

## MINUTES OF THE FORT HOOD RETIREE COUNCIL MEETING

1. The 13 October 2009 meeting of the Fort Hood Retiree Council convened at 1200 hours at Club Hood, Fort Hood, Texas.

2. Membership Attendance:

a. Members Present:

LTG (Ret) Palmer, Co-Chairman	CSM (Ret) Minosky, Co-Chairman
COL (Ret) Oliver Jr., Assoc. Member	COL (Ret) Gauer, Member
COL (Ret) Portmann, Member	COL (Ret) Somera, Member
LTC (Ret) Woodward, Member	CW3 (Ret) Hanger, Member
CSM (Ret) King, Jr., Member	CSM (Ret) Kitterman, Member
SGM (Ret) Lopez, Member	SCPO (Ret) Lubasky, Member
1SG (Ret) Fisher, Member	Msgt (Ret) Wood, Member
SFC (Ret) Evans-Quickley, Member	Mrs. Greathouse, (Widow) Member

b. Members Absent: MG (Ret) Meyer, Assoc. Member

3. The Co-Chairman, LTG(Ret) Palmer, called the meeting to order and welcomed the council members to the meeting. He also welcomed and introduced guests COL Joan Vanderlaan, representing the Cdr, CRDAMC; Mr. Andy Bird, representing the Garrison Commander, and Ms. Tammy Sanchez, GKCC Event Coordinator.

4. The topics of discussion for this meeting are listed below:

- COL Vanderlaan updated the Council reference the new medical center to be built and also hospital information. She stated that 960 million had been approved to build the new medical center. It was also approved that the bid would be for design and building of the hospital vs. the old way of a designer being contracted and then the building go to another contractor. This would expedite the building of the medical center and also make for a smoother process. Currently there is no plan for increased bed capacity; however, they do hope to add cardiologist capability. Currently CRDAMC is meeting with the VA reference potential clinic space on Fort Hood, perhaps part of the future old hospital. There are still financial commitment issues to be worked out on the VA side but both the VA and Fort Hood are working to come to a viable solution. CRDAMC would like to allow Retiring Soldiers and Families who elect TRICARE Prime to stay in an MTF when retired until they become Medicare eligible. CRDAMC is also looking at how TRICARE For Life Retirees can add to the surgical base at the medical center. This will be good for Retirees and their Families and also for the surgeons at Fort Hood so they can keep up their skills. CRDAMC is also looking at cross-credentialing with the VA which would also be a plus for the Retiree community.
- COL Vanderlaan also addressed the H1N1 Vaccine. Those over 50 have a lower risk of contracting the H1N1 virus as they should have a natural immunity to it. CRDAMC will receive vaccine from the state of Texas for Family Members. Generally state vaccines are not to be used for Soldiers. However CRDAMC received exception to policy for deploying Soldiers with the understanding that number of doses would be replaced when CRDAMC received their H1N1 vaccines.
- COL Vanderlaan stated that seasonal flu vaccine will be readily available for Retiree Day weekend. Pneumo-vax and Shingles vaccines will also be readily available. In addition vaccines will be given on Friday, 23 Oct 09 at the Copeland Soldier Service Center. This will allow Retirees and their Families the opportunity to take advantage of other services on Saturday if they would like and also decrease wait time on Saturday at the Health Fair at Moore Clinic.
- COL Vanderlaan took questions from the Council Members. Mr. Hanger asked about third-party insurer being billed for a Retiree or Family Member going to the CRDAMC emergency room. COL

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Vanderlaan explained that anyone who has an additional insurer that insurance company will be billed for the emergency room service. This is a way that brings dollars back to the hospital. The same as if someone went to an emergency room off post.

- Second order of business: Retiree Appreciation Day Weekend Events.
  - Ms. Tammy Sanchez, GKCC Event Coordinator gave an update on the Retiree Round Up Dinner. Over 235 RSVPs had been received. This would be the highest number of attendees ever. Guest Speaker, entertainment and door prizes were set for the event.
  - Ms. Waller, Chief, Retirement Services, gave an update on other planned services and events for the weekend. All planned events were tracking for a successful weekend of events. The new attraction, the VA Mobile Vet Center would be available at the Copeland Soldiers Service Center parking lot.
- Council Committee Updates.
  - Health Care Advisory Council Update. COL (Ret) Portmann did not provide an update as COL Vanderlaan was the guest speaker and covered reportable topics.
  - Volunteer Activities Update. LTC (Ret) Woodward stated AFAP was still taking volunteers for the AFAP Conference (20-22 Oct 09). CSM (Ret) King volunteered to be a volunteer for the conference as a representative from the Retiree Council.
  - AAFES Council Update. COL (Ret) Somera reported that 60 day lay way was still in effect at the PX. Warrior Way AAFES Food Court will now open at 0700 for breakfast. UPS Store is opening at Clear Creek PX. There is also a UPS store at Warrior Way. New PX scheduled to be built in 2014. Also, there is still a possibility that AAFES HQ may move to Fort Hood.
  - Commissary Council Update. CW3 (Ret) Hanger briefed on the commissary Spaghetti Dinner Event to be sponsored by the Clear Creek Commissary during Retiree Appreciation Day weekend. He also briefed that \$200.00 in gift checks (to be given as door prizes Retiree Weekend) had been given by the Clear Creek Commissary and was awaiting \$200.00 in gift checks from the Warrior Way Commissary.

5. The meeting was adjourned at 1300 hrs. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, 7 January 2010, location: TBD.

  
LTG (Ret) DAVE PALMER  
Co-Chairman

Approved/Disapproved

  
For: JOSEPH P. DISALVO  
Brigadier General, USA  
Chief of Staff