

MINUTES OF THE FORT HOOD RETIREE COUNCIL MEETING

1. The 11 April 2013, meeting of the Fort Hood Retiree Council convened at 11:30 hours at the Spirit of Fort Hood Warrior and Family Chapel, Fort Hood, Texas.

2. Membership Attendance:

a. Members Present:

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| GEN (Ret) Griffin, Chairman | LTC (Ret) MacMillan, Secretary |
| CSM (Ret) Minosky, Co-Chairman | CSM (Ret) King, Member |
| COL (Ret) Oliver Jr., Assoc. Member | CSM (Ret) Small, Member |
| COL (Ret) Portmann, Member | CSM (Ret) Waller, Member |
| COL (Ret) Somera, Jr. Member | CMCPO (Ret) Hall, Member |
| COL (Ret) Phelps, Member | SGM (Ret) Lopez, Member |
| COL (Ret) Fey, Member | SCPO (Ret) Lubasky, Member |
| LTC (Ret) Woodward, Member | Ms. Roupe, Member |
| LTC (Ret) Christ, Member | |

b. Members Absent:

CSM (Ret) Divina Bobb, Member
1SG (Ret) Fisher, Member
SFC (Ret) Evans-Quickley, Member

3. The Co-Chairman, GEN (Ret) Griffin called the meeting to order and welcomed the council. He thanked CSM (Ret) Minosky for providing lunch.

- GEN (Ret) Griffin introduced the new members of the council including COL (Ret) Phelps, COL (Ret) Fey, CMCPO (Ret) Hall and Ms. Roupe.
- In addition, he introduced the newest addition to the Retiree Section Staff, Tammy Eubanks.
- Each of the new council members said a few words about their military experience and how they are glad to be on the Retiree Council.

4. Topics of discussion for this meeting:

- CSM (Ret) King stated that he goes to the Pentagon next week for the CSA Retiree Council meeting. There are 54 issues to be discussed, none from Fort Hood. The issue of the Retiree Office closing one day each week due to personnel shortage was sent directly up the chain of command.
 - COL (Ret) Portmann introduced two ladies from the Tri-Care Service Office. They spoke about how the changes in Tri-Care apply to retirees. They referred to the Tri-Care web site, saying there are new areas for care in the Tri-Care for Life program. One of which is, those living more than 40 miles from their prime care center will not be able to have Tri-Care Prime. A letter was sent directly to those affected. Hardship exceptions to policy will be evaluated on an individual basis. The differences between Tri-Care Prime and Standard were explained. The costs of Tri-Care have gone up over the last two years. GEN (Ret) Griffin
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asked how we can do a better job reaching out to our retiree community with this information. The Retiree Services Office (RSO) directs retirees to the source and included the information in the newsletter. During Retiree Days it was suggested to have Tri-Care representatives at the County Fair as well as at the hospital to answer questions regarding medical care. One of the ladies recommended retirees sign up for the E-benefits online. You can access files and make appointments through the site.

5. Individual Council Member Updates:

- **Health Care Advisory Council Update.** COL (Ret) Portmann reported that the APLSS rate is 91.1% and ICE is at 88% with a goal of 90%. The Copperas Cove Medical home has openings for retirees and Internal Medicine at Darnall does as well. Retirees make up about 20% of the medical home patients and the goal is to have 1625 retirees assigned to each home. Darnall has increased their electronic technology and security so that patients can contact a doctor or nurse on line but they must be registered at the provider's location. A letter will be forthcoming regarding drug amnesty. They do not want the drugs discarded; they want them turned in. Soldiers who have EFMP family members must check in at least 6 months prior to departure if they do not it may stop family member travel. The hospital chain of command ceremony will be on April 24th. COL Dailey will be in charge until the new commander is on board.
- **Volunteer Activities.** No report.
- **RAD:** CSM (Ret) Small reported he is working on RAD weekend and looking at new initiatives. It was reported that Mrs. Druce set aside the funds to cover the club for the opening ceremony and the cost of breakfast for retirees Saturday morning.
- **AAFES/PX/DECA Council Update:** COL (Ret) Somera reported that the manager at Clear Creek Exchange will be retiring. LTC (Ret) MacMillan reported that she attended the last Exchange/DECA meeting. The main topic of discussion was what is going to be done to the Warrior Way Exchange. Currently, the Exchange manager is waiting on word from AFFES Headquarters as to what will be done with it. A question was raised regarding the selection of meats and produce. The DECA managers both said if someone wants a special cut of meat they can request it. The selection of produce has increased.
- **CSM (Ret) Minosky** brought up member time limits, the grouping of council members, and where to place the new council members. He

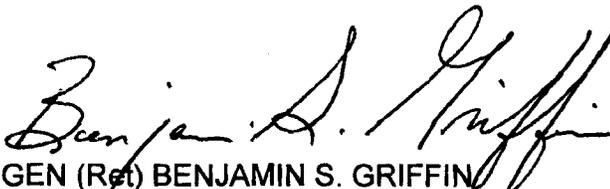
stated he will be moving after RAD. In addition, LTC (Ret) Woodward would be leaving. ISG (Ret) Fisher may be dropping out.

Mrs. Greenhouse will leave as well, and Ms. Roupe is replacing her.

CSM (RET) Minosky asked that we continue to submit applications for possible council members. SCPO (Ret) Lubasky asked why the SSN is included on the application because of the privacy issue. CSM (Ret) King said he would get it taken off the application.

- CSM (Ret) Lopez announced that there will be a Memorial Day ceremony conducted by the 1st CAV at 10 AM and in Harker Heights on Saturday, May 25th, at the city hall at 10 AM.

6. GEN (Ret) Griffin stated that the By-Laws give term limits, that instituting them is not personal just a matter of following the By-Laws. GEN (Ret) Griffin thanked everyone for attending and the meeting was adjourned.


GEN (Ret) BENJAMIN S. GRIFFIN
Co-Chairman

Approved/Disapproved


Bruce W. McVeigh
Col, GS
Chief of Staff