

Minutes of the Utah Defense Alliance

Held February 17, 2016 @ 7:30am

At the Weber Basin Water Conservancy Board Room

Welcome Board Members and Guests: Tage Flint

Approval of Last Meeting Minutes for the Board Meeting held on November 18, 2015:

Motion to approve: Mark Shepherd, 2nd Shawn Milne, the vote was unanimous.

New Board Member Approval: It has been customary for the Utah Defense Alliance to have on its board the Executive Director of the Military Installation Development Authority(MIDA). Rick Mayfield had been the Executive Director of MIDA and has retired and Ron Richins has been named the current Executive Director of MIDA. The recommendation from the UDA Executive Committee is that Ron Richins be accepted on the UDA Board as an ex-officio Director as have been his predecessors. Motion to establish an ex-officio Director position on the UDA Board for the Executive Director of MIDA and approve Ron Richins to fill that position: Mike Bowhuis, 2nd Pat Condon, the vote was unanimous.

Approval to Proceed with Final Selection of a Washington DC Consultant: For the past couple of years there have been ongoing discussions between the Utah Defense Alliance and the Roosevelt Group as well as three other groups to represent the interests of the UDA in Washington DC. The UDA executive committee reviewed all of the groups and the Roosevelt Group became the choice after the addition of Kathleen I. Ferguson who recently joined their organization. Kathleen was the past Acting Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Installations, Environment and Logistics, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Installations, Environment and Logistics, Washington, D.C. She has a wealth of knowledge about installations and is very respected in Congress and would be our major representative for the Utah Defense Alliance in Washington DC. It is proposed by the UDA Executive committee that the UDA complete negotiations with the Roosevelt Group and enter into a contract for a not to exceed \$15,000.00/month contract price. The Roosevelt Group would help us with strategic planning, provide a SWOT (strength, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) analysis, work with us in the Congress, would be a resource to people like Steve Peterson and Matt Jensen to work with in Washington DC. Motion authorized the UDA Executive Committee to complete negotiations of a not to exceed 1-year contract in the amount of \$15,000.00 per month, which includes a 30 day terminate option and renewal option with the Roosevelt Group. The contract will be compliant in every respect with the State of Utah, Department of Military Affairs reporting and authorization requirements. Steve Hiatt, 2nd Mark Shepherd. The vote was unanimous.

Remarks from Congressman Rob Bishop: Congressman Bishop discussed his support for increased funding for the military and the challenges he sees in passing a budget with increased military spending provisions included. He also discussed recent initiatives to have the sage grouse listed as an endangered species and the potential negative impact on the Utah Test and Training Range. He will continue to press for increased military spending and oppose any initiatives which could negatively impact the range.

Legislative Update: Some of the issues concerning veterans that are already processed and awaiting the Governor's signature or continuing to be discussed are 1) 50% disability – those that have a VA approved 50% recognized disability or greater are allowed access to state parks 2) License plate decals recognizing various campaigns and combat ribbons 3) House Bill 99 – Military Retiree Tax Exemption

4) work being done by the Executive Military Affairs Committee and resolutions that are being put forth 5) Sen Hilliard work on issues concerning deployment and split families in the military.

The Ogden-Weber Tech College has requested \$ 6,500,000.00 for building expansion of about 45,000sf for composites and NDI (Non Destructive Inspection). This added space will enable the college to add or expand several courses of great interest to Hill AFB. A special thanks to Commissioner Kerry Gibson and Col. Scott Nolan for their support and the broad base support from the community.

Representative Paul Ray included \$ 500,000 in executive appropriations for the Utah National Guard to look for innovative ways to fund the Air Guard move to Hill Air Force Base. This money will enable the Guard to hire planners to evaluate various courses of action for better positioning the state for long term retention of an Air Guard flying mission in the state.

Hill AFB Software Facility: The software facility ranks fifth in budget considerations. It is proposed as a \$ 21,500,000.00 item for the budget. General Bleymaier, Colonel Jolly, Kevin Sullivan and Ross Marshall all met with Legislative leadership to describe the need for the software facility and the benefit to the state. It is hoped that the project will be funded this year. It is anticipated that the completion timeline is approximately 10 months. As approved in a prior meeting, \$59,000 in UDA funding has been used to fund the first phase of design work for the facility to expedite the construction process if funding is approved this year.

Economic Impact Study: The University of Utah team that is doing the study has met with Hill Air Force Base point of contact and Tooele Army Depot as well as Dugway. Meetings are being scheduled with Fort Douglas and a request has been sent to the NSA as well. The study team will provide an update of their progress to date to representatives from UDA later in the month.

Other Business as Needed: The UDA audit has been contracted and will include past years as well. We are also looking at scheduling some future UDA Board meetings at various military installations to give the board a better appreciation for the work conducted at those facilities. Dates and locations will be determined at a later date.

Motion to adjourn: Gary Harter, 2nd Peter Jenks, the vote was unanimous.

UPCOMING EVENTS OF INTEREST

UDA Annual Board Meeting, May 18, 2016

Hill AFB Industry Day, June 14, 2016

Focus of Defense Symposium, June 15, 2016

Hill AFB Warriors Over the Wasatch Air Show, June 25 & 26

Aerospace Heritage Charity Golf Tournament, June 16, 2016

IOC at Hill Air Force Base – F35 August 1, 2016

UDA Board Meeting, August 17, 2016

UDA Board Meeting, Nov 16, 2016

Those Attending: Congressman Rob Bishop, Ron Richins, Detlef Galke, Paul Morris, Tage Flint, Kevin Sullivan, Mike Bouwhuis, Pat Condon, Vickie McCall, Weston Saunders, John Petroff Jr., Peter Jenks, Brian Garrett, Steve Rush, Gary Harter, Shawn Milne, Mark Shepherd, Steve Hiatt, Ted Frederick, Sandra Kester, Ryan Wilcox, Aaron Drake, Kevin Sullivan, Kerry Gibson, Charles Wight, Hugh Horstman, Collette Mercier, Nathan Jackson, Steve Petersen, Matt Jensen