

**ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERSHIP
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2019 (0900 HRS.)
CHAIRMAN'S SCRIPT**

ADM DORAN: Ladies and gentlemen, good afternoon.
On behalf of the Board of Directors and the staff, I
welcome you to the 2019 Annual Meeting of the
Membership of the Military Officers Association of
America.

I now call the meeting to order, and ask that you stand
with me while our National Chaplain gives the Invocation.
Please remain standing for the Pledge of Allegiance.
Chaplain Certain?

COL CERTAIN: **[Offers Invocation]**
 [Leads Pledge]

Thank you, Chaplain Certain.

ADM DORAN: The purposes of this annual meeting are for the leadership of our association to report to you, our members, and also to give you a chance to speak with your elected representatives on the board. We want to tell you about the past year, and also to listen to your concerns and interests. After all, this is your association, and we want to be responsive to you.

Members of your board of directors are present today. They're scattered through the room, and are wearing their board nametags.

Would our 36 board members please stand. When you see them later today, please introduce yourselves, and don't hesitate to let them know how your association can better serve its members. We also have several former board members joining us and ask them to please stand as well to be recognized.

[Former board members registered to attend the annual meeting are:]

- **COL Joseph A. Simonelli, Jr., USA (Ret) Class of 2012**
- **RADM Joyce Johnson-Calderwood, USPHS (Ret) Class of 2014**
- **Col Nancy Anderson, USMC (Ret) Class of 2014**
- **COL Mike Rogers, USA (Ret) Class of 2018**

At the podium with me are our corporate officers: Lt Gen Dana Atkins, MOAA's President and CEO; Col Jim O'Brien, MOAA's Chief Operating Officer; Maj Gen Joe Lynch, our General Counsel & Corporate Secretary; and Ms. Regina Chavis, our Chief Financial Officer. They are joined by Col Dan Merry, Vice President for Government Relations. We will hear from General Atkins and General Lynch in a few minutes. Colonel O'Brien, Ms. Chavis, and Colonel Merry are here to respond to any specific questions you have about MOAA and its programs.

Now, on to the agenda.

MOAA is a Virginia corporation, and I now call on the Association's Secretary and General Counsel, Maj Gen Joe Lynch, to confirm that he has kept us in compliance with Virginia law regarding this meeting. Gen Lynch?

MAJ GEN LYNCH: Mr. Chairman, as required by Virginia law, we sent printed copies of the notice of the 2019 MOAA Annual Meeting – in *Military Officer* magazine to those members who receive the magazine, and by separate letter to those few who do not – to the last known place of residence of each and every voting member of the association. This substantially complies with the notice requirements of the Virginia Non-Stock Corporation Act and MOAA's bylaws.

ADM DORAN: Thank you, General Lynch. With those legal matters out of the way, I hereby declare that this

Annual Meeting of the Membership of MOAA is legally constituted.

I also note for the record that the minutes of last year's annual meeting – held in Phoenix, Arizona – were approved by the board of directors on April 9th of this year.

It is now both my responsibility, and my pleasure, to report to you on the state of our association.

[The Chairman reports.]

[The following remarks are suggested]

ADM DORAN: I am pleased to report that MOAA continues to be the preeminent military advocacy group in the country.

- *For the TWELFTH consecutive year, MOAA was recognized by the The Hill newspaper as one of the top 50 lobbying***

organizations in the country and the only veteran or military organization recognized.

- *MOAA has continued its service to the military and veteran communities. Our transition programs continue to help separating and retiring military personnel find quality civilian jobs and assists military spouses with symposiums and job fairs. Our staff of financial and benefits experts continues to assist our members and their families in a wide range of compensation, benefits, and entitlements issues.*
- *To give you an example of the types of programs we provide to the military community, MOAA has continued to provide leadership on the issues of military spouse employment. We have also focused attention on important family issues unique to our National Guard and Reserve communities.*
- *We have been able to maintain a robust membership base with over 350,000 members, including nearly 90,000 currently serving officers. MOAA has more officer members than all other military associations combined.*
- *Our government relations staff continues to take the lead in protecting the earned benefits of our members and the*

military community. Last year, we were successful in persuading Congress to support a 2.6% active duty pay increase in line with the annual employment cost index (ECI), block a drastic reduction in BAH benefits to service members married to one another, hold the line on added fees to TRICARE, and generated a record level of support for repealing the “Widows’ Tax.” I can assure you we are actively engaged on these issues again this year. We improved support for repeal of the “Widows’ Tax this year, obtaining a record 379 co-sponsors in the House and 76 co-sponsors in the Senate.

- *The MOAA Foundation expanded its Community Outreach Grant program for Councils and Chapters awarding 22 grants, totaling \$79,000.*
- *While all of this was going on around them, our staff completed a long-overdue, 18 month renovation of the MOAA Headquarters Building. We are going to have the ribbon cutting ceremony and tour later this morning and all of you are invited to join us.*

This has been a challenging year, but we are committed to working to maintain a strong national defense, protect the earned benefits of our members, and assure a good quality of life for our military members and their families.

General Atkins will cover these and other areas in more detail in his remarks, but I am very pleased and proud of what MOAA has accomplished on behalf of our members and our country.

In closing, I offer heartfelt thanks to many people – to my board colleagues, and in particular, our vice chairmen, Lt Gen Ed Hanlon, COL Frank Snyder, and RADM Clare Helminiak. They, and all the members of this board, have contributed extensive time, energy, and great talent, and it shows.

To our MOAA President, and to each member of MOAA's superb headquarters staff, I thank you for demonstrating, each and every day, why you are regarded as – there's no

other way to say it – the best in the business. We are fortunate to have each and every one of you.

And most importantly, I thank each and every MOAA member for the work you do, as individuals and through our system of councils and chapters. You make it possible for our association to serve the entire military community, and it is a true privilege to work for each of you.

We will now hear from our president, Lt Gen Dana Atkins.

[Lt Gen Atkins provides his report]

ADM DORAN: We're now ready to open the floor to new business. If you have anything that you'd like to bring to the attention of the board, or any question you'd like to ask of the board or staff, please make yourself known to one of our staff members holding a microphone. When you begin, please tell us your name.

[Point out microphone bearers]

Now, would anyone like to ask questions of the board or staff?

[Questions from the floor.]

Ladies and gentlemen, we have now completed the agenda for our annual meeting, and I hope it has provided useful information to each of you.

Thank you for attending our annual meeting. We are adjourned.

I invite you all to join us for the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, Open House and Tour of MOAA's newly renovated headquarters building. The shuttle is out in front of the hotel to take guests to 201 N. Washington St. and will return to the Holiday Inn beginning at 11:45 a.m.