



FORT POLK RETIREE COUNCIL
FORT POLK, LOUISIANA 71459-5302
TELEPHONE: (337) 531-0363



IMSW-POL-HR-OR

9 February 2006

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Retiree Council Meeting, 9 February 2006

1. The Fort Polk Retiree Council met on 9 February 2006 at the Briefing Room in Building 1947. The meeting was called to order at 0900 hours by the Chairman. The invocation was given by MSG (R) Clark. The Pledge of Allegiance was then led by Co-chairman SFC (R) Horn.

2. The following is the attendance record for the meeting:

Council Members

COL (R) Alva Lary	(Present)
COL (R) Ronald R. Thompson	(Present)
COL (R) Harry J. Montgomery	(Present)
LTC (R) Lessie A. Griffith	(Present)
LTC (R) Stephen C. Gibson	(Present)
MAJ (R) Charles E. Saucier	(Present)
MAJ (R) Alvie Brewer	(Present)
CSM (R) Carl C. Henderson	(Present)
SGM (R) Anthony L. Barattini	(Absent)
MSG (R) Rudolph Bourg	(Absent)
MSG (R) Lathern P. Clark	(Present)
MSG (R) Mary R. Stalnaker	(Present)
SFC (R) Dan M. Horn	(Present)
SFC (R) Lovelace Williams	(Present)
SFC (R) Henry C. Kidd	(Absent)
SFC (R) Harold Dixon	(Absent)
Mrs. Dianne H. Smith	(Absent)

Honorary Council Members Attending:

COL (R) Norman A. Keith
COL (R) Warren S. Anderson
COL (R) Linden D. Claybrook
CSM (R) James C. Myrick
CSM (R) Vernon Ware
CPO (R) Robert Vincent

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Non-Members Attending:

Mr. Randall Corbin, Deputy to the Garrison Commander, Fort Polk, LA
Mr. Jimmy Henry, Adjutant General, Fort Polk, LA
COL William K. Statz, BJACH Commander
Ms. Vanessa Peake, MEDDAC Representative
Mr. Christopher Stevenson, MEDDAC Representative
Mr. Steve Humphries, ACS Deployment, Mobilization, and Readiness Program Manager
Mrs. Barbara Zanyk, Director, Commissary
Mr. Michael Lanham, Director, AAFES
Mrs. Pam Irvin, Retirement Services Officer
Ms. Alishea Rim, Contact Representative, Retirement Services

3. COL (R) Lary introduced Mr. Jimmy Henry, Adjutant General, Fort Polk, LA.
Mr. Henry discussed the layout of the County Fair for the 31st Annual Retiree Appreciation Day that will be held on 21 October 2006.

- Mr. Henry stated that the County Fair activities will be held at the Family Readiness Center, Building 924, instead of the Consolidated In/Out Processing Center, Building 1830. This decision was based on a unanimous vote by the retirees last year.
- Mr. Henry stated that the new Defense Biometric Identification System (DBIDS) is now in effect for entrance on the Installation. DBIDS is a security tool to ensure force protection of the Installation.
- Mr. Henry stated for the benefit of those that did not know, that the 30th Annual Retiree Appreciation Day was dedicated to the memory of Mr. Arlon Miller, who passed away on October 13, 2005.
- Mr. Henry received questions and comments from retiree council members.
- COL (R) Lary thanked Mr. Henry for his remarks.

4. COL (R) Lary introduced Mr. Randall Corbin, Deputy to the Garrison Commander.

- Mr. Corbin stated that there is a change of command for COL Wade Woolfrey on 2 May 2006. The new Garrison Commander will be COL Sage from Fort Hood, Texas. COL Sage will take command on 2 May 2006. Mr. Corbin also stated that CSM Ricky Jones plans to retire on 1 April 2006.
- Mr. Corbin stated that he plans on attending the retiree council meetings in the future.

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- Mr. Corbin received questions and comments from retiree council members.
 - COL (R) Lary thanked Mr. Corbin for his remarks to the retiree council members.
5. COL (R) Lary introduced COL William Statz, BJACH Commander, Fort Polk, LA.
- COL Statz stated that changes were made effecting waiting period at the pharmacy, which reduced wait time from thirty minutes or longer to fifteen minutes or less.
 - COL Statz discussed a new TRICARE program called Sustaining the Benefit. He stated that this new program covers the proposed changes in enrollment fees and deductibles. The changes apply to the TRICARE Prime and Standard programs and will not effect TRICARE for Life enrollees.
 - COL Statz received questions and comments from retiree council members.
 - COL (R) Lary thanked COL Statz for his remarks to the retiree council members.
6. COL (R) Lary introduced Ms. Vanessa Peake, MEDDAC Representative, Fort Polk, LA.
- Ms. Peake stated that the MEDDAC staff wants to ensure that retirees are familiar with the different enrollment options with TRICARE.
 - Ms. Peake stated that retirees 65 and older need to enroll in Medicare Part B. Enrollment in the program will supplement the TRICARE for Life Program.
 - Ms. Peake received questions and comments from council members.
 - COL (R) Lary stated that a suggestion was made recommending that each agency supporting the retiree community take a turn in hosting a retiree council meeting. Ms. Barbara Zanyk volunteered to host the next council meeting in September at the Commissary.
 - COL (R) Lary thanked Ms. Peake for her remarks.
7. COL (R) Lary introduced Mr. Steve Humphries, ACS Deployment, Mobilization and Readiness Program Manager, Fort Polk, LA. Mr. Humphries briefed the council members on DMWR services available to retirees and encouraged each one to help get the word out on available services.
- Mr. Humphries stated that he would like to see more retirees take advantage of the services available.

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- He also stated that an FRG Pre-deployment Briefing is given to units prior to deployment.
- Mr. Humphries received questions and comments from retiree council members.
- COL (R) Lary thanked Mr. Humphries for his remarks to the council members.

8. COL (R) Lary introduced Ms. Barbara Zanyk, Director, Fort Polk Commissary. Ms. Zanyk briefed the council members on the Commissary's continued support to the retired community.

- Ms. Zanyk stated that Hurricane Katrina and Rita affected the produce industry and higher prices on fruit and vegetables can be expected.
- She stated that there will be a case lot sale in May 2006 and a notification of the sale will be sent out thirty days prior to the event.
- She stated that mail-outs can be provided to local veterans' representatives on case lot sales and other events if she is provided with their contact information.
- She also stated that nationwide sixty percent of the Commissary customers are retirees. Without the retirees, this benefit would not be available to the active duty Soldiers and their family members. Ms. Zanyk encouraged the retirees to educate the active duty Soldiers on saving money by shopping at the Commissary.
- Ms. Zanyk received questions and comments from retiree council members.
- COL (R) Lary thanked Ms. Zanyk for her remarks to the council members.

9. COL (R) Lary introduced Mr. Michael Lanhamm, Fort Polk AAFES Director. Mr. Lanhamm informed the council that he is now the full time General Manager for Fort Polk instead of being split into two locations.

- Mr. Lanhamm stated that AAFES is undergoing construction for the 24-hour Shoppette, a new gas station, and renovations of Shoppette Number 3.
- Mr. Lanhamm stated that BG Michael Barbero, Commanding General of Fort Polk, initiated plans for a new shopping complex on Fort Polk. The project is due for completion in 2008-2009 time frame. The complex will be doubled in size to the current facility and will be located behind Class Six.
- Mr. Lanhamm stated that the retiree community is an important part of Fort Polk and he wants to do what he can to improve the welfare of the community.

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- Mr. Lanhamm provided hand-outs to council members.
- Mr. Lanhamm received questions and comments from council members.
- COL (R) Lary thanked Mr. Lanhamm for his remarks to the council members.

10. COL (R) Lary discussed items of Old and Unfinished Business:

- COL (R) Lary stated that the Army Family Action Plan (AFAP) Conference took place in January 2006 and that several active and honorary retiree council members served as delegates. He stated that, in the future, council members should consider volunteering to serve as a delegate because it gives them a chance to be involved with issues concerning Fort Polk. He also stated that he appreciates the council members that did participate.
- SFC (R) Dan Horn gave a financial report and stated that there is presently \$40 in the fund.
- COL (R) Lary received questions and comments from council members.

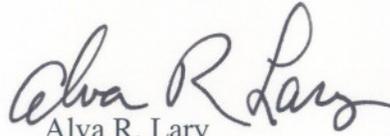
11. COL (R) Lary discussed items of New Business:

- COL (R) Lary discussed changes to the Retiree Council Charter.
- COL (R) Lary discussed changes to the Retiree Council Appointment Order with two new members, COL (R) Harry Montgomery and SFC (R) Henry Kidd.
- COL (R) Lary stated that the SBP Open Season enrollment is taking place at this time and will end on 30 September 2006.
- COL (R) Lary stated that the RAD Golf Tournament will be held on 20 October 2006.
- Ms. Irvin stated that volunteers are needed for the golf tournament.
- COL (R) Lary asked each council member to provide their e-mail address on the sign-in sheet.
- The Chairman asked each council member for input and comments.

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12. The Chairman thanked the guest speakers, active council members, and honorary council members for attending. The meeting was adjourned.



Alva R. Lary

Colonel, AUS (Retired)

Chairman, Fort Polk Retiree Council

DISTRIBUTION:

1 - Each member

1 - Army Retirement Services (DAPE-RSO), ATTN: Mr. Radke, Hoffman Bldg 1, Room 1240, Alexandria, VA 22331-0470

1 - SWRO IMA (SFIM-SW-HR), ATTN: Mr. Randy J. Blackburn, 2450 Stanley Rd, Suite 101, Fort Sam Houston, TX 78234-6102