



NMRC MINUTES

9 July 2025

To: NMRC Members

The Nebraska Military Retiree Council met at 0900, 9 July 2025. The meeting was called to order by President Bill Nelson.

Officers Present: Bill Nelson, Dick Burch, Bryan Tlamka, Deb Tankesley; Members at Large: Joe Garcia, Merlyn Schuster, Dave Petersen, John Bailey, and Peggy Brown

Absent: Randy Frazier

Guests: CMSgt Tontegode, Jeff Horne, SFC Olsen and Jolie Vega

Secretary's Report: The minutes of the previous meeting were mailed/emailed to members. A motion to accept the minutes was made and seconded, the motion was approved.

Membership: As of 9 July 2025, the NMRC had 570 members.

Treasurer's Report: A quarterly report was presented. Current balance in checking is \$14268.97. Expenses were for the Annual Social, St Lo Run, memorials and supplies. A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made and seconded; the motion was approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

Bill and John discussed the NMRC Social held on 14 June 2025. Maj Gen (Ret) Bohac gave an informative presentation of the Nebraska State Historical Society locations and significance. Due to low attendance, options for next year will be discussed in January.

Dave supported the St Lo Run with water and fruit in the rain.

Discussion on a budget will be further discussed by Bill, Bryan and Deb. For the last 5 years the average yearly income from dues was \$2697, annual printing, supplies, P.O. Box and Corporate Registration has been under \$400, annual average donations has been \$500, memorials for \$50 and supporting events such as the Annual Social, Retiree Day and St. Lo have varying expenses.

NEW BUSINESS:

Dick discussed the transition of the Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army (CASA) Program and the release of all CASA volunteers effective 27 June 2025.

Jolie Vega gave a presentation on the program At Ease. New to Lincoln with existing locations in Omaha and North Platte. They have 50 employees across the State. Available to current military members, veterans, spouses, dependents, and those who care/support. They cover peer support, working with treatment courts, health and wellness programs and mental health. No limitation of services provided. Works with VA to provide needed services. Fee schedule according to income.

SFC Olsen and Cara Loken are coordinating the Retiree Appreciation Day (RAD) 0800hrs, 10 August 2025 at the Spirit of 76 Armory, Lincoln NE. A flyer will be coming soon. Plans are for 25 vendors and presentations. A motion was made to support the RAD with coffee and rolls and seconded; the motion was approved.

Dick and SFC Leah stated there is no State Tricare Rep available and do not foresee one in the future. Dick has been assisting with TriWest issues.

CMSgt Tontegode discussed the ANG is on track to have a record year for recruiting. The Wing held a robust Combat Readiness Exercise in June. This exercise was conducted simultaneously at two locations, preparing Airmen to operate in smaller teams at dispersed sites. The training environment now emphasizes realism, with significantly fewer simulations than previous exercises. It is designed to replicate the pressures and stressors of real-world operations to include drone threats. The Civil Engineers (CE) participated in training in South Dakota. Airmen from Force Support Squadron (FSS) and Security Forces Squadron (SFS) traveled to Elmendorf AFB, Alaska for training. This year Nebraska Soldiers and Airmen supported wildfire fighting efforts and recently was placed on standby by for potential civil disturbance response. A "Showcase Day" was held in July. The event hosted more than 30 leaders from local and state government agencies and educational institutions. The focus was on highlighting the Military Department's wide range of capabilities. The NNG continues to build strong relationships through the State Partnership Program. Current partners include the Czech Republic, Rwanda and Tanzania. In June, the NENG hosted a visit with leaders of the Tanzania Defense Force. The Community Partnership continues to thrive. Recent visits were to Plattsmouth and North Platte. Future planned partners include Columbus, Scottsbluff, Norfolk, Lexington, and Sidney. The major runway reconstruction project is on track of rebuilding the airports nearly 13,000-foot runway. This is significant for the NEANG due to the current refueling mission. The 155th ARW is still scheduled to receive a KC-135 simulator and new facility to house it, with construction expected to begin next year. A new ARNG Readiness Center was opened in Bellevue. There was a ground-breaking ceremony for an addition to the armory in Wahoo, and a new barracks opened in Mead. Two Nebraska soldiers are competing in the National Best Warrior Competition this month. The ANG Retiree Breakfast held in April was well attended. The TRICARE contract transition continues to pose challenges for some.

No further business was discussed.

Meeting adjourned at 1030, 9 July 2025

OTHER COMMENTS: Questions, comments or need assistance let us know.

NMRC Meetings: 8 October 2025, 0900 at the East Campus Readiness Center, Room 206. All are welcome to attend meetings held quarterly on the second Wednesday of January, April, July, and October at the East Campus Readiness Center. NMRC Dues are \$5.00/year or NMRC Life Membership with no dues for 85+

Upcoming activities:

First Monday each month, 0700, ARNG Retirees, Virginia's Café, Lincoln

Last Monday each month, 0700, ANG Retirees, Stauffer's Café, Lincoln

Second Saturday each month, 0800, North Platte area Retirees, Merricks Ranch House Diner on E 4th.

Third Wednesday each month, 1100, Patty's Pub, Lincoln

Quarterly, TBA, Kearney area Retirees Breakfast

12 Jul: Dedication Ceremony of NE Veterans Cemetery, Grand Island, NE

28 Jul: EANGUS Golf Tournament, Ashland NE

10 Aug: Retiree Appreciation Day (RAD), Lincoln NE

14-17 Aug: Vietnam Veterans Reunion, Kearney, NE

5 Sep: American Legion Post #52 Golf Tournament, Kearney NE

26-27 Sep: Veterans Dental Clinic, Yutan NE

26 Sep: Air Force Assn Golf Fundraiser, Lincoln NE

19-21 Sep: 4th Annual Nebraska Women Veterans Symposium, Kearney NE

Retirement: ARNG: SFC Leah Olsen, (402) 309-8162, leah.m.olsen2.mil@army.mil

ANG: <https://www.arpc.afrc.af.mil/retirement/> or Total Force Service Center 800-525-0102

<https://www.retirees.af.mil/>

NMRC Email: nmrc90@gmail.com Website: www.neguard.org/retirement_council/

Mailing address: NMRC, P.O. Box 5765, Lincoln NE 68505-5765.

Physical office: East Campus Readiness Center, 2000 N. 33rd Street, Lincoln.