

Ohio Federal Military Jobs Commission
Meeting Minutes
11 September 2015
11:00 am – 4:00 pm
AVETEC

Commissioners present at the meeting were: Reno, Campbell (on phone-did not vote), O'Connell, Ryan, Decker, Smith, Glenn
Others in attendance were: Senator Chris Widener, Dennis Andersh, Cassie Barlow, Marty Kress, Brian Dicken, Julie Brigner, Dan Roche, Paul Sullivan, Bob Clouse and Mike Wiehe

Mr. O'Connell called the meeting to order and asked for everyone to review the minutes. Mr. Reno made a motion to approve the minutes from the August meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Decker and subsequently approved by the Commissioners.

Mr. O'Connell opened the meeting to hear visitors questions or comments. There were no comments or questions from visitors

Mr. O'Connell gave the floor to Senator Widener for comments. Senator Widener thanked the Commissioners for their service and for their engagement on a federal military strategy across the State. He told the Commissioners there was a lot of support and anticipation of the Commission work from the Governor's Office, the House and the Senate. He said he is working on potential Legislation to ensure the Public or Private record of the Commission's products. He mentioned that the Commission should continue to work towards the strategy directed in the legislation. He also said that the Commission should draft a joint letter to the Governor, the House and the Senate to ask for reappointment of Commissioners. He requested that the Commissioners ensure they present the report across the State when the report is published. Senator Widener mentioned that this Strategy may be a great opportunity to move the State further forward with Regional Workforce Centers and with Veteran credit for service to their country.

Mr. Reno thanked the Senator for his vision and mentioned that maybe the State of Ohio wants to move to recognize the Community College of the Air Force (and other Services) credits. Mr. Reno also asked the Senator to explain the role of the Commission in the second year (after the final strategy is published). Senator Widener answered that the Commission's role moving forward is to implement the Strategy. He told the Commissioners they should be focused on strategic recommendations and prioritization and not on specific tactical details of projects.

Mr. Decker then asked the Senator about the possibility of money being set aside for federal installation improvements across the State. The Senator answer by saying that any money set aside was for the entire State and not just for one installation.

Ms. Ryan made a statement about the multiple different Commissions/Committees focused on Federal and Military retention efforts. She asked for Senator Widener's leadership to clarify confusion regarding the different efforts.

Mr. O'Connell asked the Senator about the role of the Governor's new Director for Federal Matters, Mr. David Frash. The Senator answered that there were many Federal Matters that required attention, that Mr. Frash was potentially working for the State.

Mr. Campbell asked the Senator if it was possible for the State to offer State scholarships for Veterans. The Senator mentioned the great scholarships available for Guard members and that the Adjutant General was working towards the potential for Masters Degree scholarships.

Mr. Glenn mentioned to the Senator that the Lima Community will continue their efforts to BRAC-proof their facility and that he is happy to be part of the Commission. The Senator stated that the Commission needs to continue to work to connect the best practices around the nation to what we are doing in Ohio.

Mr. Reno mentioned that the State should be in a gain mode vice a defense mode. He mentioned that Ohio's model should adopt the motto, "The Go-TO State". Senator Widener mentioned that the State should work together to gain and that we need the Commissioners advocacy at the State level.

The Commissioners then reviewed the Executive Director Position Description and Mr. Reno mentioned that he would like to change the word "direct" in the document. He said that it was not the Executive Director's role to direct the Commission or the Commissioners.

Mr. Wiehe then briefed the Commissioners on the Small Business Chapter. The Commissioners asked for some more information regarding the JobsOhio regions and the relationship to where the SBDCs and PTACs are located across the State. The Commissioners were also interested in the Federal Funding for these organization in Ohio.

Ms. Ryan asked about the detail that the Commissioners should include in the strategy. Senator Widener mentioned that the Commissioners should be as specific as possible without tying the hands of the implementers.

Mr. Reno mentioned that the Commissioners should be clear on intent with fairly specific criteria and then the implementers can work on the details of the program.

Mr. Glenn mentioned that it would be great if the Commissioners could use a working model as examples in the strategy.

Mr. Sullivan then briefed the Commissioners on progress of the Facilities and Installations Chapter. He stated that they are working towards a common context for all Military Affairs Committees across the State. Mr. Sullivan and his team will deliver a spreadsheet at project completion that will detail the benefit of multiple different improvement projects across the state. Mr. O'Connell suggested that the Chapter 4 team makes suggestions on how to educate our legislators on Ohio strengths and weaknesses. He mentioned that this would be a future role for the Executive Director and the Commissioners. In addition, Mr. O'Connell mentioned that the Commissioners should make recommendations on how to change the BRAC statute. Ms Ryan

mentioned that the Commissioners could look at the value of doing a State-wide RFP for utilities to lower costs across the State.

Mr. Andersh briefed the Commissioners on the Research and Development Chapter. He mentioned that the Center of Excellence initial White Papers were due on 30 September. He mentioned that the purpose of the White Paper review was to ensure that there is a tie to the Federal Centers in the State. The Commissioners wanted to ensure that the Army and Navy labs were not left out of the Federal Research Network. The actions requested by the Chapter 1 team were approved by the Commissioners.

Ms. Barlow then briefed the Commissioners on the Workforce Chapter. The Commissioners asked to understand the amount of money currently spent in the State on Internships. Ms. Barlow will add in the Community College language into this Chapter as well as the language about strengthening the Ohio acceptance/translation of Veterans experiences for college credit.

The Commissioners would like to review in writing all of the Chapters before the next meeting. After the next meeting, they would like to hire a writer to pull together all of the Chapters and finalize a Chapter 5 (final overall strategy). In addition, the Commissioners would like a concise Executive Summary to open the strategy. The Executive Summary will have key points that are mentioned throughout the Strategy (e.g. preserving and growing Federal jobs in Ohio, building small and medium size companies in Ohio, transitioning the State to a Federal contracting model). The Chapter leads will work towards getting the Commissioners their Chapters by 1 October 2015.

Mr. O'Connell asked if there was any new business. Hearing no new business, he asked for a motion to adjourn. Ms. Ryan made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Decker seconded the motion with unanimous agreement by the Commissioners. The meeting was adjourned at 4:00.