**National Guard Association of South Dakota**

**Mid-Winter Meeting**

**SD National Guard Museum, Pierre, SD**

**1400 hrs, (CST), 6 February 2014**

Call to Order President Dressler

* The President recognized six VIP’s in the main body.

Pledge of Allegiance President Dressler

Adjutant General’s Comments MG Reisch

* Thanked the association members for attending the Legislative Dining Out. Four hundred seventy tickets were sold for the event.
* MG Reisch discussed some of the opportunities the South Dakota National Guard is currently faced with.
	+ Independent commission to the Air Force released their study that was very favorable to the Air National Guard
	+ House Resolution 3930
		- Established 350,000 Soldiers as the National Guard strength.
		- Commission designed to study the army that will take two years to complete.
		- Assisted with keeping the Army from enacting Army Aviation.
* Army Strength is currently at 483,000 Soldiers and was as high as 565,000 Soldiers during the wars.
* Original agreement between the Army and Reserve Forces was 490,000 Soldiers in the Army and 350,000 Soldiers in the National Guard
* New proposal from the Army would decrease the Army to 420,000 Soldiers and 315,000 Soldiers in the National Guard.
* Leaders need to keep their head in the game and remember what is at stake if we don’t meet our strength goals.
* Air Force is smaller than they have ever been.
* HB 1026 and 1027 gives the Webster and Watertown Readiness Center back to the city.
* HB 1060 focuses on the military license plate and who is allowed to have a license plate. Currently license plates are available for current and retired members of the South Dakota National Guard. The National Guard license plate was just redesigned to be more personalized to the South Dakota National Guard.
* HB 1165 requires parents of a child not married to notify their spouse within 7 days of an upcoming deployment. Requested a change in the bill to state that a Soldier has 7 days from the date of receipt of the MOB order.

National ESGR Chair Paul Mock (MG retired)

* Paul Mock is the national chair for ESGR.
* Best support for ESGR is from the 5,000 volunteers throughout the country.
* ESGR volunteers are the primary DOD advocates for employers and assist in setting the conditions for employers that want to hire veterans or military members.
* Encouraged service members and employers to sign a statement of support.
* H2H is a great program that is free and has propelled Soldiers into higher paying jobs and possible relocate if necessary.

Roll Call Secretary Trygstad

* Fifty two unit representatives were in attendance for the meeting.

Reading and Approval of Minutes Secretary Trygstad

* Motion was made by LTC Todd Bartunek to approve the minutes and seconded by MAJ Martin Yost.

Treasurer’s Report Treasurer Miller

* Treasurer reviewed report and discussed changes to budget.
	+ General line 201-206, 209 and 210 were under projected.
	+ General line 207 & 208 (National Conference Expenses) were slightly projected over budget due to the national conference being in Honolulu, HI.
	+ General line 211 (Executive Director Mailings) exceeded budget by $60.53 due to the increase in rates for service.
	+ General line 308 (Tax Preparation Services) was exceeded by $25.60 due to increase in cost from our tax preparation company.
	+ General line 309 (Website Development) was exceeded by $120.00 for the creation of the website.
	+ Operating account shows $50.00 in checking and $74,369.63 in savings. We also have $21,902.64 in CD’s.
	+ State life account has $5,216.78 in savings and $36,065.42 in CD’s.
* Motion was made by Robert Pasqualucci to approve the report and seconded by MAJ Trent Bruce.

Warrant Officer Report Brett Anderson

* 83% membership in the SDARNG and 0% in the SDANG
* Seventy-one warrant officers attended the professional development seminar held in Rapid City. The committee is working on more opportunities in the future.
* Requested an additional $1,500 for a speaker.
* Shane Toupal will be attending the Enlisted Conference in Deadwood to promote being a warrant officer.
* Proposed a change in the make-up of their committee to a senior branch warrant in each branch be part of the advisory council.

Junior Officer Report Chad Wika

* JOPD at the state conference will focus on career management.
* Working on speakers for the events, possibly a retired football player.

Corporate Sponsorship Report Quenten Johnson

* Program in declining in members.
* New tiered program was discussed with the main body that offers sponsors and option to pick from a $300, $600, or $1,200 levels.
* Contacted sixty businesses around the state about becoming members.
* Encouraged all members of the association to talk to businesses they know about becoming a member.

Membership Report Eric Borah

* NGAUS is the 96% goal
* The total officer’s paid is currently at 88%.
* Still need to collect from 23 personnel to meet NGAUS goal.
* The South Dakota should not have any issues with meeting the early bird requirements.

Museum Report Sonja Johnson

* Purchased the glass for the weapons case. New improvements will ensure that the case meets safety requirements.
* All lighting except for the north gallery was updated.
* Smoke detectors throughout the building were updated.
* Five hundred and ten kids visited the museum this past year.
* Looking for volunteers in July and August.
* The museum sent a flag with the 152nd CSSB to fly while they were deployed.
* Museum will be closed for about a month to replace the ceiling insulation and lighting in the north gallery.
* Total visitors at the museum from January 2013 to January 2014 were 1,740 adults and 510 kids.

Legislative Report Steve Harding

* Senate is currently working on a bill that would allow Soldiers to vote using their CAC card.

Call for Nominations Quenten Johnson

* Received a nomination for 2nd Vice, MAJ Quenten Johnson.
* Chief Machino will be taking over as the nominations chair.
* Requested that all nominations be emailed prior to the state conference.

Call for Resolutions Chad Wika

* There is an Army resolutions to increase the network infrastructure was discussed.

Executive Director’s Report Bob Pasqualucci

* National Conference will be held in Chicago from 21-25 August 2014.
* Conference hotel will be the Downtown Marriott in Chicago.
* He discussed the transportation available at the conference.
* Videos will be shown at state conference in April.

Report on 61st State Conference Chad Wika

* April 24-26 in Watertown, SD hosted by the 147th FA.
* JODP for junior officers on Thursday of conference.
* Friday’s events: Dining Out with awards ceremony and MG Carpenter as the guest speaker. 5K Friday morning if weather permits.
* Saturday’s events: Family social at Joy Ranch
* Spouses Event: Paint and Pour Event
* Tours of the new readiness center throughout the weekend.

Website Development Rebecca Trygstad

* Development is complete on the new website.
* MAJ Trygstad showcased the website and explained the content to the main body.
* Requested pictures from the past emailed to MAJ Trygstad.

Administrative Announcements/Adjourn President Dressler

* Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by LTC Tony Verchio and seconded by LTC John Weber.

**Submitted by: Approved by:**

**Rebecca Trygstad Howard Dressler**

**MAJ, SDARNG CW4, SDARNG**

**Secretary President**