti Hagan has a couple of ideas for some by-law changes. First, it states that the President will counter-sign the checks. The audit report suggests that only one signature is sufficient as long as a copy of the check is taken. A signature card is kept at the bank. Suggested that it read that the signature card will have the President, Treasurer and two other persons designated by the President and that two of these person will sign the checks. The by-laws state that changes need to be adopted by a 2/3 vote at an annual conference or a special meeting. And that it shall be given to the members 30 days prior to that. Suggested by SFC Dana Lahti that we go by the auditor's suggestion that only one signature should be sufficient. Because of prior approvals by the board the auditor sees only one signature is sufficient. Second suggested change which is actually an addition is regarding voting. It states that we have to have 50% of the filled positions at a meeting to make a majority but it does not state what makes a majority vote on a motion. Is it 50% or 2/3 vote? Per CMSgt Roger Hagan it has been a simple majority, 51%, in order to pass a motion. Would like to see it written in the by-laws to clarify the voting majority. The next question was to clarify what would constitute a majority when calling for a vote via email? Is it 51% of replies or 51% of the whole board since everyone receives the email? Suggested that it should read that a majority will be 51% of the replies as long as 50% of the filled positions give a reply, just like it is specified for a meeting. These will be written up and sent out for proofing before sending out to the members.
- Next Quarterly Board Meeting: usually the meeting before the state conference is held at the conference place in order for a site visit and to help sell corporate memberships. Agreed upon to try and hold the meeting on 18 February 2006 at Grouse Mountain Lodge. An email will be sent out to find out how many executive members will be able to make this date.

**Adjourned at 8:53 p.m.**