

KENTUCKY
COMMISSION
ON **MILITARY AFFAIRS**



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes

1:00 p.m. (ET)
 November 14, 2023
 Teleconference (Zoom)

A. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME (Chair Iacocca)

Called to order at 1:03 p.m. Chair Iacocca.

Roll call	
X	Chairman – BG (R) Iacocca
X	KDVA – Commissioner LTC (R) Whitney Allen (proxy Juan Renaud)
X	Executive Director – BG (R) Bullard
X	TAG KDMA – MG Lamberton (proxy BG Brian Wertzler)
X	CED – Secretary Noel (proxy Jon Wertzler)
X	Lori Harper
X	Kelli Pendleton
X	Heather French Henry
	COL (R) Shontelle Adams

Staff/Guests: Corey Ann Jackson (DMA), Stacey Shane (KCMA)

NOTE: Shontelle Adams has submitted his resignation for personal reasons and has not yet been replaced by the Governor (new appointment remains in the evaluation process).

B. OLD BUSINESS

Approval of Minutes – August 8, 2023 (BG (R) Iacocca). Motion by Commissioner Harper, second by Commissioner Henry, adopted unanimously by voice vote.

C. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE (Steve Bullard)

Executive Director Bullard referred all present to his draft working document covering in detail current activities of the commission and said he would quickly discuss the major talking point updates. The draft working document on current activities was emailed to all participants a week prior to the meeting.

Topics he covered were as follows, focusing on updates to the emailed document:

- Support for the Governor’s Office and Fort Campbell for the funerals of the five 160th SOAR soldiers killed in the November 10 crash in the Mediterranean Sea
- Governor’s reappointment of Commissioner Harper through July 2027
 - Commissioner Adams position remains unfilled, likely through the expiration of his term in July 2024
- Transition of Commissioner Pendleton to a new full-time role as U.S. Communications Advisor for NyrStar Zinc Metal Processing in the Netherlands

- Commissioner Pendleton briefed the ExCom on her role with the company, which specializes in rare earth elements, and noted she will remain in her Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army and KCMA board member roles
 - She will continue to work with Campbell Strong through the end of November to assist in their transition development
- Bullard outlined progress with the Blue Grass Army Depot future mission development effort, including a meeting last Thursday with staff from Sen. McConnell, Sen. Paul and Cong. Andy Barr to determine the way ahead for a Hyper-Scale Data Center in partnership with Bechtel National
 - Bullard shared the U.S. Army's BGAD Feasibility Study with the ExCom by email
- Bullard highlighted recent Kentucky National Guard award presentations
 - First ever Association of the U.S. Army Most Outstanding State Command Award
 - First Kentucky Air National Guard 123rd Airlift Wing Meritorious Unit Award
 - Air Force record 20th Air Force Outstanding Unit Award
- U.S. Army announcement that the Army Recruiting Command position at Fort Knox will go from a Major General to Lieutenant General rank
- Expectations that current Fort Knox V Corps Commanding General LTG Kolasheski is expected to soon receive a fourth star

D. OLDCC GRANT UPDATE (Dr. Dallas Kratzer)

Dr. Kratzer, once again serving as KCMA's contract Grant Program Manager, briefed the status of KCMA's Department of Defense (DOD) Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation (OLDCC) Kentucky COMPETES (Collaborative Opportunities to Modernize Practices, Engagement, Teams, and the Economy for Sustainability) grant partnership with the University of Louisville, now entering its third month of operation. Among the goals is to produce Comprehensive Report Outlining DIBs (Defense Industry Database) Modernization Practices, Engagement, Teams, and Economic impacts for Sustainability. The \$1.7M 18-month grant period of performance is from September 1, 2023, through February 28, 2025. Dr. Kratzer stressed that Dr. Jeff Sun has put together an outstanding team with continuity from KCMA's previous grant.

Dr. Kratzer also briefed his efforts in related workforce development activities, including support for this Thursday's Workforce Innovation Board (KWIB) Veterans Employment & Training Symposium (VETS) Thursday at the KCTCS campus in Versailles. There will be an opening address by Lieutenant Governor Jacqueline Coleman. Over 50 corporate participants will interact with the Department of Defense SkillBridge program to attract transitioning military personnel to apprenticeship opportunities, with assistance from Dr. Kratzer and representatives of the Fort Campbell and Fort Knox Transition Assistance Programs. He also briefed Kentucky's initiative, through his work as a Senior Fellow with the Council on Post-Secondary Education, to create a Collegiate Purple Star Program, citing the precedents already set by ECU, NKU, U of L and KCTCS in supporting veterans.

E. NEW BUSINESS (BG (R) Iacocca)

Bullard briefed the ExCom on the latest with the Kentucky Cyber Security Center development project, stressing the development of a coalition of education, business, government and military elements led by Murray State President Bob Jackson and U of L President Kim Schatzel. The Kentucky General Assembly has set up a cyber security committee to monitor this and

related efforts. The coalition is gaining broad support and hopes to get formal Kentucky General Assembly validation during the 2024 session.

Bullard added that the Cabinet for Economic Development, through Andy Luttner, is engaged with the BGAD new mission development process, including a potential 155mm artillery ammunition plant. He noted that Kentucky's K-12 Purple Star Schools program is growing rapidly, now over 70 participating schools, with outstanding support from both Fort Campbell and Fort Knox in the current round of induction ceremonies. The program is also now working with Commissioner Henry and her Global Game Changers organization to develop support activities at the K-5 grade levels.

Stacey Shane provided an administrative update on the KCMA Full Membership Board meeting to occur on Thursday, 7 December 2023, 10:00am (ET). The meeting will be held virtually through MS Teams and the agenda will mirror past year's format. To date, all members and major military commands and activities have been notified. KCMA has requested the Governor welcome video, along with securing a letter of support to be read from the Office of Senator McConnell and briefing from the Kentucky House Veterans, Military Affairs, Public Protection (VMAPP) Chairman- Representative Walker Thomas. On 5 December, KCMA will host a virtual walk-through meeting for the military commands to ask any additional questions, practice sharing screen for briefing presentation. Chair Iacocca requested the Executive Committee receive the military briefings prior to meeting for review of any questions/comments to be made at meeting. Other members agreed this would be helpful. Ms. Shane will organize the briefings and provide as requested.

F. OPEN DISCUSSION (BG (R) Iacocca)

None.

G. NEXT MEETINGS

The next executive committee meeting will be held virtually (Zoom) on Tuesday, February 20, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. (ET).

H. ADJOURN

Adjourned at 1:47 p.m.