

***EANGMT Quarterly Board Meeting  
10 November, 2:00 p.m.  
Fort Harrison, Helena MT***

**Executive Members Present:**

President – MSG Ruth Mortag	Executive Member Air – CCM Steve Lyczewski
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President – SFC Jim Gustafson	Executive Member Army – SFC Neil Young
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President – SMS Lisa Smith	Executive Member Army – SFC Nick Conway
Secretary – SSG Patti Hagan	Executive Member Army – SFC Tim Sowa
Retired Member Army – MSG (Ret) Denny Eickert	Executive Member Army – SGT Cynthia Marshall

**Others Present:**

CMS Roger Hagan	MSG Dorrie Hagan	SFC John Bagley	CMS Larry Seibel
SGT Ed Salle			

**Executive Members Not Present:**

Treasurer – MSG Steve Hagan  
Executive Member Air – TSG Jeff Mortag  
Executive Member Army – SFC Monte Herrin  
Executive Member Army – SGM Ronda Scott  
Retired Member Air – MSG (Ret) John Haffner  
Past President – SGM Jim Lantz

**OPENING ITEMS**

- Introductions of the board members were made to Major General Mosley, Adjutant General. A speech was then made by him that is attached to the minutes. President Ruth Mortag gave thanks to him for attending our national conference in Louisville, Kentucky. This was the first time in 13 years that a TAG has attended for our state.
- Call To Order
- Appointment of Proxy's: SFC John Bagley to represent for CSM Ronda Scott, CMS Larry Seibel to represent for TSG Jeff Mortag, and SGT Ed Salle to represent for SFC Monte Herrin.
- Minutes of the 19 August 2004, quarterly board meeting in Craig were accepted.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. Treasurer's Report – MSG Steve Hagan: attached written report accepted as printed.
2. Scholarship Report – because of the lack of applications there is a new deadline for scholarship applications of 15 December 2004. Reminder that the scholarships are now \$500 for one Air and one Army applicant. Oral report accepted.
3. Membership Report – MSG Jim Robertson: new membership lists handed out to update membership folders. Statistical graphs were also presented and are attached. Written report accepted as printed.
4. Ways & Means – MSG Dorrie Hagan: no report.
5. Audit – no report.
6. Legislative Report – CMS Roger Hagan: attached written report accepted as printed.

7. Retired Committee – MSG (Ret) Denny Eickert is looking for the duties and responsibilities for this committee. Reminder made that board members are to be writing instructions on their position to help the next person who takes over. Oral report accepted.
8. By-Laws/Constitution Report – no report.
9. 2004 National Conference – per CMS Roger Hagan, he believes written report has been done by Chief Heppner for the conference in Kentucky. Approximately 1590 people registered for the conference. Chief Ed Brown is the newly elected EANGUS President. CSM Joe Spencer from Utah is the Vice President. The new Area VI President is CMS Roger Hagan. There were 41 resolutions passed at the conference. We need to think about “Almost Heaven in 2011” national conference bid to be presented in 2006 if we want to host the national conference again. Per MSG Dorrie Hagan the hospitality room went very well with lots of fun, even had theme nights. We have been asked to host again an Area VI hospitality room at next year’s conference. The newsletter won second place in competition behind Missouri. The next national conference will be 21-24 August 2005 in Orlando, Florida. Oral report accepted.
10. 2005 State Conference – meetings for the state conference will be held in the HAFRC building on Fort Harrison with the dinner in the club. Rooms have been reserved but only 34 rooms on Fort Harrison with a block of 30 rooms reserved at Days Inn downtown. Chili O’Brien’s is the caterer. Oral report accepted.
11. Awards/promotional – no report.
12. Resolutions – no report.
13. Publications Report – SSG Patti Hagan: new laptop is here and the cost was \$1750. Need to get by-laws/constitution changes put into the next newsletter. Attached written report accepted as printed.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- Corporate Memberships – tabled until state conference meeting in January.
- Representation for Units/Squadrons – reports of what squadron/unit are you representing and who have you contacted to be the enlisted association representative there. These reports have not been turned into 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Jim Gustafson. Tabled until state conference meeting in January.
- Support for Military Organizations – letter still needs to be drafted, but no doubt in Chief Hagan’s mind that Major General Mosley will sign it. President Ruth Mortag would like to see it signed by 15 December 2004.
- “Purple” Picture – Doug Stinger is the artist that Lisa Smith is suggesting. He specialized in military hardware. Doug Stinger would like some ideas of what we are looking for. Ideas discussed: collage, fires, floods, and digital pictures for accuracy. Sgt Fox from the Army and SMS Peterson from the Air would be two good contacts to get pictures. The retired committee is taking over getting the picture done. What size do we want? Do we want oil painting, prints, etc? From there we can get an estimated cost from him. President Ruth Mortag would like to have a draft available at the state conference. Tabled until January conference.
- Membership Idea – Jim Lantz has a plan but he is not here. Tabled until January conference.
- Insurance Program – sales of the insurance generated \$10,000 so far for the two associations. Doug Remick also believes there will be another \$1300 per association for administrative fees. Therefore, projected checks should be approximately \$6300 for each association. The old forms for the free \$1000 life insurance need to no longer be used. The information will hopefully be out on the website soon.
- Ribbon Sales – we have approximately 500 to 700 ribbons left to sell. Letters were sent out in the last day to businesses regarding buying ribbons and corporate memberships. Other places are selling them for much less. May want to sell for a lesser price? Will continue to sell them for \$5 because people are still buying them for that price. Family Readiness units in the outlying towns are selling the ribbons. Brought

up by MSG (Ret) Denny Eickert that we should look at selling them in the outlying towns also. Tabled until state conference in January.

- I-149 – initiative passed, therefore, we were defeated.

- Legislative Issues: the EANGMT top five priorities for legislative issues are as follows in order of importance: Issue #1 – Funding the State National Guard Scholarship Program; Issue #10 – Protecting adequate funding & operational support for our state veteran's nursing homes; Issue #7 – Providing employers of members or self-employed members of the Montana National Guard or Reserve a state tax incentive; Issue #11 – Providing for a Veteran's War Bonus to Montana Residents who serve in the National Guard, Reserve and Active Duty and have participated in conflicts in the Balkans, Gulf War and current theaters of operation in and around Iraq and Afghanistan; Issue #6 – Providing one set of free license plates to each active (drilling) National Guard member for a vehicle of their choice.

The officers association's top five priorities in order of importance are: Issue #1 – Funding the State National Guard Scholarship Program; Issue #3 – Extend the provisions of existing state income tax exemption to all federal military duty (title 32 and 10, U.S.C.) and all state active duty (title 10 M.C.A.) military pay, allowances, bonuses and stipends; Issue #2 – Providing for a comprehensive review of all facets of the State Active Duty (SAD) process, to include: Activation/deactivation procedures, pay and benefits compensation, retirement, life and health insurance provisions, and on-the-job medical coverage, wage loss compensation and death benefits for Montana National Guard members injured or killed while serving on SAD; Issue #9 – Providing members of the Montana National Guard 100% tuition waiver for higher education institutions; Issue #5 – Providing MT Conservation, hunting and fishing licenses at no charge to all MT military members who have served in Operations NOBLE EAGLE, IRAQI FREEDOM, and ENDURING FREEDOM and future contingency operations.

Discussion and explanation was made on the war bonus and funding the veteran's nursing homes.

Discussion and explanation was made on withholding state tax from active duty pay. The DFAS system will not withhold the money when the State of Montana has a law that says Title 10 active duty is non-taxable. Other Legislative Ideas: SGT Cynthia Marshall presented an idea for a legislative issue. The army guard has been required to take defensive driving course. The idea is to get 10% off auto insurance throughout Montana and having the state legislature enact it into law. The defensive driving course is approximately a three-hour course on-line. Per CMS Roger Hagan, Major General Mosley talked about having a resolution regarding National Guard service since 9/11. Therefore, a draft resolution will be written recognizing the fact that this is the largest mobilization effort for the MTNG since WWII.

Another legislative idea offered by the officers association to CMS Roger Hagan is getting retirement credit for active duty service in state public retirement systems at a reduced rate. Tabled until the state conference in January.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- President Ruth Mortag wanted to share two things with the board to think about. In the meeting with Major General Mosley he talked about the tuition as a recruiting and retention tool but focuses on small part of our members. We need to think about coming up with a benefit/entitlement that directly relates to all of our members. He also talked about how do we put our name out there? Please think about these.

- Request for Donation – CCM Steve Lyczewski is requesting a \$1500 donation for the Montana National Guard Enlisted Dining Out in February 2005. Discussion made that the Air Guard side has mainly bought the ribbons. The dining out is opened to any member of the military. There is some confusion on whether we can keep a lot of money on the books or if we have to spend it. The EANGMT really needs to get a certified accountant to look at the books. Faith is put into CCM Steve Lyczewski that our name will be out there during the dining out. It was moved to approve the \$1500 donation. Lots of discussion was made again that the ribbon money was generated out of the Air Guard in Great Falls. We need to establish a clear budgetary limit on future donations. SFC Jim Gustafson stated the donation should stand on its own. Not on the ribbon sales. The Army Guard is mainly funding the insurance program. MSG (Ret) Denny Eickert believes this is an investment and hopefully we see some dividends. TSG Blue

Manzanares suggested we spend the \$1500 for enlisted members to attend the state conference instead. The motion was accepted.

- Military Ball in March 2005 is wanted by Major General Mosley with the Family Readiness' help. Per MSG Dorrie Hagan be prepared to make a donation and have lots of representation at the Military Ball. Tabled until the state conference in January.

- What are we doing for our deployed members? Suggested to buy phone cards but other organizations are doing that. Idea to Adopt-a-Sock for Soldiers – buy a Christmas stocking, stuff it, then take to a collection point they ship it off to MT National Guard members. The deadline is 2 December. Will get more information and we can vote via e-mail.

- Conference Entertainment – start off with a hypnotist, which would be approximately \$800 to \$1000. Then maybe roll over to a band or a D.J. With the Polynesian theme, do we want hula dancers? We are not paying for the facilities. Our only expenses are food, alcohol, rooms, and conference packet. Corporate membership advertisements to TSG Blue Manzanares are due 15 December. President Ruth Mortag will send out an e-mail to vote on how much we want to spend and what kind of entertainment we would like by next Friday, the 19<sup>th</sup> of November. The legislative reception is on Thursday, 20 January 2005. It will start at Jorgenson's around 5:00 p.m. downstairs until around 8:00 p.m. We will present the Minuteman Awards to one Representative and Senator we choose and present another award to a former Representative or Senator called the "Guardian of the Guard" Award. The cost of these awards comes out of the legislative expenses.

- Legislative Expenses – the EANGMT and the officers association both approved to spend \$2000 each for the 2003 legislative expenses. Actual expenses reported over that four month period were \$4200 total. Also \$1000 each for the legislative reception but is never enough. CMS Roger Hagan is asking for \$2500 from each association for the upcoming 2005 legislative expenses/lobbying fees and up to \$1500 each for the reception. An E-9 meeting will be held again the Friday before the state conference. The Sergeant Majors and Chiefs will be in town for the Thursday night reception. Usually we get around 80 representatives at the reception but this year will probably have over 100. CMS Roger Hagan took 270 hours of annual leave during the 2003 legislative session. This was donated time to the associations. He is just asking for reimbursement of for his expenses. A motion was made to pay \$2500 for lobbying expenses and up to \$1500 for reception expenses to CMS Roger Hagan. Per Ruth Mortag we paid out \$4184 to CMS Roger Hagan during the last legislative session. The motion was accepted.

**ADJOURN**