



## **THE NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY**

**PO Box 266**

**WRIGHTSTOWN, NEW JERSEY 08648**

**26 OCTOBER 2017**

The meeting was called to order at 1834 hours by President Jose Maldonado.

The group pledged their allegiance to the flag. There were no administrative announcements.

There were no appointments or resignations.

President Maldonado welcomed a distinguished visitor, Lt. Col. (Retired) Rich Reitberger, life member, past president and former Executive Director to the meeting. He also welcomed Josephine Grey-Martin, a representative of U.S. Family Health to the meeting.

A roll call was read and the following members were present:

MAJ Jose Maldonado, JFHQ, President  
COL Bill Peace, JFHQ, Executive Director  
MAJ Eric Balint, 108<sup>th</sup> CE, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
MAJ Jason Tiger, 108<sup>th</sup> WG, Past President  
2LT Ben Brit, RSG, Treasure, (by phone)  
CW5 (Retired) Tom Comyack, NGANJ Benefits Briefer, by phone  
Lt. Col. (Retired) Rich Rietberger, Past President, Former E.D.  
Capt. Cynthia Cano-Hewitt, 108<sup>th</sup> FSS, 108<sup>th</sup> Rep  
Lt Col Ed Dagney, 177<sup>th</sup> FW Rep  
LTC Patrick McDonald, JFHQ, Membership Chair  
CPT John Lore, 1-114 Rep  
CPT Steve Pruser, 1-102nd CAV Rep

### **REPORTS**

Treasurer: Ben Britt briefed the draft budget, attached, and it was decided that Ben make some changes and send back to the elected officers. Once the budget was agreed on, it would be sent to the executive council for an electronic vote.

### **STANDING COMMITTEES**

Membership: Pat McDonald briefed that the association was at 26% and that he was working toward listing members by command to be able to give us a better idea on where to focus efforts.

### **CONFERENCE ARRANGEMENTS**

**State:** Eric Balint briefed us on arrangements made for the upcoming State Conference at the Berkley Hotel in Asbury Park, 27 to 29 April 2018. A contract has been signed and a draft plan is in process with State Leaders. We are proposing a MUTA 2 on 28<sup>th</sup> April with some general session programs and some break-out sessions, and the normal receptions and . More to follow on that.

**National:** Bill Peace briefed that the conference would take place in New Orleans Louisiana August 24 – 27 2018. The NGAUS Conference returns to Louisiana for the fifth time. National Guard officers from around the country previously gathered at The Big Easy in 1922, 1931,

1955 and 1977. The conference was scheduled to be held there in 2006, but Hurricane Katrina had other plans. More information to follow.

The National Guard Executive Directors Association will meet in New Orleans on 17 to 19 January 2018 (Travel on 16 and 20) to plan the upcoming NGAUS conference and to utilize our number 4 pick for the best hotel for our delegates and guests. It was decided to send the Executive Director, President and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President. Hotel and Air Fare will be paid by NGANJ.

There were no reports from the following committees

Legislative

Resolutions

### **SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

Investments: None

Awards: None

Nominating: None

Finance: Ben Britt detailed budget but did not detail number from our accounts.

Scholarship: None

Constitution: No changes

Corporate Membership: None

Insurance: We heard from Tom Comyack on the progress that he made

Long Range Planning: None

### **GROUP REPS:**

Non-Active Regular Members (Retirees)

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Gavel is still missing...

**NEW BUSINESS:** Rich Reitberger proposed to appoint a special committee composed of representatives knowledgeable about various benefits that would aid our membership and the NJ National Guard as an organization. He suggested it be named the Health Benefits Committee, and asked that it be composed of our benefits briefer Tom Comyack, a representative from one of our corporate sponsors U.S. Family Health, Mrs. Josephine Grey-Martin and COL (Retired) Jorge Martinez, and possibly a few other

Due to an upcoming deployment, President Jose Maldonado appointed Executive Director Bill Peace as the interim President, and Rich Reitberger as the Executive Director.

The meeting was adjourned at 1940 hours after a motion made by John Lore and seconded by Ed Dagney.

WILLIAM L. PEACE, Sr.  
COL, LG, NJARNG  
President