

**MILITARY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**22 MARCH 2010 ✂ 1500-1630**  
**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE ROOM**

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**Present:** Councilwoman Rita Sweet Bellitto, VADM Ed Clexton, Adalberto M. Diaz, VADM Joseph S. Donnell, RADM Richard Dunleavy, RADM Mark Gemmill, Don Jellig, RADM Bud Jewitt, RADM Phillip R. Olson, RADM Fenton Priest, Mayor William D. Sessoms, Jr., CAPT Robert Rieve, RADM Fred Ruche, Councilman John Uhrin, Dr. Roger Whiteway Ph. D

**Staff:** Sali Gear, Scott Hall, Warren Harris, Steve Herbert, Cynthia Spanoulis, Jerry Stewart

**Guests:** Jim Carroll, John Panneton, Ralph Ricardo, Lance Bankhead, CAPT Frank Roberts, CAPT Charles Stuppard

**Absent:** RADM William J. Ecker, Joseph Gianascoli, Vice-Mayor Louis Jones, Jerry Miller, Paul Pierce, Daniel R. Walters

**MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

Mayor Sessoms thanked all the MEDAC members for their service to our city and the region. He reemphasized his commitment to support the Navy's OLF initiatives. He also thanked CAPT Crow for his service and leadership as Commanding Officer of Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek-Fort Story (JEBLCFS) and to our country.

RADM Dunleavy thanked CAPT Crow for working with all the retired Admirals and allowing his staff to work with MEDAC members. Steve Herbert thanked CAPT Crow on behalf of the City of Virginia Beach.

**APPROVAL OF 22 FEBRUARY NOTES**

Approved as written.

**INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS**

RADM Dunleavy welcomed Councilwoman Rita Sweet Bellitto as MEDAC's newest member (replacing Ron Villanueva), Lance Bankhead, and CAPT Charles Stuppard (JEBLCFS)

CAPT Crow introduced CAPT Charles Stuppard, who will be relieving him as Commanding Officer of JEBLCFS on 26 March. CAPT Stuppard provided a brief background of his career.

## **HRMFFA- Frank Roberts**

Mayport issue is now a legislative battle. Congressman Nye's Military Commission has met and sent correspondence to the Secretary of the Navy and the Chief of Naval Operations citing concerns and asking questions.

## **Out Landing Field (OLF)**

- 18 March ADM Harvey went to North East North Carolina to meet privately with business and community leaders. His goal was to obtain information to engage SECNAV as to how to proceed with OLF.
- The EIS will be released late spring – approximately one year behind schedule.

## **Robotics Technology Outreach Center**

- Camp Pendleton facility being offered by Virginia National Guard for robotics training; can tie to Regional Technology Cluster.
- HRMFFA hosted a very successful a 2-day workshop on regional technology cluster initiative focused on port and harbor security.

## **Offshore Drilling**

- The HRMFFA Board is going to have to address offshore drilling and wind farms in the context of the HRMFFA mission.

## **2010 Autonomous Surface Vehicle Competition**

- Moving forward with plans for the 2010 Autonomous Surface Vehicle Competition at Founder's Inn 10-13 June. First planning meeting with Economic Development staff is schedule for April.

## **BRAC (Bob Matthias)**

- There is \$7.5M in the 2011 state budget for purchasing land but it's the last year.
- Virginia Beach has stopped any further encroachment around Oceana and we are addressing current encroachments.

## **CITY UPDATE – Sali Gear**

### **Navy Expeditionary Combat Command (NECC)**

- Sali provided a handout summarizing the NECC (see attached handout for more detail).
- Sali has a meeting to discuss Burton Station with ADM Pottenger 23 March.
- She will attend ADM Pottenger's Change of Command 9 April.

Sali will attend the 11-13 May 2010 Joint Warfighting Conference at the VBCC.

March is Month of the Military Child – Sali is working with the City and Schools on different events and programs.

## **ED UPDATES - Scott Hall/Warren Harris**

### **The Honor Bridge (Ralph Ricardo)**

Councilman Uhrin introduced Ralph Ricardo, President of the Honor Bridge. Mr. Ricardo provided a briefing of the services his company provides as a military placement company (see the attached briefing for more detail). Summary of services:

- Third party, contingency, military placement company specializing in candidate location preference.
- Place former and transitioning military with private companies across the U.S.
- Primarily manufacturing/other industrial, not defense
  - ❖ Paid by the hiring company if and when they hire
  - ❖ All our services are free to the job seeker

Members of the Committee stated this would be good information to add to the <http://vbmilcom.com> Website. Mr. Ricardo offered to provide a link that converts military jobs to their appropriate civilian equivalent. He will send the link to Jerry Stewart to be posted to the Website.

### **Hampton Roads Small Business Develop Center Grant Update – Jim Carroll**

Jim Carroll of the Hampton Roads Small Business Development Center (SBDC) provided a briefing of their assistance services (see the attached briefing for more detail) Summary of services:

- SBDC of Hampton Roads is a non-profit organization, and part of a statewide small business development network directed by George Mason University. It is hosted locally by the Hampton Roads Chamber of Commerce and supported by TNCC, TCC, the Virginia Peninsula Chamber of Commerce, and the Retail Alliance.
- Serves the Hampton Roads MSA and Eastern Shore
- Staffed offices in Williamsburg, Hampton, Norfolk, and Melfa
- Satellite offices in Chesapeake, Franklin, Portsmouth, Smithfield, and Suffolk
- Work closely with local Economic Development Departments

The state SBDC network has established a Website to support small veteran-owned business owners: [www.vetbizresourcecenter.com](http://www.vetbizresourcecenter.com). Scott noted that Economic Development is working with Jim to explore ways to link the two Websites.

Al Diaz encouraged SBDC to participate in the upcoming Joint Warfighting conference at the Virginia Beach Conventions Center (11-13 May).

### **2010 Joint Warfighting Conference - Scott Hall**

2010 Joint Warfighting conference will be held 11-13 May at the Virginia Beach Convention Center (VBCC). Scott provided registration forms and can assist MEDAC members with registration. The three lunch sessions are not included in the conference registration and there is a cost of \$55 per person. If you'd like to attend one of the lunch sessions, contact Scott at 385-6464. A pre-conference reception will also be hosted by the Committee and Department on 10 May 1730-1930 at the Hilton Skybar. Economic Development will be coordinating invitations to the pre-conference reception.

### **UK Marketing Mission Report Out – Scott Hall**

Scott recently participated in a marketing mission to the UK, as part of a regional team. The focus was on defense, aerospace, and technology companies. While federal ITAR regulations are still seen as an impediment by UJK companies, they are becoming more

familiar with how ITAR works, and how they can best position their companies to still do business in the US. Scott attended a defense technology expo while in the UK including presentations by Boeing, Lockheed Martin, Thales, and AgustaWestland. All four companies are placing increase importance on working with smaller companies, both in the UK and US. All anticipate significant growth in the unmanned vehicles markets, as well as alternative energy.

### **E-Mail Blast**

The Department of Economic Development continues to promote the exiting military as a workforce development resource to company prospects. In March, an e-mail blast featuring CONCOA, an existing Virginia Beach manufacturing company went out to more than 4,000 Economic Development prospects. The e-mail linked to a short video featuring Sande Dukas, the President of CONCOA. In the video, Mr. Dukas describes his company's success; due in part to the former military men and women he hires.

### **Major East Coast Base Supporting Overseas Contingency Ops - Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek-Fort Story - CAPT Crow**

CAPT Crow provided a overview regarding the support for overseas contingency ops (for more detail please see attached briefing). Summary:

- Joint Basing Status
  - ❖ Positive feedback from leadership (Army and Navy)
  - ❖ Positive feedback from City Officials (Key to City of Virginia Beach)
  - ❖ Garnered positive media coverage
- Moving forward
  - ❖ Continue to integrate team
  - ❖ Identify all locations for signage for JEB East and West
- Gate sign install began January 2010 (Gates 1, 3, 5 West; and 6 & 8 East pending)
  - ❖ Continue to educate resident commands and local community
  - ❖ Address change effective 27 February 10
- Short and Long Term Goals
  - ❖ Short Term -- Enhance effectiveness
  - ❖ Long Term -- Increase efficiency
- Major East Coast Base Supporting OCO
  - ❖ 139 Resident Commands
- Includes 14 Flag Officers (2 Civilian SES)
  - ❖ 58 Piers, 3,947 Acres, 7.6 Miles Beachfront
  - ❖ 18 Navy and Auxiliary ships
  - ❖ 126 Small Craft (LCAC/LCU/MPFU/NSWG/RHIBS/RIVRON)
  - ❖ 1,155 Base Housing Units
- Renovation/upgrades ongoing
- 337 units inside fence line
- Diverse in nature, JEBLCFS will be "Effective and Efficient"
  - ❖ Best "bang for the buck" for the taxpayer
- Constant reshaping to meet ongoing needs for OCO
- The base is a valued "National Joint Training Asset"
  - ❖ Joint Logistics Over The Shore movements
  - ❖ Full mission profile special operations training

**SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES**

Regent University Study Update – Paul Pearce

Jerry and Paul met with Regent and there will be more to report at a future MEDAC meeting. The Regent University report will be presented to the Development Authority within the next couple of months.

**NETWARCOM Update** – Scott Hall/RADM Phil Olson

Nothing new to report

**NEXCOM Update** – Sali Gear

ADM Ramano is on worldwide travel and the next meeting availability will not be until early June. Sali will follow up with Ramano's office to reschedule.

**RFP Nye Commission** – Dr. Roger Whiteway

There was a meeting three weeks ago. From that meeting came a letter from the Nye Commission to the Secretary of the Navy outlining our concerns. Congressman Nye did direct that the Commission stay focused on the carrier and not LCS at this time.

The meeting was adjourned at 1650