



# ARKANSAS NATIONAL GUARD FOUNDATION

Post Office Box 663

North Little Rock, AR 72115-0663

## MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

**SUBJECT:** Minutes of Foundation Board of Directors meeting: 14 January 2021

Officers Present: President, Gary Wynn (Zoom)

Vice President, Russel Betts (Zoom)

NGAA Rep, Paul Jara

NGAA Rep, Adam Warford (Zoom)

NGAA President, Sharetta Glover

NGAA Executive Director, Damon Cluck

EAANG Rep, Brian Mays (Zoom)

Officers Absent: EAANG Rep, Derrick Young

Visitors:

Barbara Scott, NGAA Staff

Jeremy Ables - Priddy, Holifield, & Ables (Zoom)

1. President Wynn called the meeting to order and reviewed the agenda for the meeting

### **Financial Briefing**

2. Jeremy Ables briefed the financial status of the Foundation to the Board

- a. As of Dec 31, 2020, there was approximately \$15,000 in checking and about \$1,278,000 in the accounts with Bass & Bell
- b. \$1,289,158 total net assets
- c. Profit-Loss total YTD starting in July the net income was \$124,000; most of this is from an appreciation of investments with Bass & Bell
  - i. There are normal expenses Investment fees appx \$2,400, Accounting fees appx \$4,500 (includes the audit)
  - ii. Jeremy asked about the items that are currently marked suspense since they were not normal contributions into the accounts, totaling 6700
  - iii. Damon- one check is from 5 Battalion 1-206<sup>th</sup> it is to be restricted for their use only; they needed to have somewhere for their annual dues
  - iv. Damon- the \$3500 was a pass-through check. Survivor Outreach Services received a donation for this amount to buy gift cards. NGAA purchased the cards and ANGF wrote a check to NGAA to reimburse that amount after year end.
- d. Jeremy mentioned that they did not have the Bass & Bell statement for December yet; Gary had it and sent it to Jeremy and Barbara.

- i. Jeremy did the necessary edits to the financial statements with the information from the December Bass & Bell statement and sent the revised PH&A statements to the ANGF Board for review.
- e. The net assets have increased just over \$100,000 since September 30<sup>th</sup> and \$125,000 since the end of last FY 06/30/2020

#### **Old Business**

- 3. Paul made a motion to accept the minutes from the October meeting as presented.
  - a. Damon offered a second. No discussion was had and it passed unanimously.
- 4. Russel provided the Board with an investment committee update
  - a. Gary mentioned that he and Damon have already begun signing paperwork with Hilary at Lighthouse Financial to begin the transfer from Bass & Bell to Lighthouse Financial
  - b. Russel- we are in the process of doing the transfer in kind and will update when the transfer is complete and he and Lighthouse will have more updates when the transfer is completed about the way ahead
- 5. Barbara gave an update on communication and marketing
  - a. The trifold was shown with the newest photos and color layout
    - i. Notes were made about typos to fix
  - b. Barbara showed the website where it currently sits and informed the Board that she and Josh now have weekly phone calls to speed up the progress of the website
  - c. Josh asked if the donation buttons could be reduced instead of the four at the top, be converted into a more user-friendly and better use of space at the top of the site
  - d. Damon mentioned that the AR Community Foundation has modified their website and that is what the Board would like to follow as a model for our website
- 6. Damon discussed the new project of improving participation in the Combined Federal Campaign.
  - a. Several organizations on Camp Robinson participate in CFC each year and they have all had the same trend of steady decline in donations.
  - b. The ANGF proposed to all the other organizations to be the only organization on Camp to file and register with CFC so that more people donate in one place and then the ANGF will take those donations and divide them between the partner organizations that are no longer having to pay the admin/registration fees each year.
    - i. The organizations will advertise that people need to select ANGF to donate
    - ii. ANGF may need to draft MOUs for those organizations
- 7. Gary asked about the scholarship year and how it is progressing
  - a. At the time of the meeting the application period was still open; since the application closed, the total of applications for the year is 109. This is similar to the number of applications in the last 3 years.
  - b. The committee chaired by Maj Jason Kulaga and CPT Dalton Shannon are working on their plans to meet and grade scholarship packets
  - c. There will still be 50 \$750 scholarships per ANGF Board

#### **New Business**

- 8. Damon presented an idea for a new event partnering with ANGAA and the ARNG Museum
  - a. Each year both of those organizations hold fundraising events, ANGAA in December and the Museum in Jan/Feb.

- b. The idea is to combine those events and partner with ANGF to hold a bigger fundraising event in December for the National Guard Birthday Celebration
    - i. Possibly at the Governor's Mansion (connection through Mrs. Crimmins ANGAA member) if unavailable the Junior League of Little Rock (connection through Barbara)
    - ii. The event would be like a formal dining out with a charity auction
  - c. Damon's asked that before we officially present this idea to the other organizations was to gauge the level of interest of the ANGF board.
    - i. The goal is to raise as much as both organizations usually bring in separately, combined
    - ii. With coordination from NGAA staff and possibly bringing in some of their corporate partners to sponsor tables
9. Damon- MG Penn got legislation passed to move the Arkansas Reserve Component Emergency Relief Fund to the Foundation
- a. This enables the Department of the Military to give the Foundation a grant of a third of the funds that were sitting in an account
  - b. Damon will begin the work to transfer this grant to the Foundation to manage
  - c. Russel asked if all the money will go out in a year
    - i. Pre-Covid, the Dept of the Military was only giving out \$5,000-\$6,000 per year
  - d. The goal is to show what can be done with the first grant after 2-3 years to grow it and then go back to the Legislature to transfer the rest of the fund for ANGF to manage
  - e. There needs to be planning to decide the percentage that needs to be kept on hand in cash so that grants can be available to Guardsmen in need but the rest can be kept in a long-term investment to help grow the fund. The goal would be to grow it to the point that what they spend each year is just the annual income from the long-term investment.
    - i. Russel mentioned that it will be possible for the new investment advisors to do sub-accounts for funds. Typically, government grants have their own investment protocols but the new advisors will build the portfolio as needed.
  - f. Paul asked if the beneficiaries of these grants are in line with what the Foundation already does or if it will be creating a new line of effort for the Foundation.
    - i. Damon- we created an endowment for the funds previously we just haven't received them yet
    - ii. This aligns with our general charitable contributions
  - g. Gary asked if the responsibility of deciding who grant recipients would be is going to fall to the ANGF or not.
    - i. Damon said that the Dept of the Military may be considering that but that it would be the NGAA staff following the processes already in place while still having Guardsmen involved in the decisions.
10. Gary asked if there were any other alibis or new discussions.
11. The next meeting will be **April 8, 2021**.
12. Damon made a motion to adjourn and Paul offered a second. There was no further discussion and the meeting adjourned.