

Chip: And we will open the meeting it's currently 4:01. I would recommend that we begin by taking a roll call here, that again, I am Chip Diehl, the vice president, TBDN.

Walter: Walter McCracken, board member.

Jeff: Jeff Gareau, advisory board.

Jim: Jim Sampey.

Tim: Tim Jones.

Steve: Steve Oscher.

John: [00:00:30] John [Tiliacos 00:00:33]

John on phone: John Schueler, the past-president and board member.

Jim on phone: And Jim [Philpitt 00:00:41] joining in from Nellis Air Force Base, member.

Chip: Welcome Jim. I have a very short agenda that we have teed up for the meeting in accordance with our by-laws and the purpose of it is to address a [inaudible 00:00:58] John Schueler. [00:01:00] John, would you like to go ahead and make your motion?

John on phone: Yeah, I, as a member of the board and past president, I move that the sole agenda item for today's meeting is the immediate removal of the current president, Lisa Monnet from the Tampa Bay Defense Alliance.

Walter: And I, Walter McCracken, second that.

Chip: And I just want to make it a point that we [00:01:30] do have a quorum of the board members. The only board member that I know of, and we'll leave it for discussion, is not present, is Lisa Monnet. And I personally have not heard back from her. So we'll go with that if she comes in. She may participate. Any discussion? Any points? John from afar? [00:02:00] Would you like to add any discussion items?

John on phone: The only discussion I think I have is if the time has passed, and so therefore the time is urgently now, then I think if this lingers any longer the Defense Alliance will lose a great deal of credibility with the base and with AMC. [inaudible 00:02:27] I think that we owe it to ourselves as a board both from a fiduciary responsibility standpoint and from the equity that the alliance has that we move on this as expeditiously as we possibly can.

Walter: One comment, I just have that Lisa has texted us and said that she's running about ten minutes behind. As a discussion point, I just wanted to bring that up.

[00:03:00] In addition to what John just said, one of the issues that I've had this time is that I have not had a financial review in over a year of budgets and those kind of things delivered as a board member. That was one of my concerns. That's been a concern. The decline of the members of our board that have left, and just the general decline of our membership, [00:03:30] so those are some of the factors that I was concerned with.

John on phone: Yeah, I would agree with that I think we ought to ... I'm hoping that we do some forensics on bank accounts and specifically the grant that we've been administering or spending money on or again making sure that they were done in a manner that they were supposed to be done and [inaudible 00:04:00] past the test an audit.

John: Yeah, John. This is John [Tiliacos inaudible 00:04:03]. I would agree with that, and I was just going to say to Walter's comment that we certainly need to know where we stand with respect to our financial situations. Yeah, because we technically have a fiduciary responsibility to the state, the board does, not just the president. The other thing I would state, on top of what John mentioned, is the state and the task [00:04:30] force for defense is watching to see how we work on this. They, too, are watching. And John, as you remember, one of the things for discussion, and Lisa's still four minutes away I guess, trying to give her some time to get here.

We at one time were the gold standard for the state as far as defense alliances. Now we are one suspension with respect to the grant, [00:05:00] until we get it squared away. It's just discouraging to me that we have fallen that far and especially in the eyes of the state. It's discouraging.

John on phone: Well, part of the issue with that is that the current president does not realize that she reports to the board, not the other way around. And the board agenda is to be carried out by her, not the other way around. I too have never seen a financial report despite my requests, and I've never seen updates on the grants either from her. You just can't run an operation like the alliance without having the collaboration and inclusion of the board.

Chip: Discussion question of the members, should we hold off on vote until she arrives, [00:06:00] or should we call the question as a point of order?

John on phone: Call the question is my recommendation, because it's gonna get ... you're gonna spend another two hours on this and with the lack of who knows what. We've got a motion on the table, we've got a second. I think we call the ball.

Walter: I agree. Otherwise, we'll be here all night, and the meeting started at four.

Jim: It's 4:07.

Chip: [00:06:30] And you agree?

Tim: I agree.

Steve: Call the question. And therefore we should vote.

Chip: Okay, with the end of discussion then let's go ahead and vote. John Schueler? John Schueler, your vote?

John on phone: Yes. I vote yes, in agreement with my motion and second.

Chip: Walter?

Walter: Yes. I agree. I vote yes.

Chip: And I vote yes. [00:07:00] That's three. Three to zero with Lisa, um two minutes out. With the concurrence of everybody present. Jim, Jim Philpitt [00:07:10] do you agree as well?

Jim on phone: Yes sir, I do.

Chip: Okay, procedurally of course. With that in mind then, and being done, there are some things we're going to need and take as far as next steps and we've got a good collegial group [00:07:30] around the table [00:07:31] and probably the first with the financial respect that you said is we got to work out ways to get the books, the finances, whatever there is as far as files so that we can review them as a board. Is that a good first step?

Jeff: No, I think the first step is get a hold of the bank account. Now that you have a motion carried on this, I think you need to document the vote, and then you have to go to the bank, show them the [00:08:00] document so that you can remove her from the bank account and close out the debit card.

Chip: Right.

Jeff: I think that should be the first step.

Walter: The other thing we have to do ... I'm gonna put down Get books. I'm just writin' down for my own purposes here. We are gonna need to elect an interim president [00:08:30] up until I would say, I would recommend until 30 September to help guide us through the transition. Help guide us through the putting things back together with the auspices that by 30 September, in accordance with our bylaws, we elect a new slate of officers and that will be our new beginning if you will.

Chip: I think that's a good idea because that gets us back on track with the bylaws.

John on phone: Are you going to go with the revised bylaws or are you going [00:09:00] to go with the ones prior to the ones that you didn't vote on?

Walter: Our counsel recommended going with the revised ones. So that's what we're conducting this meeting in accordance with.

John on phone: Okay. That's fine. I just want to make sure.

Walter: That's the one that also validates you as the interim, or the past president et cetera.

John on phone: Yeah, not the interim, but the past. [crosstalk 00:09:29] Okay.

Chip: [00:09:30] So I would rule that [crosstalk 00:09:46]

Walter: The thing about interim is that we could do this by e-vote I just want everybody here to consider it. Because it's gonna be important. So, let's just... can we select a nominee [00:10:00] committee for the slate of officers [crosstalk 00:10:03] and have that presented so that we can do that? Just as our discussions continue it is currently 4:11.

It's past ten minutes but we're still trying to hold these good discussions, because these are good points as part of our next steps.

John on phone: I'd also let ADC [Florida Defense Support Task Force] in Tallahassee, let them know after this meeting is over, a phone call to them by courtesy to let them know the [inaudible 00:10:43] is on the new contact person whoever that person is going to be [inaudible 00:10:47] not necessarily the new interim CEO, but somebody they can connect with. And Chip that may be you if that's regarding the Florida [inaudible 00:10:56] or anything like that.

Walter: John, I agree that a phone call is in order, but I think that this needs to be in writing whether it's an e-mail or formal written notice that there's a change that's been made by the board.

John on phone: Yeah.

Walter: And what Chip and I discussed earlier was I also think there needs to be a formal press release of some kind that acknowledges that the board has taken an active measure to remove the president. That this is not [00:11:30] a resignation. The board has done what they believe is necessary under the circumstances for the benefit of the Defense Alliance. Period.

John on phone: Yep. Makes sense. Yeah, perfect sense, yeah.

Jeff: We also need to...

Chip: Let's go back to Walter's point about a nominating committee.

Walter: Good point, let's do that first.

Chip: Why don't we try to get three people that would at least team together.

Walter: Well, [00:12:00] I'd suggest that Chip and I serve on that, and we find one other person to serve on that to find out officers who would be interested in that. I'd like three. John?

(Unclear): I'm happy to help.

Walter: Okay. So the nominating committee can report back in a week. A week...

Chip: Or less.

Walter: Or less, within a week for us to [00:12:30] have suggested candidates for each of the offices.

Chip: Everybody agree?

Walter: And these would be interim until we come to our natural election cycle. Just an interim cycle.

Chip: Just to get through to the 3rd of September. Until we get back on track with the bylaws.

Walter: Okay. Now, how can we get the books?

Chip: I would also make the comment that you still have the opportunity to go out for [00:13:00] grants that waiting until the 30th...

John on phone: Oh no, we definitely shouldn't wait.

Walter: No, this is just [inaudible 00:13:07] operations until we have a natural election of officers is the view I was looking at from...

Chip: The interim crew should be charged with doing whatever it's going to take.

John on phone: Absolutely, we have mine that will expire and we need to address that at our next meeting, on how we're going to accomplish that.

Walter: I think for purposes of this meeting because we're coming up on a [00:13:30] quarter after, is I recommend we get the transcript from our meeting, get it printed, and then I recommend that we have it reviewed by all of us, but also our legal counsel just for validation, and that would kind of validate this meeting. I think everybody agrees, don't you?

Chip: Absolutely.

Walter: Does that sound good, Steve?

Steve: I think it does. If you adjourn the meeting, [00:14:00] I'll send it in for transcription. They should turn it around pretty quickly for me.

Jim: Since the rest of the action items are administrative, I'd move that we adjourn the meeting.

Jeff: Let me just add one more thing real quick. We need to make sure we notify Mark Monnet. We need to make sure that we notify Mark Monnet that he is no longer handling any operations for the Tampa Bay Defense Alliance. And that we'll need logins, passwords for the website, social media, [00:14:30] stuff, et cetera.

Jim: I was considering that administrative.

Jeff: Okay.

Jim: So that our official business of the official meeting would be adjourned, so I move that we adjourn the meeting and break...

Jim: Walter, Jim Philpitt, one quick item regarding Mark Monnet. Something else we need to also consider is that for all his affiliation with us, he was using an alias of Mark Roberts. So we want to make sure we [00:15:00] probably got an "also known as" addendum, or caveat, so nobody can throw it out as...

Chip: Okay, we'll do that...

Jim: Okay, there's a motion on the floor. Is there a second?

(Unclear): Second.

Jim: All those in favor?

All: Aye.

Chip: Meeting's adjourned at 4:16.