**GOVERNOR’S MILITARY COUNCIL**

**Executive Board Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday, August 4, 2016**

# Council Members Present:

Edward Hanlon, Jr., Vice-Chair

Alice Astafan, Major General, United States Air Force (ret.)  
Tom Berard, Senior Executive, Department of the Air Force (ret.)

Assembly Member Rocky Chavez, 76th District

Phil Coyle, Assistant Secretary, DoD (ret.)

Joseph Czyzyk, Chairman/CEO Mercury Air Group

Charles Giacchi, Senior Executive, Department of the Navy (ret.)

Anthony L. Jackson, Major General, United States Marine Corps (ret.)

Daniel Oliver, Vice Admiral, United States Navy (ret.)

Eldon Regua, Major General, United States Army (ret.)

Kenneth Slaght, Rear Admiral, United States Navy (ret.)

Andreas Mueller, Executive Director

# Agenda Item 1: Roll Call

Vice Chair Hanlon called the meeting to order at 9:35 am.

Vice Chair Hanlon makes welcoming remarks.

Council Members introduce themselves.

Andreas Mueller, Executive Director provides overview of meeting.

# Agenda Item 2: Friends of NAS Lemoore

The Mayor of the City of Lemoore, Mayor Lois Wynne provided welcoming comments and stated that the objective of the support organization, Friends of Lemoore, was to communicate to the State how the community can be helpful in serving the installation that serves the men and women who defend the nation. John Lehn, President/CEO, Kings County Economic Development Corporation provided an overview of the Friends of Lemoore and highlighted that the organization has been in existence for over 10 years and was organize in response to the 2005 BRAC and to garner support for the F-35 mission at NAS Lemoore. With a county population of 152,000 NAS Lemoore is the largest employer in the county and contributes approximately $1B to the local economy. A number of Council Members disputed this number with the installation Commander at the afternoon brief, stating that the estimation is low and is probably closer to $2B. Mr. Lehn went on to state community is very supportive of the installation and listed a number of activities the Friends of Lemoore have conducted in support of NAS Lemoore to include: generating letters of support; advocating for issues that the uniformed personnel cannot speak about; bed-down of F-35; advocated for military training areas over NAS Lemoore, which creates cost

savings and provides for family stability with air crews being able to remain local; supported 3 mile greenbelt around installation which prohibits structures over 25 feet in height and permanent residential structures; meet regularly with base leadership to ensure issues are addressed early. In response to a Council question, Mr. Lehn reported that there are no proposals for public/private partnerships on the installation and the proximity of the installation to the city makes it difficult to pursue those initiatives.

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Judy Caldwell with the City of Lemoore reported that the city has a very good relationship with the installation and that there is consistent engagement between the two. Significant numbers of military families live in the community and developers are currently proposing new housing for the arrival of the F-35 mission. Activities that the city have been involved with to support the installation include: active support for F-35 bed-down; active support of installation in previous BRAC rounds; supportive of all the Joint Land Use Study recommendations. Ms. Caldwell reported that the City is moving forward on two land use issues with the General Plan update process beginning this year and seeking funding for a compatible use study on the city’s west side. The Council noted that the area is conducive to winds and solar renewable energy project and asked if there were any conflicts. There are no conflicts with current projects and Friends of Lemoore are not aware of any pending projects that would pose a conflict. Furthermore, all proposed projects are forwarded to the base for comment.

Representative from the County Veterans Service Office provided overview of office activities and highlighted fact that the office is mandated by the California Veterans Code for each county in the state. Mission is to assist veterans in accessing both state and federal benefits. The office is VA accredited to access VA systems in order to facilitate processing of claims. The County has a veteran population of approximately 12,800 and the office has contact with 27% of that population through various means to include social media. It is estimated that VA benefits bring in $58M to the County. In response to Council question, it was reported that there is not a significant support system in place for homeless veterans in the County and there is no VA hospital in the County.

Superintendent Tom Addington briefed the Council on Central Union School District, which serves NAS Lemoore families. 65% of district students are connected to the military. The District has two schools on the installation with one ranking 25 on the DoD School Construction Program, which qualifies it for OEA grant funding. Preliminary project estimated cost is $21M. The district has a challenge of meeting the required 20% match to receive federal funding as the bonding capacity of the district is not sufficient to fund the required match amount. In addition, a loan from the State Infrastructure Bank would add over $1M to overall cost of project. The District is hesitant to dip into reserve funds for match. In response to a Council question, the Superintendent reported that within the next 12 months the district must identify resources for the match.

Chris Lehn with the Kings County Association of Governments briefed the Council on the significance of the State Route 198 corridor which provides access to the base both from Interstate 5 in the west and

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State Route 99 in the east. The corridor is part of the strategic highway network connecting the installation to I-5 and part of the nation truck network with significant goods movement between I-5

and SR 99. Passenger vehicle and truck traffic is expected to double by 2040. Planning study concluded that section of highway from I-5 to NAS Lemoore be upgraded to 4-lane highway from current 2-lane configuration. Challenge to corridor development is the limited and highly competitive funding sources as well as the fact that the section in question lies within Fresno County which would need to prioritize project and it currently has a higher priority project.

**Agenda Item 3:** **Updates on Current State Efforts**

CPT Rito Guerra presents update on current state efforts.

Update was provided on the follow-up outreach conducted for the All California Defense Summit. Although limited responses were received, all were very positive will all 12 responses indicating Summit was relevant. Panels were rated by the respondents and the following observations were collected:

1 Role of Support Organizations; 2 Land Use; 3 Energy; 4 Water and Drought; 5 Transitioning Servicemembers and Education. One noted respondent comment was that a meeting of commanders and support organizations had not happened since the 2005 BRAC. One improve was that there should have been a forum for just GO & Flag Officers to present their priorities. Other recommendations were to have a working lunch to maintain momentum; better venue; focus on progress for next event; include more city staff in forum. One issue to work that came out of the Summit was developing a pipeline into state government for discharging servicemembers.

Update on current efforts related to P4. CoC for LAAFB has occurred, this is an opportunity to engage with new commander and keep momentum for P4 effort started under COL Turner. Reported on AB 306 clean up legislation moving through legislative process. Beale AFB REDI proposals from industry are being evaluated by the Air Force. Coordinating trip with Sue Kately, Assembly Utilities Committee to Beale.

Update on DoD engagements. Briefed Team Monterey meeting where Congressman Sam Farr was attending his last meeting before retirement. Congressman Farr suggested using the Team Monterey model for collaboration state wide as a way to reduce costs on installations in the state. He also suggested a policy of additional transportation funds for projects that incorporate military communities, possibly a weighted scoring system.

Briefed Mojave Commanders Summit and identified opportunity to assist with possible Ft. Irwin expansion. Meeting discussed possible visit by state legislators to Ft. Irwin and China Lake and CPT Guerra recommended including relevant principal legislative committee staff.

Briefed the March ARB water table issue is proceeding with test wells being drilled. CEQA process may delay project.

Briefed MCI West enrolled 3 projects into SB 83 net metering program which should equate to $700K annual savings.

Update on support organization efforts. Prepared to assist San Diego Area Governments with transportation planning grant at next round of funding. China Lake continues to monitor process for establishing a groundwater management agency.

Briefed the new Military Council email addresses for Council members.

# Agenda Item 4: Closed Session (pursuant to Government Code §11126(f)(4))

Consideration of information that is For Official Use Only and/or Law Enforcement Sensitive. Andreas will provide and update on Council federal efforts in DC and the status of the Defense Budget. Information in the briefing is of a sensitive nature and cannot be publicly disseminated.

**Agenda Item 5: Reconvene from closed session**

No action taken in closed session

**Agenda Item 6: Consideration of action items**

Andreas Meuller reviewed the following items for action:

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**Tuesday, May 17, 2016**

* Requested approval of Q2 Council Meeting Minutes

Vice Chair Hanlon makes motion to approve all documents, seconded by General Jackson. Four votes held, all motions passed unanimously.

# Agenda Item 7: Public Comments

No public comments. **MTARY COUNCIL**

# Adjournment:

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Meeting adjourned 12:45