



## NMRC MINUTES

11 October 2023

To: NMRC Members

The Nebraska Military Retiree Council met at 0900, 11 October 2023. The meeting was called to order by President Bill Nelson.

**Officers Present:** Bill Nelson, Dick Burch, Bryan Tlamka, Deb Tankesley; Members at Large: Randy Frazier, Merlyn Schuster, Joe Garcia, Dave Petersen, John Bailey and Peggy Brown

**Guests:** CMSgt Horne, SFC Niles, MSG Hartman, Todd Wagner and Dale Weber

**Secretary's Report:** The minutes of the previous meeting were mailed/mailed to members. A motion to accept the minutes was made and seconded, the motion was approved.

**Membership:** As of 1 October 2023, the NMRC had 575 members.

**Treasurer's Report:** Bryan presented a quarterly report. Current balance in checking is \$13336.12. Expenses were for memorials. A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made and seconded; the motion was approved.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Discussions pertained to the Lincoln Air Show, Offutt will be conducting one in 2024 and the veterans hiring event at USCIS on 18 October 2023.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **2024 NMRC Dues (\$5.00/year or Life Membership for those 85+ with no dues payment):**

Members whose dues expire 31 December 2023 will receive a separate email/mail notification. Currently we are only able to accept check or cash.

#### **2024 Election Ballot & 2022 Founders Award (Due NLT 15 December 2023):**

Attached is the Election Ballot and Founders Award Nomination forms. You may submit your vote by names in an email, scan or mail to the P.O. Box.

A motion was made to support the National Guard Haunted Armories with candy. After discussion the cost was set at \$50 per location. Peggy Brown and Garth Scism volunteered to support the events in Lincoln and Kearney. The motion was seconded and approved.

Bryan presented a request from Wyuka for Wreaths Across America. A motion was made to approve \$170 for 15 wreaths to be placed at Wyuka Soldiers Circle, the motion was seconded and approved.

SFC Niles discussed the current process to file for retirement. He encourages everyone to let others know that it is in the retiree's best interest to complete the paperwork for retired pay around nine (9) months prior to their eligibility date. He understands it may be difficult for some but, having a DS Login for DFAS can be important to ensure payment questions and changes are available to retirees.

If retirees have questions about the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) Open Season which is on through 1 January 2024 where you can opt-in or opt-out you are welcome to contact him. RCSBP and SBP are tricky topics, due to the complexity of the language in the law associated with them. The new authorization for State Employees to be compensated for using TRICARE was explained as it applies to retired Active Duty/AGR's and M-Day upon retirement and TRICARE eligibility at age 60. Plans are to review at the January quarterly meeting the options and availability to conduct a retiree briefing in the spring. SFC Niles contact information is located below.

CMSgt Horne discussed MG Gen Strong's agenda for his Whistle Stop Tour of each armory and facility. Also, plans are being made for a Recruiting "Monster Blitz" visit to towns with mayor's and others this winter/spring. Col Heese will be assuming command of the 155<sup>th</sup> ARW on 14 October 2023 at 1430. The ceremony will be held in the Joint Force Headquarters building.

No further business was discussed.  
Meeting adjourned at 1000, 11 Oct 2023

OTHER COMMENTS: Questions, comments or need assistance let us know.

**NMRC Meetings: 10 Jan 2024, 0900** at the East Campus Readiness Center, Room 206. All are welcome to attend meetings held quarterly on the second Wednesday of January, April, July, and October at the East Campus Readiness Center. NMRC Dues are \$5.00/year or No Dues Life Membership for 85+

**Upcoming activities:**

First Monday each month, 0700, ARNG Retirees, Virginia's Café, Lincoln

Last Monday each month, 0700, ANG Retirees, Stauffer's Café, Lincoln

Second Saturday each month, 0800, North Platte area Retirees, Perkins Restaurant, I-80 & S. Hwy 83

Third Wednesday each month, 1100, Patty's Pub, Lincoln

14 Oct: Offutt Retiree Appreciation Day

19 Oct: Haunted Armory, Lincoln

26 Oct: Haunted Armory, Kearney

11 Nov: Veterans Day

12 Nov: Veterans Parade, Lincoln

**Retirement:** ARNG: SFC Chris Niles, (402) 309-8162, [christopher.m.niles.mil@army.mil](mailto:christopher.m.niles.mil@army.mil).

ANG: <https://www.arpc.afrc.af.mil/retirement/> or Total Force Service Center 800-525-0102

<https://www.retirees.af.mil/>

NMRC Email: [nmrc90@gmail.com](mailto:nmrc90@gmail.com) Website: [www.neguard.org/retirement\\_council/](http://www.neguard.org/retirement_council/)

Mailing address: NMRC, P.O. Box 5765, Lincoln NE 68505-5765.

Physical office: East Campus Readiness Center, 2000 N. 33rd Street, Lincoln.