



Montana Defense Alliance
Monday, May 2, 2016
Chamber Video Conference Center

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Don Emerson David Weissman John Faulkner Cari Kent
Joe Briggs Gregg Doyon Steve Grooms Kurt Freshley

COMMITTEE GUEST:

Mr. Kurt Freshley from Senator Daines' office

CHAMBER STAFF:

Brad Livingston
Lindsay Lalonde

REVIEW OF MINUTES:

☼ **Motion was made and seconded to approve the April 4, 2016 minutes. Motion carries.**

FEDERAL DELEGATION REPORT

- A. Mr. Kurt Freshley, reporting from Senator Daines office
 - a. Secretary Carter: pressure on Air Force for sole sourcing open procurement process
Authorization for Blackhawks this year, info coming out over the next month or so.
 - b. Assessing vulnerability in cyber securities
 - c. Guardsmen (AGR) in Eastern Montana concern about BAH, letter sent (copy attached)

GUARD REPORT:

- A. Provided by Col Don Emerson

TREASURERS REPORT:

- A. David and Len will look into membership efforts, to make an effort to increase membership renewal rates

☼ **Motion was made and seconded to approve the March Financials as presented. Motion carries.**

BUSINESS:

No News or Follow-Up reported

TRIP/ACTIVITY REPORTS:

- A. David visited Ramstein AFB in Europe
 - a. Large base with around 54,000 people
 - b. USAFE & Airforce Africa headquarters; huge asset to Air Force
 - c. Mildenhall base will be closing
 - d. BCA needs to be absolved, cybersecurity is a huge area of concern/focus, attitude at the base is very positive towards being there and vice versa

- B. Gregg will be meeting with base facilitators regarding upcoming encroachments
- C. Annexation and encroachment around Malmstrom is current concern; Commission needs to be up to speed on impact
- D. David would like to have a strategic planning meeting to discuss
- E. David: BRAC thought process: Existing retiree pay (zero income tax for those retiring in Montana) something to look at BRAC detractor if we have that option

Planning:

- A. SDC Symposium
 - 1. Steve Grooms will attend
- B. ADC
 - 1. David and Gregg will attend
- C. COSAF CLP – 17-24
 - 1. David Weissman
- D. County Visits
 - 1. Work in Progress
- E. June 24 retirement for General Welsh

UPDATE ON ACTION PLANS:

MALMSTROM:

- A. Change of Command went well
- B. David had a discussion with General Quinn regarding cyber security
- C. MAC Luncheon June 3rd – at the Heritage - Chief Mitch Brush will attend

MTANG:

- A. Picnic June 4th with Air National Guard

OPEN DISCUSSION/FOLLOW-UPS:

- A. JROTC: David spoke with Tom Moore and he will offer op ed letter in support (Not asking for funding, MAC, MTDA and Chamber will be listed as supporters of the JROTC program)

The next MTDA Executive Committee Meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 6, 2016 at 3:00 pm in the Chamber Video Conference Center.