



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Draft Minutes

2:00 p.m. (ET)
 April 30, 2024
 Teleconference (Zoom)

A. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME (Chair Iacocca)

Called to order at 2:00 p.m. Executive Director Bullard chaired the meeting in the absence of Chair Iacocca, who is traveling today.

Roll call	
	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 Steve King)
X	CED – Secretary Noel (proxy Jon Wertzler)
X	Lori Harper
X	Kelli Pendleton
	Heather French Henry
	COL (R) Shontelle Adams

Staff/Guests: 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NOTE: Shontelle Adams has submitted his resignation for personal reasons and has not yet been replaced by the Governor (new appointment remains in the evaluation process).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 – February 20, 2024. Motion by Commissioner Renaud, second by Commissioner Harper, 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 his previously emailed quarterly issues tracking document:

- Appointment of former Fort Knox Garrison Commander Colonel (Retired) Lance O’Bryan as successor to President/CEO Brigadier General (Retired) Jim Iacocca in the role of President/CEO of the (Fort) Knox Regional Development Alliance (KRDA)
 - Transition will occur September 2024
 - Chair Iacocca will move to Oregon and vacate his role on the commission as the Governor’s appointed KCMA chair – we will work with Boards & Commissions to recommend a chair successor(s) to the Governor

- Lieutenant General (LTG) Charles D. Costanza took command of U.S. Army V (Fifth) Corps at Fort Knox this month, as the outgoing commanding general, LTG John Kolasheski, retired on April 26
- Escorted First Lady Britainy Beshear for a day-long tour of Fort Knox schools on Friday in honor of the Month of the Military Child and the military's "Purple Up!" celebration
 - The First Lady also met with Fort Knox (and U.S. Army Recruiting Command) Commanding General Major General Johnny Davis and Fort Knox Garrison Commander Colonel Chris Ricci
- Participated, at the request of Fort Campbell and the Christian County Chamber, in the 2024 "Eagle Ambassador" recognition breakfast in Hopkinsville on February 28
 - Met with the new 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) Deputy Commanding General for support to discuss the potential for greater interoperations with the Kentucky National Guard
 - Joined by Kentucky National Guard Deputy Chief of the Joint Staff, who came down specifically for that purpose and joined us for the breakfast
- Stacey Shane met in early April (virtually) with the Child and Youth Programs Operations Office, Office of the Secretary of Defense, Military Community and Family Policy and the Fort Campbell Garrison Command to help the state of Tennessee with their initial efforts to join the Military Child Care in Your Neighborhood-PLUS (MCCYN-PLUS) program which Kentucky successfully set up in January 2023
- Spoke in detail with Shannon Lane of the Christian County Chamber of Commerce about joining the Association of Defense Communities, merging their committee with Trigg and Todd Counties, and increasing their state/national profile
- Future mission opportunities for Blue Grass Army Depot (BGAD) in the wake of the completion of the chemical weapons eradication mission
 - Assistance to MWM Consulting in evaluating and supporting options, through a DOD Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation grant to the Blue Grass Area Development District
 - Primary goal is to find a way to move forward assessment and possible execution of the following new mission sets for BGAD's near-term future:
 - Hyper-Scale Data Center with Bechtel National (off-site, most likely)
 - 155-mm Artillery Manufacturing
 - Critical Chemicals Manufacturing
 - Metal Shipping Container Manufacturing
- Linked the Kentucky Association of Manufacturers, which is looking to find employees with chemical expertise with member companies, with the Blue Grass Army Depot and Blue Grass Area Development District
 - Goal is to help find employment for employees affected by the ongoing post-chemical weapons eradication mission drawdown
- Worked with Craig Williams of the Kentucky Chemical Demilitarization Citizens' Advisory Commission (CAC) and Chemical Destruction Community Advisory Board (CDCAB) to coordinate for a triangular information kiosk to go in tandem with our Kentucky Historical Marker commemorating the destruction of our nation's chemical weapons arsenal at Blue Grass Army Depot
- Bullard attended the Association of Defense Communities national conference in Washington, DC, representing Kentucky
 - Hosted national ADC Congressional Breakfast at the Cannon House Office Building Pelosi Caucus Room

- Personally presented ADC proposal, at their request, for a new Defense Community Support Program supporting military families to over 80 Congressional staff from across the nation
 - Hosted the semi-annual in-person ADC State Advisors Council meeting in my co-chair role
- State Commissioner for the Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission (MIC3)
 - Attended the annual Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission (MIC3) leadership retreat (at MIC3 expense) in mid-April in my roles as Executive Committee member and National Compliance Chair
 - Discussions included strategic planning and support to Department of Defense, federal agencies and state governors/education agencies
 - Successfully resolved Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission (MIC3) case of a military student (high school junior) transferring with her family to Fort Knox from Hawaii and asking for a waiver for a locally required Human Geography freshman-level course
 - Meade County Schools, after an initial "no," granted the requested credit to the student
 - Successfully worked with the state of Mississippi to bring them back into full MIC3 compliance following their extended state MIC3 leadership void
- Toured the new University of Louisville Center for Military-Connected Students, a Governor Beshear-endorsed initiative that opened on campus in the Fall of 2023, on February 23
 - The university used the \$600K supported by Governor Beshear in 2022 to completely refurbish an unused, decades-old 3-storey building to support student veterans and families of military servicemembers
 - Official ribbon cutting ceremony set for May 8
- Final tally on our KCMA and DMA priority legislation (all passed successfully):
 - HB 56 – KCMA and DOD priority Social Work Occupational Licensing Compact membership
 - HB 200 – KCMA omnibus legislation
 - Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission (MIC3) technical changes
 - MIC3 addition of National Guard and Reserve protection
 - Space Force recognition and license plate
 - Legion of Merit medal license plate
 - Army Reserve Aviation Command name change in statute
 - HB 397 – Support for military personnel and spouses in occupational licensing
 - HB 453 – DOD priority Child Abuse case reporting to military installations
 - HB 469 – Kentucky Purple Star Schools enabling legislation
 - HB 471 – Support for Advance Enrollment of military connected students
 - HB 715 – Military Family Assistance Trust Fund benefits expansion
- Hosted quarterly Purple Star Advisory Board Meeting March 28
 - Approved 21 new Kentucky K-12 school applications
 - Now up to 92 participating schools
 - Set up Kentucky Purple Star Liaison Annual Meeting (new effort)
 - Shared the Governor's Month of the Military Child and Purple Up! Day Proclamations
 - Also shared with Kentucky's military community, including Fort Campbell and Fort Knox

- Posted the proclamations on Kentucky's Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission website

D. OLDCC GRANT UPDATE (Bullard, in the absence of Dr. Dallas Kratzer, who is traveling)

- Our Kentucky COMPETES grant team hosted Melanie Stover and Patricia Gray from the DOD Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation (OLDCC) April 23 at the University of Louisville
 - Collaborative Opportunities to Modernize Practices, Engagement, Teams, and the Economy for Success
 - Laid out in detail our plan to engage with Kentucky's Defense Industrial Base (DIB)
 - Determine their ability to engage with DOD and fill DOD requirements
 - Assist in facilitating relationships and developing Lessons Learned for both the DIB and DOD
 - Met with campus research and innovation office leaders
- Hosted monthly Kentucky COMPETES grant coordination meeting with the University of Louisville February 21
 - Continuing execution of our Department of Defense (DOD) Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation (OLDCC) Collaborative Opportunities to Modernize Practices, Engagement, Teams, and the Economy for Success (COMPETES) grant
 - Goal is to identify and engage Kentucky's (and regional) Defense Industrial Base
 - We are scheduling a series of Town Hall meetings and interviews with industry stakeholders, including the Kentucky Association of Manufacturers, Lockheed Martin, Vallent, BAE Systems, Boeing, Bechtel National, Boneal, Raytheon, Inverness Tech, Patriot Industries, Anduril, SourceAmerica, SEKRI, Carter Industries, Global Asset Technologies, Link-Belt Cranes, W&W Machinery and UPS Airlines
- In an associated action, the Kentucky Association of Manufacturers wants to conduct a survey of Kentucky-based Defense Industrial Base companies
 - We connected then with our COMPETES team to see how they can work together on that project
 - We also connected KAM with the Kentucky APEX Accelerator team, which works in this area (<https://www.kyapex.com/>)

E. NEW BUSINESS (Bullard)

Kentucky National Guard Chief of Staff BG (Retired) Steve King gave an overview of Kentucky National Guard operations for this Spring and Summer, including the Kentucky Derby, annual summer training events, the building of a Special Forces/Urban Warfare relationship with State Partnership for Peace (SPP) partner Ecuador and a continuing Horn of Africa strategic presence with SPP partner Djibouti. BG King said they are hoping for a final decision on whether their SPP partnership application (a competitive process) with Sweden will be approved within the next 30-to-45 days. On the domestic side, their Joint Operations Center is participating in a hurricane exercise this summer with North Carolina. He noted that latest National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) authorized a Multipurpose Machine Gun Range for the Wendell H.

Ford Regional Training Center in Greenville and they received \$16.4M to build a Field Maintenance Shop at the Guard armory in Burlington.

F. OPEN DISCUSSION (Bullard)

Commissioner Pendleton said that the (Fort) Campbell Strong Defense Alliance has decided to cease operations and allow the Christian County Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee to play the lead role in advocating for Fort Campbell from the Kentucky perspective. Bullard said he has advised the Christian County Chamber to join the Association of Defense Communities (ADC), and, with this news, that becomes even more critical to their mission. Commissioner Pendleton said the Chamber used to be an active member of ADC. Bullard noted that relationship has not continued and needs to be renewed, and she concurred.

G. NEXT MEETINGS

The next executive committee meeting will be held virtually (Zoom) on Tuesday, September 24, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. (ET).

H. ADJOURN

Adjourned at 1:48 p.m.