

34th Annual EANGMT State Conference
29 April 2006, Grouse Mountain Lodge, Whitefish, MT
0830 General Business Session Minutes

Executive Members Present:

1 st Vice/President Pro-tem – SMSgt Lisa Smith	Executive Member Air – CCM Steve Lyczewski
2 nd Vice President – CSM Ronda Scott	Executive Member Air – SMSgt Mark Giskaas
Secretary – SSgt Patti Hagan	Executive Member Army – SFC Tim Sowa
Executive Member Army – SGT Cynthia Marshall	

Others Present:

MG Randy Mosley	BG Stan Putnam	Col Brad Livingston
CMSgt (Ret) Paul Heppner	CMSgt Roger Hagan	MSgt Blue Manzanares
MSgt Bob Gregori	CSM Bob Bennett	MSG (Ret) Buck Buckmaster
MSG (Ret) John Bagley	MSG (Ret) Ted Lott	MSG (Ret) Denny Eickert
SFC Ralph Johnston	SFC Curt Ethington	1SG Nick Smith
SSgt Matt Giskaas		

Executive Members Not Present:

Treasurer – MSG Dana Lahti	Executive Member Army – SFC Nick Conway
Executive Member Army – MSG Neil Young	Executive Member Army – 1SG Risi Stewart
Executive Member Army – SFC Dave Polansky	Retired Member Air – MSG (Ret) John Haffner
Past President – MSgt Ruth Mortag	

OPENING ITEMS

- Call to Order
- Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation
- Appointment of Sergeant at Arms:
Army – 1SG Nick Smith Air – SSgt Matt Giskaas
- Opening Remarks made by the TAG – Major General Randy Mosley. Talked about where the National Guard is going, where it has been and where we can continue to assist ourselves in the Enlisted Association. MG Mosley asks for the Association to push its membership and grab onto the G-RAP program to bring the strength levels of both the Air and Army National Guard to 100% strength. He also asks for our support to help the National Guard in the acquisition in modernized equipment. That we help to ensure adequate funds are available to reset the equipment that has returned from Iraq and needs to get back to the States so that we will have available for future use. Help is asked from the Association to ensure at both the State and Federal levels that we have the adequate and sufficient entitlements and benefits to demonstrate to our soldiers and airmen that we not only appreciate their service to this State and Nation but we recognize it and we are supporting it through the entitlement and benefits that are necessary to retain them and their families as members of the National Guard. MG Mosley urges the officers and enlisted associations to consider “chapters” of their association that would meet regularly around the State and are stationed or located regionally to support the units across the State. He suggests that the Associations go to the areas our soldiers and airmen live and sponsor local activities, sponsor meetings to pull the insight from the soldiers and airmen who reside in the state to better address the

needs of those types of units and those types of airmen and soldiers. Consider anything the Association can do, that may be different, so that we can reenergize and better support the soldiers and airmen by working closer with them potentially at locations where they reside and at times and opportunities that is conducive for them to assemble and assist the Association.

- Minutes of Last Quarterly Meeting, 7 March 2006: minutes accepted as written.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Executive Board Member Reports: printed in the conference book.
2. Scholarship Report – SMSgt Lisa Smith: accepted as printed in the conference book.
3. Financial Report – MSG Dana Lahti: accepted as printed in the conference book.
4. Audit Report – SMSgt Wayne Losing: accepted as printed in the conference book.
5. Membership Report – CSM Ronda Scott: current membership is 708 out of 3049 that are assigned. The USAA one-year free membership application is on the Associations website. The report was accepted as printed in the conference book.
6. Legislative Report – CMSgt Roger Hagan: there are sixteen issues being brought forward during this legislative session. Personnel can read the National Association’s resolutions on their website at www.eangus.org. The State will not allow the state scholarship funds to go to a student attending any private (religious or non-secular) school. This will not get resolved unless the Attorney General will issue an opinion that says that granting money to the student directly is not a conflict of the State Constitution. The State Constitution says that you will not fund anything that has to do with religion. Therefore, by providing money to the student is in conflict with the State Constitution. Report attached and accepted as submitted.
7. By-Laws/Constitution Report – SSgt Patti Hagan: report accepted as printed in the conference book.
8. Insurance Report – no report at this time.
9. 2006 National Conference Report – conference is scheduled for 20-23 August 2006, in Salt Lake City, Utah. The registration form can be obtained from the EANGUS website. The State of Montana is allowed four delegates at the conference. The leadership and management training is still being approved in order for the states to be allowed to send young soldiers/airmen in duty status. Oral report accepted as submitted.
10. 2007 National Conference Report – CMSgt Roger Hagan: the conference is scheduled to be held in Oklahoma City. As of 31 December 2005 we had 693 members which gives us three delegates plus the President delegate vote at the 2006 National Conference. Continue to bring up membership and we will get more delegate votes. Oral report accepted as submitted.

Senator Burns, Senator Baucus and Representative Rehberg were all invited to our State Conference but could not attend. A letter was read from Senator Conrad Burns.

11. Resolutions Report – CMSgt Roger Hagan: there are sixteen resolutions for the upcoming legislative session. Personnel can read the resolutions on the Association’s website at www.eangmt.org. The resolutions were accepted as printed in the conference book along with one attachment.
12. Publications Report – SSgt Patti Hagan: the next newsletter articles are due by 25 May 2006. Report accepted as printed in the conference book.
13. Nomination Report – CMSgt Roger Hagan: oral report accepted as given.

Major Unit Caucus – discussions in the Air caucus and the Army caucus.

Presentation given by LTC John Swanson, Chairman of the Officer’s Association, showing his vision and motivation for the Officer and Enlisted Association’s in the upcoming year.

OLD BUSINESS

- Audit Report Update – Form 990: no new information at this time.
- “Purple” Picture: Greg Fox (Army) and Jason Johnson (Air) have been contacted but nothing has developed. Ronda plans to look for pictures to get this project going.
- Donation Limit: no position paper has been written. Ideas brought up were to dedicate a percentage of the budget or to set a particular amount per year to spend on donation requests. The Association needs to write up guidance on the criteria for approving requests along with how much the Association will donate per year. May want to only accept donation requests once a year so that no one is left out – that it is not first come, first served. The committee to write up the guidance and criteria will be CCM Lyczewski, SMSgt Mark Giskaas, SGT Cynthia Marshall, and MSG Dana Lahti. The committee will meet before the next quarterly meeting to bring their guidance and criteria in front of the executive board for approval.
- Big Sky Resort: a thank you will be sent to the Big Sky Resort since no one knows if Jim Gustafson did indeed send one to the Resort.

NEW BUSINESS

- 2006-07 Budget – MSG Dana Lahti: it was brought up by CMSgt Roger Hagan that the amount listed for Legislative is not correct. He indicated that it will end up being more than what is listed. The budget runs from 1 April 2006 through 31 March 2007. Motion to accept the budget was made, 2nd and accepted.
- Constitution and By-Laws Resolutions – SSgt Patti Hagan: a motion was made to accept the Constitution resolutions, it was 2nd and accepted. A motion to accept the By-Law resolutions was made, 2nd and accepted.
- USAA Scholarship Deadline: the scholarship applications are due no later than 31 August 2006. The application can be downloaded from the Association’s website and will also be in the next newsletter.
- Chairman Positions: the Association is looking for committee chairmen for Scholarship, Membership-Air, and By-Laws/Constitution. Deferred until after elections.
- EANGMT Visibility in Units/Functions: we are not promoting the Association very well and taking credit for things we are doing. SMSgt Lisa Smith is recommending making signs and hand-outs to help promote and obtain memberships. Idea to hire a marketing firm to sell the Association. Need to do some research. Tabled until next meeting.
- SSLI – CMSgt (Ret) Paul Heppner: He has passed the States insurance test in April 2005 and received his insurance producer license in March 2006. CMSgt Heppner applied for appointment of individual field service representative for Five Star Insurance Company and has been selected and appointed for the State of Montana. SSLI continues after you leave the Guard – SGLI does not. SSLI briefings take 15 minutes plus 15 minutes for questions and filling out the paperwork. During the briefing we discuss benefits of both the SGLI and the optional enhancement offered through the SSLI. CMSgt Heppner needs help scheduling the SSLI briefings.
- Resolutions: A motion was made to accept all sixteen resolutions as printed. The motion was 2nd and accepted.
- Elections: President ~ SMSgt Lisa Smith (Air), 1 year term
1st Vice President ~ CSM Ronda Scott (Army), 1 year term

2nd Vice President ~ CCM Steve Lyczewski (Air), 1 year term
Executive Member Army ~ 1SG Nick Smith, 2 year term
Executive Member Army ~ SGT Cynthia Marshall, 2 year term
Executive Member Army ~ SFC Tim Sowa, 2 year term
Executive Member Air ~ SMSgt Kirk Hindoiem, 2 year term

- CSM Bennett brought up that a checks and balance should be made to approve the newsletter before it being printed due to the bad press the Association got after the December newsletter and the President's article. Suggested that the Association have one Air board member and one Army board member who does not submit an article for that newsletter give their approval before printing. A policy should be written for the next board meeting.
- CCM Lyczewski challenges everyone to bring one or two new people to the next conference.
- 2007 State Conference: CSM Ronda Scott suggested having a joint conference with the officer's association which would also include the family programs. The officer's have already chosen Helena for their conference. Also this way young soldiers and airmen could get rooms on Fort Harrison at a cheaper price. Motion was made to have the 2007 Enlisted Association conference in Helena next year to coincide with the MTNGA and the family programs conferences. The motion was 2nd and accepted.

LUNCHEON

- CSM Bennett presented the Army report and CCM Lyczewski presented "Eye on the Guard" as the Air report during the luncheon.
- USAA drawing for a \$50 gift certificate went to Buck Buckmaster.
- Moment of Silence for all our fallen members.

BANQUET

- A new and fun entertainment was had by all. The Montana Adventure Company dressed up and played the roles of characters from the board game "Clue". They performed a mystery scavenger hunt for attendees to find out who killed who. With the theme of the conference being cartoons, attendees were dressed up as cartoon characters and the game was based on cartoon characters. At the end of the game, we finally pieced it all together. Elmer Fudd tried to kill Bugs Bunny and tried to frame Roger Rabbit for the crime.
- Oath given to the newly elected officers.
- The President of the Auxiliary, Becky Buckmaster, presented a gift to MSgt Blue Manzanaras.
- Next quarterly meeting date is scheduled for 12 August 2006 at Ronda Scott's cabin.
- The theme for the EANGMT 2007 State Conference will be Country Barn Dance.

ADJOURNED