

Military Officers Association of America
El Paso Chapter



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
March 2019

A meeting of the El Paso Chapter of the Military Officers Association (MOAA) was held 30 March 2019 at the Candlewood Suites in El Paso TX.

Attendance:

President: COL (RET) Forrest Smith
Secretary: Col (RET) Steve Barrett
Treasurer: Ms. Elma Smith
Immediate Past President: COL (RET) Lennie Enzel
Publications/Newsletter Editor: LTC (RET) Bill Moore
Legislative Liaison: CW2 (RET) Dave Garcia
Public Relations/Door Prizes: LTC (RET) Martha Caldwell
MOAA Outreach Foundation President: BG (RET) Jack Kotter
Member at Large: CPT (RET) David Thackston

1. Administrative: The meeting was called to order at 0813.
2. President's Remarks: COL (RET) Forrest Smith had no welcoming remarks.
3. Old Business:
 - A. Secretary: Col (RET) Steve Barrett provided a copy of the January and February 2019 BOD minutes; January minutes were approved as submitted and February minutes were approved pending one correction.
 - B. Treasurer: Ms. Elma Smith provided a review of the February 2019 Balance Sheet and Profit/Loss statement. The Profit/Loss Sheet reflected a net loss of \$593.47 for the month. Primary sources of income were luncheon payments, membership dues and door prizes while the major expenses included printing/copying costs, luncheon costs and payments for Retiree Appreciation Day support. Ms. Smith also highlight the Outreach Foundation owes the Chapter reimbursement costs (~\$120) to cover the merchant fees incurred for donations received/transferred this past year.
 - C. Immediate Past President: COL (RET) Lennie Enzel had nothing significant to report.
 - D. Membership: No report, CPT (RET) Steve Mendoza was absent.
 - E. Programs: Col (RET) Pitt was absent. The group collectively reviewed details of the upcoming April luncheon which is scheduled for the Underwood Golf Course on 13 Apr 2019. The guest speaker will be Rudy Maldonado, Deputy Regional Director of CBP's Air & Marine Operations, Southwest Region. COL (RET) and Ms. Smith will be out of town; Col (RET) Steve Barrett will host the luncheon in COL (RET) Smith's absence.
 - F. Legislative Liaison: CW2 (RET) Dave Garcia advised he attended Congresswoman Escobar's Town Hall and has been pushing multiple initiatives to her for support. He also mentioned his

efforts seeking support for Long Term Care Act HR485 which would provide reimbursement for Ambulance Care costs as well as trying to modify the Urgent Care initiative in the VA Mission Act that requires veterans pay \$30 for their fourth visit to an urgent care facility. Chief Garcia highlighted his belief there should be no fee however COL (RET) Enzel offered an alternate thought that the fee is minimal, only applicable starting with a fourth visit, and in many cases might properly discourage some from visiting urgent care facilities when their condition only merits a routine appointment vice urgent care.

- G. Publications/Webmaster: LTC (RET) Bill Moore reported the April Border Bulletin has been published and distributed. This version was published in black and white and is 4 pages shorter than previous issues; these changes resulted in a \$300 reduction in printing costs. He also relayed that this year's Border Bulletin Directory would be available online only and the 2020 Directory will be printed and mailed as previous versions have been. Alternating online and print versions on an annual basis should yield a significant savings in the printing and mailing budget.
- H. Public Relations: LTC (RET) Martha Caldwell reported notifications were submitted to the media announcing the upcoming April 2019 Membership Meeting and Luncheon.
- I. JROTC/ROTC: LTC (RET) Dave Powell has been spearheading coordination efforts to identify presenters for the upcoming ROTC/JROTC award ceremonies; he provided a spreadsheet outlining all the scheduled ceremonies and BoD members volunteered to fill most of remaining presenter vacancies. LTC (RET) Powell also reported that MAJ Moran at UTEP had called to inquire about the Chapter providing shoulder boards to the UTEP cadets being commissioned this semester. LTC (RET) Powell answered the inquiry by repeating the guidance previously shared that the Chapter would indeed provide shoulder boards for the cadets who sign up for a free MOAA membership. LTC (RET) Powell also reported additional MOAA Award Certificates were needed; he contacted MOAA National and was told that they only allowed medals and certificates to be sold together. LTC (RET) Moore advised LTC (RET) Moore to take a certificate to Northeast printing to determine if they could provide a quality reproduction.
- J. Auxiliary/Surviving Spouse Liaison: No report, Ms. Sullivan was absent.
- K. Door Prizes: LTC (RET) Caldwell emphasized a need for additional door prizes

4. New Business:

- A. TCC 1st QTR 2019 Report due NLT 14 February 2019: LTC (RET) Bill Moore informed the BOD that he would submit the report to TCC before the aforementioned date. Suggested meeting attendees (call in) are the Chapter president, legislative chair and membership chair.
- B. Paso Del Norte Borderplex Veteran Coalition: COL (RET) Smith asked all attendees to review the Coalition handout. He stated the importance of this organization and its relevance to the prioritization of veteran issues and the submission of those issues to Representative Escobar. LTC (RET) Moore shared his reservations regarding what the chapter would be required to do for local veterans and veterans transitioning through the area—the document was unclear. COL (RET) Smith stated that we should reserve further comment until after the 9 February presentation by George Whitmire at the Membership Luncheon.
- C. Submitted 2018 Communications Award packet to MOAA National: LTC (RET) Moore informed the BOD that he submitted the awards packet to MOAA National. He further stated that the Border Bulletin would not receive a Five-Star rating because newsletter did not have a link to MOAA's

legislative action page— 30 points in the evaluation. LTC (RET) Moore stated that he would correct the omission in future Border Bulletin issues. COL (RET) Smith stated that he did not understand the reasoning and that he would voice his concerns with LTG Atkins, MOAA CEO.

- D. Waiver for utilities use in Building 452: LTC (RET) Moore informed the BOD he would submit the waiver through the Fort Bliss Facilities Engineers to the Garrison Commander for approval.
- E. Initial setup of one computer at The Hope Institute. Will finish install on Wednesday: LTC (RET) Moore stated that he will coordinate a time with Hope Jackson to finish the install. Additionally, he invited Hope to attend the February luncheon as his guest.
- F. POC at Sunland Race Track has not returned my calls— Day at the Races???: The BOD decided to cancel MOAA Day at the Races for 2019.
- G. EPMOAA trip— Band of Brothers Tour in Europe or trip to Israel: After a small discussion, no decision was made. LTC (RET) Moore will follow-up with MOAA travel.
- H. IRS submissions for Chapter and Foundation: LTC (RET) Moore reminded the BOD of the requirement to make the required submissions to the IRS for 2018. A current Form 990 is a prerequisite for most grant submissions.
- I. Sponsors needed! LTC (RET) Moore stated a desperate need for sponsors / advertisers for the Border Bulletin or website. There has been a detrimental reduction in non-dues revenues for the Chapter. COL (RET) Enzel said she would talk to First Command Financial. LTC (RET) Moore stated he would approach MonteVista again.

5. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by:
Col (RET) Steve Barrett, Secretary

FORREST SMITH
COL, USA, Retired
MOAA President, El Paso Chapter