**2013 NGASD Conference**

**19 -20 April 2013**

**Sioux Falls, SD**

**Friday, 19 April 2013**

1st Business Session

* Pledge of Allegiance
* Roll Call
  + Roll call was conducted by Secretary Trygstad with 41 units in attendance.
* Approval of Agenda/Appointments
  + A motion was made to approve the agenda by LTC Nick Krebs and 2nd by COL Russ Walz.
* Approval of Minutes Secretary Trygstad
  + Secretary Trygstad made corrections to the warrant officer of the year to read CW2 Chad Vickers and CW3 Christian Frank.
  + Motions was made by Secretary Trygstad to approved the minutes and 2nd by COL Degroot.
* Treasurers Report/Proposed Budget Treasurer Punt
  + Treasurer Punt reviewed the financial statements, budget comparison, and fiscal year comparison with the main body.
  + Line 101 should be 107 and line 215 should be transferred to line 219.
  + Treasurer Punt discussed the upcoming audit the steps that the association will be required to complete.
  + Motion was made by 1LT Adam Punt to approve the report and 2nd by CPT Quenten Johnson.
* Membership Report MAJ Steve Sewell
  + #1state in the nation to achieve NGAUS membership goals.
  + Best year we have had in 10 years.
  + Exceeded NGAUS goals by 33 members.
  + Still have 11 members that have not paid their dues totaling about $900.00 worth of unpaid dues.
  + MAJ Sewell thanked the BDE and Air Reps for their support to achieve this goal.
  + CW2 Eric Borah will be taking over for MAJ Sewell in July as the new membership chair.
* Nominations-Preliminary Report CPT Quenten Johnson
  + Nominations were presented to the body by CPT Johnson.
  + Nominations are as follows:
    - President: Todd Dressler
    - 1st Vice: Steve Siemonsma
    - 2nd Vice: MAJ Heiser, MAJ Linn, and MAJ Henry
    - Secretary: MAJ Harder, MAJ R. Trygstad
    - Treasurer: MAJ Kevin Miller
  + Elections will be held during Saturday’s businesses session. Candidates are encouraged to have someone speak on their behalf.
* Resolutions CPT Chad Wika
  + 9 of the 14 members were present for the committee meeting.
  + 19 resolutions were presented to the committee with the committee selecting 8 resolutions to be considered. 1 Army and 7 Air resolutions were selected.
  + The committee has received no instate resolutions they are all from other states.
  + Resolutions that were presented to the body and approved were the following:
    - Modernization of the A10 Nitro
    - Modernization of the C135
    - Modernization of the F16
    - Mobile Air Crew Restraint System
    - Electronic Warefare Suite
    - Digitalized Warning System
    - Block Upgrade
  + CPT Wika moved to have resolutions approved and 2nd by CPT Johnson.
* Audit Report President Fitzgerald
  + Requested an audit to check the accuracy of our books and processes we are currently using.
  + Cayhill Thorson from Rapid City is the company completing the audit.
  + President, Executive Director, and 1st Vice went through the books line by line prior to the audit.
* Time and Place Report CW5 Darla Crown
  + State Conference
    - 2014 in Watertown 24-26 April 2014
    - 2015 in Huron 16-18 April 2014
    - 2016 in Rapid City 21-23 April collocated with Enlisted Conference
    - 2017 Deadwood/Spearfish 20-22 April 2014
    - 2018 Brookings
  + National Conference
    - 2013 Hawaii
    - 2014 Chicago
    - 2015 Nashville
    - 2016 Baltimore
  + Motion was made to accept report by CW5 Crown and 2nd by MAJ Yost.
* Life Insurance Report LTC Jim Peterson
  + Program purchased a computer for the insurance program director.
  + Current insurance program current takes a Soldier up to age 65.
  + Rebate back to the association is projected to be 10,000 to 15,000 with 50% going to officers association and 50% to the enlisted association.
* Presidents Report President Fitzgerald
  + President Fitzgerald showed a ppt on the history, benefits, and results of our association.
  + 4 Purposes of the State Association were displayed in the main body chambers and at the executive council meeting. He discussed each purpose during the executive council and the business session.
* Corporate Sponsorship Report CPT Quenten Johnson
  + CPT Johnson sent out information on becoming a corporate sponsor to over 50 businesses in South Dakota.
  + He requested that association members bring in names of other businesses that may be interested in being a sponsor.
  + CPT Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes and was 2nd by MAJ Sewell.
* Administrative Announcements
  + Rep Kristi Noem will be meeting with spouses at the spouse luncheon.
  + Dueling Pianos will be held in the Falls Room.

**Joint Business Session Opening Ceremonies**

* Posting of Colors
* Pledge of Allegiance
* Invocation/Memorial Ceremony-Chaplain Mooney
* Welcome by NGASD and SDNGEA Presidents
  + President Fitzgerald announced all the VIP’s in the room.
* Welcome by the Mayor of Sioux Falls-Mike Huether
  + Mayor Huether said he was honored to get the opportunity to speak in front of our association.
  + He discussed the state of emergency that Sioux Falls recently went through with the ice storm that took down thousands of trees and power lines in Sioux Falls.
  + He encouraged the main body to take the time to engage in conversation with the public to find out more about the great city of Sioux Falls.
  + President Fitzgerald presented him with a tie clip and 2013 conference cup.
* Key Speaker-Congresswoman Kristi Noem
  + She is willing to tackle anything that comes her way in regards to the National Guard
  + Discussed the following issues she is working on and monitoring
    - Responded to the Marathon in Boston
    - 2.4% cut in the defense budget
    - Increase the funding for Tricare
    - Backlog at the VA
* The Adjutant General Address MG Reisch
  + MG Reisch thanked everyone for attending the conference and taking the time out of their busy schedules to attend.
  + Discussed the vision of the SD Guard as the most professional, competent, and reliable.
  + He explained the current structure of the South Dakota Guard and who is currently in key positions through the state both Air and Army.
  + The annual impact to the economics of SD is 500,000 a day.
  + He discussed the air guard cuts and deployments from the past year.
  + Army Update:
    - Watertown Readiness Center is under construction - $25,000 million dollar project.
  + Right now we are a more positive image in the public than we have in the past due to being combat tested.
  + Ribbon cutting for the Watertown Readiness Center will be held on 7 September 2013.
  + Challenges we will be faced with in the future:
    - Budget cuts to the Department of Defense
    - Sequestration
    - Decrease in manning across all forces
  + Impact of Federal Furloughs
    - $675,000 to the City of Sioux Falls
    - $878,661 to the City of Rapid City
  + Priorities for the Future
    - Taking Care of Soldiers and their Families
    - Readiness of our Force
    - Employment of the Force
  + Suicides in the National Guard are higher than usual
    - 1st Line Leader are responsibility for getting to know their people.
    - Showed graphs with the data for each state and the number of suicides that have occurred in each one of those states.
* ATAG Address Army BG Johnson
  + Ready, Relevant, Cost Effective Force
  + Recent Accomplishments
    - 11 units submitted for the Superior Unit Award
    - FMO Award
    - Counter Drug Award
    - Multiple deployments and redeployment of units
  + Future Challenges
    - Furlough
    - Reduction of Fulltime Force
    - Decrease in funding
    - R&R Challenges
  + Armory Closures
    - No closures projected in TY14
* ATAG Address Air BG Jamison
  + 327 assigned – 98%
  + Reviewed deployments in TY12/13/14
  + LCAP Compliance : 5 Outstanding Ratings/8 Excellent Ratings
  + Future inspections include ESOCAMP, Vulnerability Assessment, ACC Readiness Inspection
  + Military Construction: Clinic Renovation
* Legislative Update
  + MAJ Corey Norris unable to attend so President Fitzgerald gave the report
  + Discuss House Bills and Senate Bills
    - House:
      * HB 1067
      * HB 1084
      * HB 1118
      * HB1180
    - Senate:
      * SB 27
      * SB 29
      * SB 30
      * SB 70
      * SB 83
      * SB 117
  + NGB Authorization Act passed
  + Defense Appropriation Act passed the House still in the Senate
  + MILCON Appropriation passed the House still in the Senate
  + NGAUS Tools to become involved in the association and the guard.
    - Alerts
    - Website
    - Writing to delegates
* Life Insurance Report LTC Jim Peterson
  + 2013 Report was included in PPT
  + Purchased a computer this past year which the insurance program owns
  + Current programs Soldiers have only takes Soldiers to age 65. Soldier would have an option to purchase a term life policy at that time at a higher premium.
  + Rebate will be split 50% to the Officer Association and 50% to the Enlisted Association.
* Museum Report Sonja Johnson
  + Started updating old lighting throughout the museum
  + Planning on 130 kids from the Boys and Girls Club/YMCA to visit the museum this next summer.
  + The museum had 1,830 guests this past year.
* NGAUS Report
* Ms. Grace Washbourne-NGAUS-Legislative Affairs, Domestic Operations was supposed to give the report.
* Ms Washbourne was unable to attend the conference so President Fitzgerald went through the slides she provided discussing the major initiatives for the association this next year.
  + Impact of the President’s budget on the National Guard
  + Proposed increase in Tricare rates
  + Benefits of the National Guard and why we are cheaper than Active Duty.
  + Strategic Goals of the National Guard Association
  + Impact the association had on the decision to not cu drill pay in half
  + Discussed current resolutions

**Saturday, 20 April 2013**

2nd Business Session

* Retired Officers Committee Report Jerry Duba
  + Retiree met for breakfast to discuss opportunities to get more retirees involved in the conference. The following recommendations were presented to the main body:
* Association needs to send out emails for the conference and upcoming events to the retirees.
* Current committee members are going to make a special initiative this next year to get people involved in the association.
* Leadership of the state needs to continue to invite retirees to informational meetings on the guard to the keep the retirees up to date on our status and keep communication lines open.
* Warrant Officers Committee Report CW3 Nelson
  + 22 warrant officers were present at the meeting on Friday
  + Discuss the number of potential warrant officers we have throughout the state and how we are going to work with those Soldiers to see who is interested in becoming and officer.
  + The warrant officers committee is planning on having a team at the Veterans March this next September.
  + Discussed the warrant officer thoughts on the association allotting money to pay for hospitality room at the Leaders conference.
* Junior Officers Committee Report CPT Chad Wika
  + 41 officers and warrant officers present at the JOPD session on Thursday
  + Received great feedback from committee on topics for next years JOPD.
  + 31 officers present at the breakfast. Topics discussed were:
    - National Conference
    - MG Reisch Question and Answer Session
    - Veterans March Team
  + New chairs were elected for the Army
    - CPT Cody Eastman
    - 1LT Shane Skinner
* Executive Directors Report Robert Pasqualucci
  + 135th National Conference is in Hawaii 20-23 September 2013.
  + Registrations need to be submitted NLT the middle of June.
  + Executive director showed 2 videos on highlights of the conference scheduled in Hawaii.
* Credentials Report MAJ John Breyer
  + The 11 members of the association that have not paid are not present at the conference.
  + Motion was made by MAJ Breyer to accept report. MAJ Linn 2nd the motion.
* Next Year Conference Host MAJ Steve Siemonsma
  + Conference dates are set to 24-26 April 2014 at the Best Western Ramkota in Watertown hosted by 147th FA.
  + Working on a plan to incorporate the Watertown Readiness Center into the conference schedule.
  + MAJ Siemonsma discussed some of the events the planning committee is looking at doing.
* Vendor and Hotel Presentation
  + President Fitzgerald has vendors present and thanked them taking the time to attend the conference. Vendors present at the conference were as follows:
    - University of Phoenix
    - Maximum Promotions
    - ABS
    - Tricare
    - SDNG Museum
* OLD Business
  + Proposal for website development was discussed by MAJ Jayme Trygstad.
  + Received a quote MAS Media in Volga to recreate the website host the domain.
  + Executive Council approved MAS Media in Volga to recreate the website.
* NEW Business
* Treasurer Punt presented the budget for 12-13 and discussed the changes to include the $5000 income from the insurance program and the money requested for pins at the national conference. Line 222 was increased by $300. Motion to approve was made by Treasurer Punt and seconded by LTC Joe Jacobson.
* Discussed the association paying the $750.00 for the hospitality room at the Mid Winter Conference. Pro’s and con’s were discussed by various personnel with the main body:
  + Promotes the social aspect of the conference
  + MG Resich discussed the concern of exposing ourselves to the general public and the legality we could assume by providing the room.
  + Discussed the events we already support the National Conference, Mid Winter Meeting at the Museum, and the State Conference.
  + The main body decided to vote on the issue.
    - Yes: 52
    - No: 35
    - Motion was carried

Nominations/ Elections CPT Quenten Johnson

* President: LTC Fitzgerald is not seeking reelection so CW4 Dressler is the only nomination for President.
* 1st Vice: MAJ Steve Siemonsma
* 2nd: MAJ Terry Henry, MAJ Tracy Heiser, MAJ Jim Linn
* Secretary: MAJ Rebecca Trygstad, MAJ Harder
* Treasurer: MAJ Kevin Miller
* Elections were held and following personnel were elected:
  + President: CW4 Dressler
  + 1st Vice: MAJ Steve Siemonsma
  + 2nd Vice: MAJ Tracy Heiser
  + Secretary: MAJ Rebecca Trygstad
  + Treasurer: MAJ Kevin Miller
* Motion was made to accept the report by CPT Johnson and seconded by MAJ Linn.

* Recognition of outgoing NGASD Officers
  + CW4 Todd Dressler presented a gift to LTC Fitzgerald for his leadership and guidance he provided the association for the past year.
* Honors and Awards Committee Report
  + Board received 4 nominations for the LT Of the Year:
    - 2LT Bauman – 109th RSG Rep
    - 1LT Howell – 196th MEB Rep
    - 1LT Vaugh – 114th FW
    - 1LT Domingal – JFHQ
  + MAJ Heiser made a motion to accept report and was 2nd by CW5 Crown.
  + Board received 4 nominations for Warrant Officer of the Year:
    - CW2 Smetana – 196th MEB
    - CW4 Akers – JFHQ
    - CW4 Bambas – 109th RSG
    - CW4 McGuire – 196th RTI
  + CW5 Crown made a nomination to accept the report and was seconded by CW5 Jerry Eaton.
  + Presentation of awards will be done at Saturday nights event.
    - *LT of the Year: 2LT Bauman*
    - *Warrant Officer of the Year: CW2 Ben Smetana*
* 20 Year certificate Presentations
  + Pins were presented to the five personnel in attendance.
* Administrative Announcements
  + Discussed the transportation to the social at Joe Foss.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Submitted by: Approved by:**

**Rebecca Trygstad Todd Dressler**

**MAJ, SDARNG CW4, SDARNG**

**Secretary President**