

MINUTES OF THE 47TH ANNUAL
MINNESOTA NATIONAL GUARD ENLISTED ASSOCIATION (MNGEA)
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP CONFERENCE
ST. CLOUD, MN 22-23 APRIL, 2016

The first business session was called to order at 1500 on 22 April, 2016. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the President provided his guidance for the conduct of the committee breakouts. The Director read the Rules & Credentials Report (exhibit 16-0422-01). Bob Metcalf presented the Awards Committee Report (exhibit 16-0422-02). Executive VP Ray Kennedy presented the Insurance Committee Report (exhibit 16-0422-03). Past President Chuck Benda provided an update on nominations. Diane Metcalf motioned to establish a Consent Agenda, seconded by Angela Bedessem. The 1st session was recessed at 1520 for committee breakouts until 0900 on 23 April 2016.

The 2nd business session was called to order at 0905 hours on 23 April, 2016. The MNARNG Funeral Honors Team posted the Colors. SGM Jody Courts gave the invocation. St. Cloud Mayor Dave Kleis welcomed the delegation. The Secretary conducted the roll call of chapters (exhibit 16-0423-01). Steve Gerads read the Rules and Credentials report approved during the 1st business session. The minutes of the 46th Annual General Membership Conference were approved on a motion by Diane Metcalf, seconded by Dave Vicente. Bob Metcalf presented the Time & Place Report (Exhibit 16-0423-02). Ray Kennedy made a presentation on behalf of the MN NG Youth Camp.

Guest Speaker Congressman Tim Walz addressed the delegation followed by a brief presentation on a potential partnership between MNGEA and the “Homes for Heroes” foundation. Bob Metcalf presented the Finance Committee Report (Exhibit 16-0423-03), seconded by Doug Hanson, and announced a donation of \$500.00 to MNGYC. Chuck Benda presented the Past Presidents Committee Report (Exhibit 16-0423-04) and provided an update on EANGUS National Conference and Area V Caucus. Paul Cocchiarella presented the Bylaws Report (Exhibit 16-0423-05). The only Bylaws change was adding specific language to clarify MNGEA financial audit requirements. VP Angela Bedessem presented the Membership Report (Exhibit 16-0423-06). Angela Bedessem

moved to add \$2,500 to the MNGEA budget for marketing materials, seconded by Jon Plahn. A member recommended that the membership committee research development of a MNGEA mobile application.

Following a lunch recess the 2nd session reconvened at 1315. Guest speaker CSM Doug Wortham, Senior Enlisted Advisor, MN NG, addressed the delegation followed by guest speaker CMSgt Kristine VonEshen who spoke on behalf of the State Command Chief. Guest speaker Tim Scoggins addressed the delegation on behalf of the EANGUS Higher Education Research Center (HERC). VP Angela Bedessem assumed the gavel while Executive VP Kennedy presented the Legislative Report (Exhibit 16-0423-07) and the Resolutions Report (Exhibit 16-0423-08). Nine resolutions were reviewed and passed. The gavel was returned to the Acting President and then assumed by VP Klinkner while the Ray Kennedy presented the President's Report on behalf of MNGEA President Mark Wasserbauer. VP Kennedy assumed the gavel and Chuck Benda gave a final nominations report and made a motion to close nominations, seconded by Bob Metcalf. Ray Kennedy was elected President and Stonewall (Chris) Keim was elected Treasurer by way of white ballot on a motion by Diane Metcalf, seconded by Dave Vicente. Robert Klinkner and Ashley Watson were elected by way of white ballot on a motion by Doug Wortham, seconded by Johns Lepowski.

VP elect Ashley Watson gave a benediction and the conference was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

///Original Signed///

Paul S. Cocchiarella

Executive Director
MNGEA

Exhibits

1st Business Session

16-0422-01: Rules & Credentials Report

15-0422-02: Awards Committee Report

16-0422-03: Insurance Committee Report

2nd Business Session

16-0423-01: Roll Call of Chapters

16-0423-02: Time & Place Report

16-0423-03 Finance Committee Report

16-0423-04: Past Presidents Committee Report

16-0423-05: By Laws Committee Report

16-0423-06: Membership Committee Report

16-0423-07: Legislative Committee Report

16-0423-08: Resolutions 16-01 thru 16-09

16-0423-09: President's Report