



# WISCONSIN NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION, INC.

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## MINUTES OF THE WINGA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING Sun Prairie, WI – December 3, 2008

Meeting called to order by President Nehls at 5:45 p.m.

Roll call showed the following:

President Nehls	Present	Director Mike Hanson	Present
Executive Vice President Neumann	Present	Director Hirsch	Excused
Vice President Gault	Present	Director Daniel Hanson	Present
Treasurer Leckel	Excused	Director Alvarez	Excused
Secretary Hastings	Excused	Maj Dykstra ILO Director Ebben	Present
Executive Director Wagner	Present	Director Gray	Excused
LTC Sailer ILO Director Van de Loop	Present	Director Hoistion	Excused
Director Strub	Excused	Director Statz	Present
Lt Cortez ILO Director Kappus	Present	Director Stultz	Present
Director Eastman	Present	Director Schuh	Present
Director Bensed	Present	Director Engeler	Present
Director Quist	Excused	Director Schmitz	Present

Business meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Vice President Neumann.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The August 13, 2008 Board of Director meeting minutes were approved on a motion by Director Mike Hanson and second by Director Dykstra. The October 3, 2008 Executive Committee meeting minutes were approved on an motion by Executive Vice President Neumann and second by Vice President Gault.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Executive Director Wagner presented the Treasurer's Report, addressing those line items which have exceeded the budget and have not previously been addressed to the Board of Directors. Line 206 President's Expenses – Exceeds budget by \$245, Exceeded budget due to extension of the Zenith trip due to weather delay and because WINGA had expenses at the state conference for an incoming and outgoing President. Line 211 Promotional Items – Exceeded budget by nearly \$598. This expense exceeds budget due to having our conference pins made through US vendors rather than through overseas vendors. Also includes the cost of Packer items purchased for silent auctions. Line 214 Telephone Charges – Slightly exceeds the budget by \$2.44, which was caused by increased roaming charges to cell phone due to NGAUS Conference bid. Line 222 Office Supplies – Exceeded budget by \$9.66 largely due to the yearend creation of new Director Binders. Line 227 Executive Director's Expenses – Exceeds Budget by \$1,841, due in part to extension of the Zenith trip due to weather delay and expenses relating to Wisconsin's bid for the 2011 NGAUS Annual Conference. Line 232 Utilities – Exceeded budget by \$253 due to increased heating and cooling costs. President Nehls noted that expenses related to the NGAUS Conference bid are being tracked and once a conference account is established these funds will be reimbursed to WINGA. The Treasurer's report was approved on a motion by Director Bensed and second by Director Sailer.

**PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS:** Deployed Officer Dues - President Nehls asked Director Bensed to identify stay behind officers to represent the 32d Infantry Brigade Combat Team during their upcoming deployment. Director Bensed identified LTC Mike Murphy as one of those individuals. President Nehls clarified that the 32d should collect dues for 2009 before their deployment and WINGA will be paying for their 2010 dues. On a motion by Director Engeler and Vice President Gault the Board of Directors voted to pay the 2009 dues for officers deployed outside the United States, for one year or more, in support of the war effort. Insurance Program 2009 Budget – Director Stultz presented the Insurance Trust budget to the board identifying a slight increase of \$1,150 over the 2008 budget to account for inflation. Employees will receive a salary increase but that increase, as in the past four years, will be offset by a reduction in hours worked to stay within the budget. On a motion by Director Stultz and second by Director Schuh the Insurance Program budget was approved. Insurance Administrator Position – Four very highly qualified individuals have applied for the position. President Nehls along with Executive Director Wagner and Insurance Committee Chair Mat Dew will be getting together to determine the interview process and hopefully have someone on board in early 2009. Director Bensed acknowledged Stuart Stultz for his high visibility to the soldiers and the service he has provided to them. The board responded with a round of applause. WINGA 2009 Budget – Executive Director Wagner began the budget presentation by explaining that this budget was a refinement of the budgets presented to the board over the past five years. Each year we try to refine the budget line items based upon historical data and known requirements of the upcoming year. Only the budget changes for 2009 will be addressed:

<b>Expense Item</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Line 204 – NGEDA (NG Exec Dir Assoc)	(\$500)	Reduce costs associated with travel to Nashville and most of Executive Director Wagner's expenses should be paid by NGEDA
Line 205B – NGAUS Hospitality	(\$1,000)	Additional Corporate Sponsors/reduced cost in Nashville
Line 206 – President's Expenses	\$250	To keep pace with increased travel costs
Line 209A – Communicator (Printing)	\$200	Printing costs are rising slightly and we were slightly under funded for 2008
Line 209B – Communicator (Postage)	\$50	Mailing costs have risen in 2008
Line 210 – Printing	(\$50)	Non-election year
Line 213 – WING Retiree Council	(\$325)	Honor on request under Awards, Gifts & Grants
Line 215A – Postage & Stamps	(\$100)	Adjusted to match 2008 level
Line 220A – Meeting Expense	\$400	Increased cost due to changing meeting location
Line 220B – Travel Expense	(\$200)	Closer reflection of 2008 expense
Line 222 – Office Supplies	(\$100)	Reduced requirements
Line 223 – Publications	(\$25)	Reduced requirements
Line 226 – WINGA Awards	\$100	Increased requirements
Line 227 – Executive Director's Expenses	\$500	To keep pace with increased travel costs
Line 230 – Office Equipment/Furniture	(\$200)	Adjusted to closer match 2008 expenses
Line 232D – Web Site Domain Exp.	(\$250)	Renewed yr 1 of 5 yr contract
Line 234 – Elan Merchant Services	\$50	Increased cost associated with credit card services
Line 236 – Committee Expenses	(\$250)	Closer to what actual expenses are
Line 237 – DSL Line	\$650	Closer match actual expense
Line 250 – Awards Gifts & Grants	(\$3,000)	Includes \$2000 Deployed Officers/\$1000 Hall of Honor/\$2500 Witmer Memorial
Line 400A & 400B – Salaries	\$1,289	Reflects a 3% raise consistent with the Insurance plan Personnel Expenses. Amount reflected includes the Executive Director & Executive Assistant.

**Total change in expenses (\$2,511)**

**Revenue Item 2009**

000 – Checkbook balance \$250 Projected yearend balance

001 – WINGA's Share "Other Income" \$45,000 WINGA's share of the split of other income with WNGEA

102 – Dues WINGA Inc \$4,500 Projected annual dues

110 – Miscellaneous Receipts \$10,000 miscellaneous income to WINGA. Rebates, Royalties, Refunds

**Total Income \$59,750 Revenue**

With these changes, the 2009 WINGA Budget projects expenses at \$119,179, a Decrease of \$2,511 from the 2008 budget. With WINGA revenues projected to be \$59,750, a withdrawal of \$59,429 from investments will be required

to support this budget and to meet projected expenses. A motion to accept the budget as presented was made by Vice President Neumann and seconded by Director Bensed. The motion passed.

**AREA V NGAUS UPDATE:** Executive Vice President Neumann briefed the board on the recent NGAUS Board meeting. Maj Gen Tod Bunting (Kansas) Chairman of the Board along with MG Jessica Wright (Pennsylvania) Vice President Army and Maj Gen Cindy Kirkland (Nevada) Vice President Air the bring a new leadership/management team to NGAUS. Look for a change in the resolutions process over the next year as the NGAUS Legislative Team works to define the resolution priorities. President-Elect Obama has established his transition team and has identified a guard liaison for the transition. This is a first as in other transitions only the services had liaisons. The transition team has contacted NGAUS for input regarding the guard's capabilities. General McKinley sporting his fourth star addressed the board. Having the fourth star opens the door for the guard to be heard at the most senior levels of the Department of Defense. NGAUS Corporate Advisory Chair BG (Ret) Squier expressed concern that the exhibitors were not getting the traffic from national conference attendees as they expected. Several ideas were discussed such as having the Governors' Reception in the exhibit hall or hosting the TAG Reception in the hall but without resolution. Finally, the Board of Directors voted to increase the annual NGAUS Conference Registration Fee from \$125 to \$165. This was the first increase since 1997.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS:** Membership - WINGA finished 2008 with the highest NGAUS membership percentage of all the states, 133%. We are now two months onto our 2009 membership campaign and have about 25% of our dues collected. Three units are already at 100%, 2Bn 127 Infantry, 32D Brigade Special Troops Bn and the Combat Readiness Training Center. With the 32D deploying soon, the question has come up if WINGA will be paying the 2009 dues for those soldiers deploying. Our response has been that the member should pay 2009 dues and WINGA would be paying the 2010 dues. NGAUS Awards - Wisconsin again had good number of people recognized by NGAUS. Terry Musser received the Charles Dick Medal of Merit. Mr. Greg Jacobs from Milwaukee received the Patrick Henry Award. Mr. David Simpson received the Meritorious Service Award. 128 ARW's Maj Michael Guch received the Valley Forge Certificate. The only Wisconsin member to receive their award in person was CPT Nicholas Braun who received the Theodore Roosevelt Leadership Award for Company Grade Officers. WINGA Recognition Award - Although the nomination for this award isn't due until March, we have in the past scrambled to take advantage of this tool. The recipient of the award is our guest at the WINGA Conference so it is imperative that we select the recipient at our March director's meeting. The purpose of the award is to recognize a person, group, business or firm who have demonstrated significant support to the Wisconsin National Guard. We ask that you go back to your units and identify candidates for this award. The nomination form can be found on line on our website. Director Terms - The following director terms are due to expire in April 2009. JHHQ Army – MAJ Strub, 64<sup>th</sup> Troop Command – LTC Kappus, 157<sup>th</sup> Maneuver Enhancement Brigade – CPT Hanson, Wisconsin Air Guard – Lt Col Frank Alvarez, and Retiree Director Lt Col Schuh. With the exception of the retiree director the organizations should hold elections to determine their director and notify the WINGA Office of the selection prior to April 15<sup>th</sup>. 131<sup>st</sup> Annual NGAUS Conference - Nashville Tennessee is the site of the 2009 NGAUS Conference September 11 - 13. The conference hotel is the Gaylord Opryland hotel and will house everyone on the property. The hotel has over 2800 sleeping rooms and is close to the Grand Old Opry Theater. Wisconsin drew lottery number 2 for this conference and I have been assured that we will have a 900 sq ft suite for our delegation. Also, there is a military class six store about 15 miles away that is anxious for our business. 59<sup>th</sup> Annual WINGA Conference - Although you haven't heard much there has been some progress made. Director Stultz has made banquet dinner selections. Filet Mignon, Shrimp Scamp, and Chicken Kiev at a cost of \$35 per person. The Holiday Inn has 150 rooms reserved at the State rate of \$62 single and \$72 for a double. Dick Baker and Doug Alfke along with Tim Pfrang and Jim Zerneke are in the planning stages for the IceBreaker. Jerry Eastman has agreed to be the banker for the endeavor. Originally, we planned to start planning meetings in October but other events over shadowed that plan.

**OLD BUSINESS:** NGAUS Conference 2011 – A lot has happened since our August Director's meeting. We have toured many venues in Milwaukee keeping in mind how the venues would fit into a 2011 conference. WINGA hosted a NGAUS screening meeting in Milwaukee in late October and presented along with Visit Milwaukee representatives to the NGAUS Conference Committee mid-November. The NGAUS Board of Directors voted and Wisconsin has the 2011 NGAUS Conference. The dates will be August 27 – 29 with the 26<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> as travel dates. There has been a tremendous amount of building in the downtown Milwaukee area since 1998 that we should not have to duplicate any of the venues from 1998.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Retirements – WINGA should have a retiree column in the Communicator recognizing the retirement of WINGA members. Also, there are retiring members that WINGA should have representation at their retirement parties. **Item open.** WINGA Conference/Professional Development – Integrate professional development into state conference the get more junior officers to the conference in an official status. President Nehls passed out a first pass at adding Junior Leadership to the Conference agenda. President Nehls will send out a copy of the Texas format to the directors for their review and brainstorming. Other events such as a Fun Run or Trap Shoot could be added to draw more members to the conference. **Item Open.** Contributions to the Guard – Vice President Gault inquired if the association's 501c(19) status could be used to receive contributions for various unit family support programs? After lengthy discussion it was determined that it may not be in our best interest to expose the association to the scrutiny that may result without a legal review. Vice President Gault will contact Col Barron and research the legal aspects of the issue and report his findings to the Executive Committee. **Item open.** Ninety Day Pre-Deployment Healthcare Coverage – Director Statz identified that Air Guard member's orders are not cut soon enough for ANG members to utilize this benefit. Executive Vice President Neumann made a motion to reengage the Air Staff of the National Guard Bureau to rectify apparent short comings of the entitlement due to deploying airmen. The motion received a second from Director Statz and was approved.

**NEXT DIRECTOR'S MEETING:** Executive Committee will meet on February 4, 2009, at 10:00 a.m., in Madison WI. The Board of Directors will meet on March 11, 2009 at 5:45 p.m., at the Holiday Inn, Manitowoc, WI.

Motion to adjourn was made by Director Bensed and Second by Executive Vice President Neumann.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.



Ronald R. Wagner  
Executive Director

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1. Treasurer's Report
2. Approved WINGA Budget
3. Conference Layout