

October Board Meeting Minutes

The MONGA Board met on 14 October 2008 via teleconference.

1. Invocation: 1SG Lonnie Brandon
2. Call to Order: LTC Jay Banwell, President, called the meeting to order at 16:11.
3. Roll Call: SFC Brenda Randles, Secretary

President, LTC Jay Banwell	Present	
President-Elect, LtCol Mark Bradley	Not present	
Immediate Past President, Col Mike McEnulty	Not present	
Vice-President - Air, MSgt Leah Caldwell	Proxy to SFC Randles	
Vice-President - Army, CPT Barbara King	Present	
Secretary, SFC Brenda Randles	Present	
Treasurer, Capt Marcus Jackson	Present	
Enlisted Committee Chair, MSgt Leah Caldwell	Proxy to SFC Randles	
Retired Committee, Jim Dunn	Not present	
Auxiliary President, Mrs. Debbie Cheshire	Not present	
Chaplain, CPT Dustin Kennedy	Not present	
Administrative Assistant, Suzanne Hardy	Present	
Executive Director, Vernon James	Present	
131 FW	1Lt Josh Hoorman	Not present
	SSgt Carney/SrA Conrey	Not present
139 AW	Maj Byron Newell	Proxy to Capt Jackson
	SSgt Kent Harms	Not present
157 AOG	Capt Darren Whitehorn	Not present
	MSgt Mark Smith	Not present
JFHQ	LTC Jerry Sanders	Not present
	MSgt Veronica Hoffman	Present
70th TRP CMD	MAJ John Benson	Not present
	SSG Teresa Hollis	Not present
35 EN BDE	2LT Travis Miller	Not present
	SFC Mark Crites	Not present
20 CBT AVN BDE	COL John Anderson	Not present
	MSG Lonnie Brandon	Present
110 MEB	LTC Brent Beckley	Present
	1SG Ken Steinbeck	Not present

There were enough Board members present for a quorum.

4. Approval of Minutes: Minutes for the July Board Meeting were accepted as written with no changes or discussion.
5. Treasurer's Report: Capt Marcus Jackson

Account Balance as of 14 October 2008: \$9,635.22

Expenditures: \$2,300.00 (incl. in balance)
(NGAUS Conference - hospitality room & delegate rooms)
2009 MoNGA Conference seed money already in Conference account

Treasurer's report accepted.

6. Committee Reports:

a. Legislative: Vernon James

There are no updates for the Missouri Legislature since the July Board Meeting as they are out of session.

1. Congress passed and President Bush signed the 2009 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) on Tuesday morning, 14 October 2008. The bill provides for a 3.9% pay raise for military personnel, a half percentage point more than President Bush sought. The legislation bans fee hikes for certain participants in the military's health care network.

2. The December 1st cost-of-living adjustment for military retirees, and disabled veterans and survivors, is 5.8% with the increase first appearing in January 1st checks.

Legislative Committee report accepted.

b. Membership: Vernon James

1. August membership numbers were sent out to Board members. Membership numbers have not been run since August. As of the latest report, MoNGA is standing at 15.6% of officer and enlisted Missouri Air and Army National Guard personnel. A copy of the latest membership percentages is attached to the minutes.

2. Executive Director Vernon James and President-Elect LtCol Mark Bradley will attend NGEDA in January. NGAUS is conducting a membership workshop at the same time.

3. Executive Director Vernon James distributed a membership power point presentation.

4. The 2009 membership brochure includes a place to indicate membership sponsorship.

5. A suggestion was made for further consideration to give awards to Units (and/or Senior Commands) who show the most improvement, broken down into Army and Air.

Membership Committee report accepted.

c. Finance: covered in Treasurer's Report.

d. Awards: No report.

A suggestion was made for consideration to keep the awards given at the 2009 Conference to Association business.

- e. Ways and Means: No report.
- f. By-Laws: No report.
- g. Auxiliary: No report.
- h. Retired: No report.
- i. Enlisted: 1SG Lonnie Brandon

The 2008 EANGUS Conference was 17-22 August in Savannah, GA. Missouri had a good representation at the Conference, including: The Adjutant General, MG King Sidwell; State Command Sergeant Major, CSM Matt Jenkins; State Command Chief, CCM William Phillips; MoNGA President, LTC Jay Banwell; MoNGA Executive Director, COL (Ret) Vernon James; and 11 Soldiers and Airmen on orders for Professional Development.

Enlisted Committee report accepted.

7. Vice President Reports:

- a. VP Air: No report.
- b. VP Army: CPT Barbara King
 - 1. CPT King is finding that a lot of people do not know about the MoNGA website.
 - 2. People are also not sure whether to send in 2008 memberships or wait.

VP Army report accepted.

8. Insurance Trust Report: Capt Marcus Jackson

- 1. An Insurance Trust Board meeting will be scheduled.
- 2. Insurance Trust accounts are growing. Some money will be put in an interest-bearing account, especially since FDIC insured amounts have gone up.
- 3. A letter is going out to sever ties with American Equity.

9. Old Business

- a. Membership: covered above.
- b. NGAUS Conference Report: Vernon James
 - 25-26 people from Missouri attended the NGAUS Conference in Baltimore, MD, in September. This was a lower number than expected. OPD was very well done. All deposit money (for late reservations) was returned. CPT King was elected Area IV Company Grade Representative. Many thanks to the Air Guard for Space-A travel.

10. New Business:

a. Membership Brochure: Vernon James

1. The 2009 membership brochure draft was distributed to Board members for review.

Motion to accept 2009 membership brochure as designed. Seconded. Motion carried.

The brochure is now ready for print. Command Reps need to let COL (Ret) Vernon James and MSgt (Ret) Suzanne Hardy know if they want brochures mailed in bulk or sent to individuals. Suspense: Friday, 17 October.

2. The website will be flipped over to 2009.

b. Webmaster: LTC Jay Banwell

A proposal was made to make a change in webmaster with the understanding that a new page would be up and going by mid-March 2009. Payment would be life membership in NGAUS and corresponding State membership. Maj Greg Stewart is nominated to be new webmaster and would do overall redesign of website. Maj Stewart would also teach COL (Ret) Vernon James how to do website updates and editing. MoNGA would need to purchase software at a projected cost of \$999.

Motion to designate Maj Greg Stewart webmaster and purchase software with a projected cost of \$999. Seconded. Discussion: designate Vernon James and Capt Marcus Jackson as POC to help redesign website. Motion carried.

c. 2009 MoNGA Conference:

1. The 2009 MoNGA Conference will be held in Springfield at the Oasis Hotel and Convention Center. The Conference Chair is COL William J. Thomas, with MAJ Dan Coleman assisting. Subcommittees are being designated.

2. Several members of the Board and designated personnel from Springfield met today at the Oasis with Nicole for a tour and to discuss the Conference.

3. Discussion on the merits and downsides of graduated conference fees versus a standard fee, as well as reduced rates for spouses. Graduated fees per rank benefit lower enlisted and officer ranks. A la carte fees are popular but can create work for conference hosts.

4. ODP and NCO DP (as done by NGAUS and EANGUS) would be ways to encourage attendance. One issue is time. Another issue would be funding if individuals were put on orders. Scheduling constraints would only leave Thursday open for ODP and NCO DP.

5. Auxiliary membership and Conference attendance are being hurt by the FRG tagging on to the MoNGA Conference.

6. Centralized banking for the Conference is recommended. Forms can be sent to Suzanne Hardy, Administrative Assistant, to expedite registration payment. A financial subcommittee for the Conference will need to be identified for signature card holders for the Conference account.

d. 2010 EANGUS Conference

Committees will be designated soon. Executive Director and MSgt Leah Caldwell will be Conference Chairs in order to have continuity.

11. President's Report: LTC Jay Banwell
 - a. Continue to push membership.
 - b. The "Call to Conference" newsletter will be sent out in January. Suspense for articles is 15 December.
 - c. Next Board meeting will be Thursday, 8 January 2009, at 16:00.
12. Pledge of Allegiance: LTC Jay Banwell
13. Benediction: 1SG Lonnie Brandon
14. The October Board Meeting adjourned at 17:33.