

***EANGMT Executive Board Meeting  
21 January 2005, 1:00 p.m.  
Fort Harrison, Helena MT***

**Executive Members Present:**

President – MSG Ruth Mortag  
Treasurer – MSG Steve Hagan  
Secretary – SSG Patti Hagan  
Retired Member Army – MSG (Ret) Denny Eickert

Executive Member Air – TSG Jeff Mortag  
Executive Member Army – MSG Neil Young  
Executive Member Army – SFC Tim Sowa

**Others Present:**

TSG Blue Manzanares

**Executive Members Not Present:**

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President – SFC Jim Gustafson  
Executive Member Air – CCM Steve Lyczewski  
Executive Member Army – SFC Monte Herrin  
Executive Member Army – CSM Ronda Scott  
Past President – SGM Jim Lantz

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – SMS Lisa Smith  
Executive Member Army – SFC Nick Conway  
Executive Member Army – SGT Cynthia Marshall  
Retired Member Air – MSG (Ret) John Haffner

**BUSINESS**

- Call to Order
- Discussion on the executive board positions that are up for election. There are three Executive Member Army positions: CSM Ronda Scott, SFC Monte Herrin, and MSG Neil Young. With Monte being deployed for at least another year, it would be better for the Association to elect someone else at this time and elect Monte onto the board when he returns. There is also one Executive Member Air position: TSG Jeff Mortag who does not want to be re-elected. Lisa Smith has expressed her interest in being elected as 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President. This leaves the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President up for an Air or Army person to be nominated. Jim Gustafson will take the nomination for President, but with job issues he may need to resign by April. The Secretary person will need to be appointed by the new President. Steve Hagan is not interested in running again as Treasurer. Retired Member Air will probably also need to be filled. Suggestion is to ask CMS Paul Heppner. Suggestion to see Ronda Scott elected as the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President.
- Discussion on hiring a person to travel to all the armories to sell memberships. Preferably a retired person who would not be drilling themselves, who hopefully has more time to spend on traveling and has a better perspective on why you should be a member of the Association. Denny Eickert may be interested in doing this. Suggestion to see if Paul Heppner would also be interested in this position. Decision needs to be made on how this person will be paid. Do we cover the expenses (i.e. gas, hotel, food) or give the person a stipend? There would be a lot of travel time involved in order to hit the armories on the eastern side of the state. Consolidated training is scheduled in June for the Army personnel that are not deployed. It may not be an effective idea at this time with so many Army Guard personnel deployed. How do we get membership when we do not get the E-9s out there supporting it? President Ruth Mortag made a point that with the Association donating \$1500 to the Montana Dining Out (originally the Enlisted Dining Out) which is being hosted by the Air National Guard that how many of the Top 3 are here supporting our Association and are even members of the Association? Every one of them should support us as we are supporting them. Point made by Denny Eickert that MG Mosley is a big supporter of the military organizations. This person would even help in getting more Air memberships as supervisors do not always discuss being a member of the Enlisted Association. MG Mosley is scheduled to attend the

Montana Dining Out (open to all officers and enlisted members of the National Guard being held on 5 February 2005). Idea made to get him to light a fire with the hire ranking personnel.

- Discussion on only having a conference every other year instead of every year. It has been brought up by other people that there are too many things to attend (i.e. conference, dining out, military ball, etc). Also suggestion to move the conference back to April instead of January. The officers association is paying for part of the junior officers rooms and they are also getting a ski package in order to get attendance to their conference. This is being paid out of their corporate membership money. Why does it matter that we have the conference in January? The same people who attend the legislative reception would still attend it even without the state conference being on the same weekend. The concept of having the conference in January has not increased the attendance to the state conference. This conference was not advertised as much as others but it has been in the last two newsletters. Idea to have the person who travels to the troops to ask what would get them to attend a state conference. Col Livingston used to pay for the Airman of the Year, NCO of the Year and 1<sup>st</sup> Sergeant of the Year to attend our state conference but these people still would not attend even when the conference was held in Great Falls. An idea of getting paid for drill or a day of annual training in order to attend the conference but this is not allowed per regulations on what constitutes for a drill or annual training day. Also we are a professional military association outside of the military venue. Brought up by Neil Young that airmen and soldiers are able to earn a retirement point for attending but it must be approved before the meeting. He will find the letter that states this benefit.

- Discussion again on hiring someone to sell memberships but also selling corporate memberships. Basically hiring someone like the officers association hires Steve Mehring to run their day-to-day operations (i.e. sell corporate memberships, upkeep of website). Brought up by Ruth Mortag that Roger Hagan has expressed interest in doing something like this but probably not until he is retired. Need to see at tomorrow's meeting if anyone is interested in this idea. How would we pay the person? Does the person get a commission off of the corporate membership sold or give the person a stipend or only pay for expenses? Blue Manzanares sent out 125 mailings last month to get corporate memberships renewed but he only received one back. With the conferences being so close together it was brought up that the companies may not want to give money again so soon and also by giving money for the last conference they already were getting their tax deduction for the year. Companies also respond better to someone physically asking for the corporate membership rather than by a mailing. Idea brought about that the corporate memberships should be solicited at the same time each year, in the summertime.

**ADJOURN**