

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Fort Sill Retiree Council Minutes, 5 January 2023

1. Under provisions of AR 600-8-7 (Retirement Services Program), a meeting of the Fort Sill Retiree Council was held on 5 January 2023 in building 4700.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT. (13)

LTC (Ret) Allen Shell, Co-Chairman (Officer)
SGM (Ret) Ed Mounts, Co-Chairman (Enlisted)
SGM (Ret) Mary Fuller, Secretary
LTC (Ret) Rich Amadon
LTC (Ret) Rhonda Williams
CSM (Ret) Jenny Clement-Shaw
SGM (Ret) H.E. McClure
1SG (Ret) Stanley Schofield
1SG (Ret) Matthew Sims
MSG (Ret) Kimberly Wendel
Mrs. Patricia Cameron
Mrs. Jalena Triplett
Mr. Gregory Davis (RSO)

3. MEMBERS ABSENT. (10)

COL (Ret) Felix Peterson (Excused)
LTC (Ret) Sean Bateman (Excused)
LTC (Ret) Paul Metcalfe
LTC (Ret) Thor Littau (Excused)
LTC (Ret) Jim Rikard (Excused)
LTC (Ret) Michael Glowaski
MAJ (Ret) Paul Warmuskerken
CW4 (Ret) Randy Reynolds (Excused)
CW4 (Ret) Kristy Fair
CSM (Ret) J.B. Shoopman (Excused)

4. RESIGNATIONS. (0)

5. NEW MEMBERS. (1)

MAJ (R) Jared Pipkin

6. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE. All council members present, led by SGM (Ret) Ed Mounts, Co-Chairman (Enlisted).

7. OPENING PRAYER. Led by LTC (Ret) Allen Shell, Co-Chairman (Officer).

8. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER/WELCOME REMARKS. The quarterly meeting of the Retiree Council was called to order at 0800 by LTC (Ret) Allen Shell, Co-Chairman (Officer)

9. **GUEST SPEAKER.** Mikel Hunter updated the council on the upcoming closing dates of the express stores for inventory. North Express will be getting a full upgrade, estimated time is April with a completion of October.

10. **RETIREE SERVICES OFFICER COMMENTS.** Mr. Gregory Davis gave the council the following information.

a. The next Retirement Ceremony is scheduled for Friday, 27 January 2023, 1500, Cache Creek Chapel; 12 Soldiers and 2 DA Civilians are scheduled to participate.

b. The monthly Pre-Retirement Briefing was conducted on Tuesday, 3 January 2023, 0845 in building 4700, room # 216. 10 Soldiers and 4 Spouses were in attendance.

c. Three (3) Retiree Council Duty Appointments have been forwarded to the Garrison Commander for approval: MAJ (Retired) Jared Pipkin; SFC (Retired) Milton Morales; and SSG (Retired) Jannie Miles. If approved, the appointments will be effective 01 February 2023.

d. The 45th Annual Retiree Appreciation Days (RAD) will be on 21 – 22 September 2023.

e. Two (2) activities ongoing within the Retirement Services Office (RSO) are: (1) Integrated Personnel & Pay System – Army (IPPS – A); and (2) Temporary Change to Timeline for Requesting Voluntary Retirement from Active Federal Service. Effective 01 January 2023 through 31 December 2023, Soldiers can submit Voluntary Applications for Retirements 24 months prior to their requested retirement date.

f. Request \$25K from Garrison for the RAD

11. **RETIREE COUNCIL BUSINESS.**

a. *Administrative:* The minutes from 3 November 2022 were provided to the council members for their review. MSG (R) Stan Schofield motioned, MSG (R) Kimberly Wendel seconded, the minutes were approved

b. *Financial:* Fort Sill Credit Union is providing the council with 3 years of statements for the new Treasurer, CSM (R) Jenny Clement-Shaw

c. *Legislative:* LTC (Ret) Rhonda Williams: The following information was provided to the council.

(1) <https://themilitarywallet.com/military-retirement-pay-cola-increase/> The cost-of-living adjustment for 2023 will be 8.7% for Social Security checks, VA disability compensation and other government pension and benefit programs. COLA raises for Social Security benefits and certain other benefits are automatic. However, each year Congress must pass a bill to implement COLA raises for veteran benefits, including disability and dependent compensation, clothing allowances and dependency and indemnity compensation. Military retirement pay COLA increases take effect in your January 2023 payment.

(2) <https://www.militarytimes.com/veterans/2022/12/29/new-in-2023-pact-act-processing-set-to-start-jan-1/> Jan. 1 marks the first day VA officials can officially begin processing all claims related to the Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics Act — better known as the PACT Act. Since the end of last summer, more than 176,000 veterans have submitted paperwork related to military toxic exposure issues covered in the measure. Veterans who believe they may be eligible for new healthcare services or benefits can visit VA.gov/PACT or call 1-800-MYVA411 (1-800-698-2411) for additional information.

d. *Medical Liaison*: 1SG (R) Matthew Sims informed the council that Tricare premiums have gone up. Passed out information on the cost of Tricare premiums.

e. *Activities/Events*: CSM (Ret) Jenny Clement-Shaw: No report

f. *Information/Communications*: CW4 (Ret) Kristy Fair: No report

g. *AAFES/Commissary*: Mrs. Patricia Cameron: No report

h. *State Veteran's*: COL (Ret) Felix Peterson: No report

i. *Property Officer*: SGM (Ret) Ed Mounts will be picking up new flag boxes for retirement ceremonies.

j. *Volunteer Management Information System Coordinator*: CW4 (Ret) Randy Reynolds: No report

12. RETIREE COUNCIL OLD/NEW BUSINESS.

a. By Laws will be reviewed and updated. Update all current orders with new GC signature.

b. Golf Tournament will be 2 June 2023. Need volunteers.

c. Nominations for positions were taken, voted on and approved. The following positions were filled.

Co-Chairman (Officer): LTC (R) Richard F. Amadon

Co-Chairman (Enlisted): MSG (R) Kimberly K. Wendel

13. **COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS AND CONCERNS.** SGM (R) H.E. McClure suggested changing the hour of Council meetings to 0900 in lieu of 0800. Council will take this suggestion into consideration.

14. **ADJOURNMENT.** The quarterly meeting of the Fort Sill Retiree Council was adjourned at 0913 hours.

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15. **NEXT MEETING.** The next quarterly meeting is scheduled for 2 March 2023, 0800, Bldg. 4700. This will be announced in an e-mail at least one week in advance.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Fuller

Mary Fuller
SGM (R)
Administrative Officer, Fort Sill Retiree Council

Richard F. Amadon

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LTC (R)
Co-Chairman, Retiree Council

Kimberly Wendel

Kimberly K. Wendel
MSG (R)
Co-Chairman, Retiree Council

APPROVED:

JAMES H. B. PEAY IV
COL, FA
Commanding