



Montana Defense Alliance
Monday, April 4, 2016
Chamber Video Conference Center

COMMITTEE MEMBER PRESENT:

David Weissman Greg Doyon Brad Livingston Len Watkins
Cheryl Ulmer Cari Kent John Faulkner Jeff Millhollin
Zack Gambill Steve Grooms

COMMITTEE GUESTS:

Col Don Emerson Ed Buttrey

CHAMBER STAFF:

Lindsay Lalonde

WELCOME:

Welcome to Col Don Emerson

REVIEW OF MINUTES:

✳ **Motion was made and seconded to approve the March 7, 2016 minutes. Motion carries.**

FEDERAL DELEGATION REPORTS:

- A. Cheryl Ulmer reported on the following:
 - a. Senator sent letter to Air Force and Forest Service
 - b. Announced 60% increase in monies
- B. Cari Kent reported on the following:
 - a. Cari was in D.C. for training on defense appropriation, great experience in Washington D.C.
 - b. Expect guard to send something in next week or two
 - c. Governor will lose capabilities with the guard with Title 5. At least 20% will transfer out of guard.
 - d. Senator Daines had meeting with Air Force Re: detainees at Guantanamo – Senator strongly opposed to closing Guantanamo
 - e. Annual Military Appreciation April 16th
 - f. Increase appointment for Montana youth service academy – very successful year
- C. Mr. Zach Gambill from Congressman Zinke's office reported on the following:
 - a. Air Force is looking at replacing Hueys with Blackhawks
 - b. Academy and ROTC days: April 23rd at MTANG

GUARD REPORT:

- A. Col Don Emerson reported on the following:
 - a. Counter Drug force around the guard – Provide guard intel analysts to counter drug force around guard for law enforcement in counter drug director. 7/8 intel directors around the tate
 - b. SAA is working to get counter-drug program back

- c. Aviation work with FBI, customs

(Guard 101 Brief)

- A. New Montana Guard Representative is Col Don Emerson from Helena.
- B. Montana Department of Military Affairs Guard 101 Brief

TREASURER'S REPORT:

- A. February Financials Review:
 - a. Actual Five Month budget (ending February 29, 2016)
 - b. Outstanding travel to be applied (\$3,400)
 - c. David requested updated membership report on who has paid dues for MTDA
 - d. MTDA checking has a balance of \$8,569.
 - e. MTDA Money Market is \$40,179.
 - f. MTDA Base Funds are \$89,436.

Motion was made and seconded to approve Treasurer's Report. Motion carries.

BUSINESS:

- A. News/Follow-up: None reported
- B. Trip/Activity Reports:
 - a. David and Brad attended Brigadier General Hronek's ceremony
 - b. Greg Doyon reported on Community Partnership Meeting (Link to Trip Report below)
 - 1. <http://www.greatfallschamber.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/Trip-Report-ADC-Charleston-SC-Final-Feb-2016.pdf>
- C. Planning
 - a. Future Trips:
 - 1. SDC: 20 - 21 April - Albuquerque
 - a. Steve Grooms or Len Watkins will attend
 - 2. ADC: 20 - 21 June - Washington D.C.
 - a. David Weissman and Greg Doyon will attend
 - 3. COSAF CLP - 17-24
 - a. David Weissman
 - 4. County Visits - continued efforts to arrange meetings with counties
 - 5. AFGSC Civic Leader Tour Dyess and Joint Base Lackland/San Antonio 11-14 May 16
 - a. a. Steve Grooms
 - b. b. David Weissman
 - 6. Two trips David needs financial support on:
 - a. 17th Anniversary of Heritage - 19th & 20th of May
 - b. Chief of Staff for Airforce - Change of Command coming up in June

Motion was made and seconded to approve the two trips. Motion carries.

UPDATE ON ACTION PLANS:

- A. Greg, Joe and David met with Col Wilcox, discussed possible alternatives for transferring of missiles through town.
 - a. Option proposed: Field road, county road that ends up in Ulm & will be DAR funded
 - b. Agreement that the Field Road is the best solution rather than a bypass
- B. New wing commander is Col John Allan Jr.'s Change of Command will be April 19th.
- C. MTANG

a. David spoke with Col Smith & Brig Gen Fox over weekend regarding potential landing zone

b. John reported that they finalized the dirt strip and in decision making process, they just got bids last week. Promotion of Air Guard by building court yard with millings -unique training environment opportunity.

D. Other:

E. Open discussion/follow-ups

a. JROTC: David still working on support letter to the Tribune

b. Will meet with Crum to discuss raising money for the JROTC program

c. Follow up briefing with city commissioners will be happening

d. Col Don reports Army Guard 1st 163rd Bradleys and tanks will be heading to Romania

The next MTDA Executive Committee Meeting is scheduled for May 2, 2016 at 3:00 pm in the Chamber Video Conference Center

**Respectfully Submitted,
Lindsay Lalonde**