

**Minutes
of the
JLUS Policy/Technical Committee Meeting
Camp Grayling Joint Military Training Center (JMTC)
and Alpena Joint Training Center (JTC)
September 19, 2018 (University Center – Gaylord)**

1. CALL TO ORDER/ESTABLISH A QUORUM: The meeting was called to order by Ken Glasser at 1:05 p.m., no quorum established.

Members Present: Jim Shiflett, Gary Neumann, Rob Pallarito, Patty O'Donnell, Marc Dedenbach, Rick Harland, Margaret Black, Kim VanNuck, Greg Sundin, Susan Thiel, Ken Glasser, Cullen Haesler, Jeremie Mead, Mike Ravosi, and Lacey Stephen.

Teleconference Attendees: Lisa Kruse, Mark Ignash, Robert Adrian, Heather Mendenall and Katie Benzel

NEMCOG Staff: Denise Cline, Diane Rekowski and Theresa Huff

Introductions: Each person attending introduced themselves to the group.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: No approval could be made due to lack of quorum.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT: None

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES of 8/8/18: No approval could be made due to lack of quorum. Add Mark Dedenbach to list of attendees at 8/8/18 meeting.

5. INFORMATION ITEMS:

- a. Installation Reports: N/A
- b. Community Reports: N/A

6. JLUS REPORT:

- a. Review Public Comments: The group inquired as to what the process is and how this portion of going to work. H. Mendenall said they will include comments as Appendix. The comments mostly consisted of complaints about noise levels. The Plan will address noise concerns. M. Dedenbach indicated that he noted more concerns than just noise.
 - H. Mendenall talked about the comment suggesting use of technology in training operations.
 - There needs to be a regular forum with Camp and Community regarding scheduled events.
 - There are a lot legitimate concerns and they should be addressed in final report, not just a “path of broken promises”.

- H. Mendenall said she believes there has been a misunderstanding or miscommunication: the overall boundary is not expanding. The buffer zone is where the study occurred and does not include additional land.
- Grayling Township prepared input for this and will submit some comments and concerns.
- Previous agreements have not been found regarding firing time limitations. J. Mead said the Memorandum of Understanding is being searched for. He encourages the local units of Governments to look for them as well.
- D. Rekowski asked H. Men. Mendenall if she was able to uncover the information from AuSable Manistee Action Council (AMAC). She said she had not been able to find anything yet. Would like to have them to include in the study.
- Should consider updating Zoning Ordinances to give more details regarding noise. K. Glasser stated that he thought the Townships would have that information likely versus the County. B. Johnson said he has a copy of the Noise Ordinance for Crawford County that includes participating Townships. He will send a copy to D. Cline to share with the group. It was noted that the military is probably not governed by Township noise ordinances.
- R. Harland said he met with LTC Brian Burrell, Doug Baum, Col. Ed Hallenbeck regarding noise concerns, bombing times, low flying aircraft, windows shaking in the early morning hours. Further, issues regarding recent Fire Department issues. Camp Grayling recently ended their contract with the Fire Department putting the county in a bad financial situation. They will be utilizing emergency funds and will have to consider laying off staff, then a few months down the road, put it out for bid for contract. This has caused a lot of conflict. These issues have been going on for many, many years, a half-century even. Those issues mirror the issues being experienced today, leaving the communities skeptical and frustrated. What does the study cost and what will change because of results of the study? Camp is expanding regardless of concerns that were brought up in the past. H. Mendenall said grant is from the Office of Economic Adjustment not the military itself. J. Mead said in regards to the expansion, there have been no plans or discussions to expand camp or training areas. However they do at times close off certain trails, as they have always done. They are not closing ORV trails to expand. Size of camp is growing but not boundaries. They have had the highest input this year since Camp Grayling was in session in the late 80's. This year they beat that number. The plan for the future is to have two smaller Northern Strikes, not as large as usual.
- G. Sundin stated that the issues for Camp Grayling are different than those of Alpena CRTC. There are more concerns and questions with Camp Grayling. The concerns need to be addressed forcefully. Will the results be as good as a combined project versus two separate projects? Implementation phase is the most important, yet varies very differently by location. Is there buy-in from the military? D. Cline suggested two separate implementation teams for Alpena and Grayling.
- M. Dedenbach: This is the right opportunity to look at comments regarding policy. Civilians and Military need to have copies to refer to. P. O'Donnell: Local Governments should have a policy. R. Harland: During terms, when personnel changes, you basically have to start over. The new personnel do not know the history. Need written agreements to share with new and future personnel. M. Black suggested to have short term agreements such as five years or so and these agreements can be reviewed and updated at the end of the term to be in effect the next five years. H. Mendenall: This

study will help with the road ahead and has plans. Based on resources and NEMCOG involvement, repository being NEMCOG currently. D. Cline said the agreements could be housed in the NEMCOG Regional Document Library. This library is searchable based on title, place, etc. Documents can be added and searched any time without website links changing. They would always be in the same place.

- L. Kruse: Communication at the Alpena facility is addressed by strategies in the plan.
 - S. Thiel: Repository Idea – lack of consistency with National Guard. Experienced a big turn over in staff last 10 years. Perhaps the military should consider a position to allow a staff person to stay in that position to provide consistency and follow through. Could update the communities, be there “go to” person for them.
 - R. Harland: Ground water concerns exist in both Alpena CRTC and Camp Grayling. These concerns needs to have a specific policy.
 - J. Mead: All of these are great points and ideas and has shared with LTC Brian Burrell. They are currently looking for people that have information and answers. Will need to brief those visiting parties so the information won’t fall on deaf ears and be lost. They are residents too, he included. Wants to make sure information and plan are shared and implemented.
 - R. Harland: Not trying to knock the plan but could maybe use alternate flying routes to disrupt less residents. Hope the concerns being shared are listened to and will implement a resolution. Maybe have a liaison otherwise these are just ideas until they get implemented.
 - H. Mendenall: Doesn’t feel like this is ready for public meeting. Next time need to show what we are doing. Poor meeting turn out may improve if resulting actions are shared.
- b. Review Updated Implementation: H. Mendenall did not send update Implementation Content, will provide by October 5th. The next Public Meeting to show what we are doing; public communication plan, not just display the study. What’s the plan and how to resolve the issues?
- R. Harland: Public Meetings always seem to have low turnout; won’t get a lot due to the subject matter. Residents will call with complaints but won’t attend a meeting to help resolve issues.
- S. Thiel: Agrees with R. Harland. Need to have more detailed media, email communications, etc. to share factual information not just rumors.
- H. Mendenall: Suggests formalize communications with NOAA, CRTC, local communities and document it.
- M. Black: Appoint a person in each local government to work with you.
- R. Harland: Has there been any conversations regarding destruction of roads due to heavy equipment, share cost of repairs? Strategies are in place.

8. NEXT STEPS:

- a. Tetra Tech will revise strategies and republish this by October 5th. The next meeting will be October 10th/11th. D. Cline will send out a poll to establish the best date for the meeting. No meeting will be held on 9/26/18. The implementation team can be discussed at the October meeting. D. Cline will send around

communications asking those who have been unable to attend the meetings if they are interested in being part of the implementation team.

9. Q&A:

- a. None.

10. TENTATIVE FUTURE MEETING SCHEDULE:

- a. See above (next steps)

K. Glasser suggested everyone to look for these agreements, contracts, etc. Check with local governments and get them to D. Cline to share with the group.

11. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

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