



## **WARRANT OFFICER HISTORICAL FOUNDATION**

c/o Bay Life Consulting Group

4176 Vivian St, P. O. Box 438

Chincoteague, Virginia 23336-0438

A Non-Profit 501 (c) (3) Public Charity

**Preserving U.S. Army Warrant Officer History™**

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS (BOD) CONFERENCE CALL FEBRUARY 28, 2018**

**Called to order:** at 2:02 p.m. by Chairman Markle.

**Quorum:** the teleconference was validated by attendance of the following:

Richard C. Markle, CW5, USA Ret, Chairman of the Board  
Gary R. Nisker, CW5, USA Ret, Vice Chairman of the Board  
David P. Welsh, CW5, USA Ret, President, Director and Founder  
Donald W. (Woody) Woodruff, CW5, USA Ret, Treasurer and Director  
Thomas A. Piatti, CW5, USA Ret, Secretary and Director  
Franklin D. Meeks, CW5, USA Ret, Director  
Albert G. Curving, CW5, USA Ret, Director

Directors CW5 David A. Ratliff and CW2 Ben F. Gottfried were absent

#### **Secretary's Report:**

Chairman Markle called for a vote to approve the March 7, 2016, meeting minutes that were provided via email to the Board. Motion to approve was made by Treasurer Woodruff, seconded by Vice Chairman Nisker and approved by the BOD.

Secretary Piatti provided a read-ahead of the electronic motions and voting results during the period March 2016 to February 2018. Those motions and voting results are restated for record below:

Motion by President Welsh on June 6, 2016, that the Warrant Officer Historical Foundation make a Founding Member Donation of \$1,000 to the National Museum of the U.S. Army (NMUSA) Fund to help meet the 2016 Goal, seconded by Director Curving and approved by the BOD.

Motion by Treasurer Woodruff on May 2, 2017, that the WOHF provide an initial 2017 donation of \$1,000 to the Casemate Museum Director for the Casemate Museum Foundation, followed by a capstone 2018 donation of \$5,000 for presentation at the dedication ceremony. The motion was seconded by Secretary Piatti. After discussion, Treasurer Woodruff moved to amend his motion to remove the \$5,000.00 capstone 2018 donation of \$5,000.00 for presentation at the dedication ceremony. The amended motion was seconded by Secretary Piatti. The motion was approved by a BOD super majority with Vice Chairman Nisker abstaining.

**Treasurer's Report:** Chairman Markle called for a vote to approve the Treasurer's report submitted via email to the BOD. After discussion, Director Curving motioned to approve the Treasurers report, subject to audit, seconded by President Welsh and approved by the BOD.

### **Unfinished Business:**

- USAWOA-WOHF Joint WO Centennial Memorial at the NMUSA – although sufficient funds have been obtained to acquire a Joint Memorial, due to the slow pace of funding that delayed NMUSA planning and construction, we do not have Memorial Garden design criteria such as footprint, size and shape. Also, we do not have an agreement with the NMUSA to accept and display a memorial. We will continue to monitor NMUSA construction and design progress and work with our contacts.

- Centennial History Book – As this time, Xilbris is the “best value” publisher. However, there is no progress on content due to the loss of quality photographs during Hurricane Sandy and the loss of Don Hess our Historian. At his meeting, the WOHF decided to change its approach on the History Book. The Book will become a compilation of world-wide WO 100th year anniversary celebration events. We will begin a public relations campaign to inform the WO Community to provide articles and photographs of Installation and Chapter celebratory events.

- Casement Museum Update – Support to conduct a centennial celebration at the Casement Museum has evaporated. In fact, the CG, Fort Eustis, VA, has directed an event be held at Fort Eustis and not Fort Monroe. However, Treasurer Woodruff continues his coordination with the Casement Museum for the placement of the Memorial Bench on their grounds. Pocomoke Monument acquired and is holding the materials for the bench and will engrave and place the bench at WOHF direction. We hope to have this completed by June 2018.

- Corporate Vice President Vacancy – it was agreed that this position would be filled after the internment of the late USAWOA Founder and Historian Emeritus Don Hess. To date, internment has not been scheduled.

### **New Business:**

- WOHF Website – the original website was designed in HTML format. Many documents have degraded over time, new content has not been added and the search function is lacking. President Welsh motioned to approve funds not to exceed \$1,800.00 to approach Go Daddy (host) to rebuild the website and to convert documents to PDF. The motion was seconded by Director Woodruff and approved by the BOD.

- Large Paver Bricks – in an email, Director Gottfried recommended the purchase of a large NMUSA paver brick and the idea was endorsed by Director Meeks. President Welsh designed and provided the following inscription to the BOD: U.S. ARMY WARRANT OFFICER, 'TECHNICAL EXPERT, COMBAT LEADER, TRAINER & ADVISOR", CENTENNIAL, 9 JULY 1918 – 9 JULY 2018. After discussion, President Welsh motioned to approve funds not to exceed \$2,000.00 to purchase four (4) 8"x8" paver bricks, seconded by Treasurer Woodruff and approved by the BOD. Two bricks will be placed at the front walk to the NMUSA entrance and two at the walk to outside exhibits and the parade field.

- WOHF Name Tags – Treasurer Woodruff moved to approve funds not to exceed \$200.00 to purchase names tags for Foundation officials, seconded by Director Curving and approved by the BOD. Director Curving will have action on this.

- WOHF Recurring Meetings – as we near the 100th Anniversary, it was agreed that we schedule monthly teleconferences at 2 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month.

- Let Go Painting – lithograph number 100, which is framed and in the possession of Chairman Markle, will eventually be donated to the Casement Museum for display. The original painting is believed to be at the Don Stivers Studio. We will ask the Don Stivers Studio of the possibility of a purchase or a donation to the WOHF, with the intent of a further donation to the Center of Military History which only accepts original paintings for their archives. The ultimate goal is to get this time-period painting on display at the NMUSA.

- Indian “Chief” Motorcycle Fund Raiser – Director Curving explored the acquisition of a customized Indian motorcycle with sidecar and tow-behind trailer for fund raising. Upfront costs are approximately \$30-33K, which would be funded out of the WOHF treasury. Individual ticket sales of \$50.00 or greater could result in substantial funds being raised. There was discussion concerning the target market for a motorcycle, the effect of poor ticket sales and State of Virginia legal ramifications. The WOHF has never held a fund raising event and it is actually illegal for us to solicit donations. Further discussion was pushed to March 2018, pending Treasurer Woodruff’s contact with the Virginia State Corporation Commission as to the legal aspects of fund raising.

**Session Recessed:** A motion to adjourn and remain in session by electronic means was made by Director Meeks, seconded by President Welsh and approved by the BOD. Next teleconference is at 2 p.m. on March 15, 2018. Meeting concluded at 3:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

Thomas Piatti  
CW5, AG, USA Retired  
Secretary

Richard C. Markle  
CW5, AG, USA Retired  
Chairman of the Board

These minutes were approved at the March 15, 2018, BOD meeting.