A meeting of the VMI Board of Visitors was held in Lexington, Virginia in the Turman Room of Preston Library at VMI beginning at 0800 hours on Friday, 27 January and continuing at 0800 hours on Saturday, 28 January pursuant to notice.

Present:
- General John P. Jumper ’66, USAF (Ret), President
- Mr. John W. Boland ’73
- Mrs. Lara T. Chambers ’03
- Mr. George Collins ’62
- Mr. Brian R. Detter
- Lieutenant General Charles E. Dominy, USA (Ret)
- Mr. Conrad M. Hall ’65
- Mr. Richard K. Hines V ’66
- Mr. David L. Miller ’70
- Mr. Kimber L. Latsha ’77
- Mr. Scot W. Marsh ’81
- Honorable Joseph R. Reeder
- Mr. Eugene Scott, Jr. ’80
- Lieutenant General Carl A. Strock ’70, USA (Ret)
- Major General Timothy P. Williams, VAARNG

Absent:
- Mr. Bruce C. Gottwald, Jr. ’81
- Lieutenant General Frances C. Wilson, USMC (Ret)

Friday, 27 January 2017 – 0800

1. General Jumper presided and called the meeting to order. Lieutenant Colonel Sean P. Harrington, Secretary to the Board of Visitors, recorded the minutes. Also present was Ms. Elizabeth Griffin, legal counsel, Office of the Attorney General.

2. General Jumper welcomed everyone and thanked them for their attendance. He thanked those who were able to participate in the dedication of the new Corps Indoor Fitness Training Facility the day prior. General Jumper provided the Board members with a historical article relating to the first Board of Visitors meeting at VMI, which consequentially was convened well before the Institute was established. He also included a copy of the first BOV minutes for their review as well. He thanked General and Mrs. Peay for their hospitality the evening prior at their residence. Finally, he recognized the Corps of Cadets for their participation in the Presidential Inaugural parade, and commented how proud he and all of our alumni around the country were of their fantastic performance.
3. *A motion to approve the Board of Visitors Resolutions for the following person was made by Mr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Latsha.* Brigadier General Robert L. Green ’67, as the recently retired Deputy Superintendent for Finance, Administration and Support. The motion passed unanimously. The resolution is filed with the minutes of this meeting as **Appendix I.**

4. General J. H. Binford Peay III ’62, VMI Superintendent, then addressed the Board. A copy of the briefing slides will be appended to these minutes as **Appendix II.**

   a. General Peay provided a Look Back review of the events and activities that have occurred since the previous Board meeting. He highlighted the following key events: the VMI STEM Conference, SACS On-Site Review, two successful Reunion Weekends, the Byrd Award presentation to former Secretary James A. Baker III, the VMI Leadership Conference, Founders Day and Institute Society Dinner weekend, Ring Figure for the Class of 2018, and the recent Presidential Inaugural Parade.

   b. General Peay provided a review of the ongoing General Assembly legislative session ongoing in Richmond. The subjects he covered were related to 1) the Political Environment, 2) the Budget Environment, 3) Employee Compensation, 4) Capital Construction, and 5) Current Legislation. He reminded the board that the VMI Legislative Reception is scheduled for 16 February 2017 in Richmond.

   c. He briefed that the legislative session began with 66 bills related to Higher Education, and grew to 75 over the first few days. VMI remains an active player in the legislative process, and he met with numerous legislators and patrons in promoting VMI’s agenda.

   d. General Peay briefed that the political environment is in flux. The Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General and all in the House of Delegates are up for election or reelection. Lieutenant Governor Ralph Northam ’81 is running for Governor and John Adams ’96 is running for Attorney General. VMI continues to maintain good relationships with the General Assembly leadership. The Institute is still viewed by the legislature as good stewards of state funds, and we remain committed to safeguarding our unique mission. VMI is a small school that is costly, and “excellence” costs money. There is increasing pressure to increase the in-state admission rates for all state schools of higher education. Finally, within the political environment, there remains a negative opinion of higher education as it relates to some of the following issues: 1) limits on tuition costs to keep colleges in check, 2) universities are perceived as spending too much on other initiatives outside of instructional costs, 3) the desire to eliminate the use of tuition revenues for financial aid, 4) increases in student fees are becoming unsustainable, 5) questioning of faculty workloads, 6) current graduation rates, and 7) questionable degrees that do not fix job requirements and do not fix employment at graduation.
e. General Peay briefed his views on the current budget environment. State revenues are still unstable and the shortfall is now at $1.2B. Higher education sustained a modest reduction in FY17, and the Governor has proposed a 5% budgetary cut in FY18. Finally, he shared his concern that the legislature could direct how universities such as VMI can disperse financial aid to their students.

g. General Peay briefed the members on the legislative update with regards to capital construction initiatives. The bond program is continuing to move forward and the three VMI projects remain in good posture.

h. General Peay briefed that many bills are being terminated, while some simply overlap. He mentioned that in short session the key legislative leaders have to be postured to make decisions quickly and limit what passes. Some examples include: 1) limiting tuition revenue for financial aid, 2) establishing substance abuse recovery sections in each wing of student housing, 3) fill BOV leadership positions with Virginia resident only, 4) concealed weapons for firefighters and EMTs on campus, 5) FOIA authorizations for University President and Superintendent working papers, and 6) the publication of tuition and fees 9-months prior to execution to name just a few of many examples.

i. General Peay concluded his remarks by conveying his concerns that many do not fully understand higher education, and how a bill in one area has a negative impact in another. Many times these bills could end up costing our institutions more money, which is even harder on VMI since we are a smaller school. General Peay emphasized that we must remain committed to building relationships with the new wave of legislators, and take every opportunity to interact with them when possible.

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5. Colonel Jamie Inman '86, Acting Director of Finance, Administration, and Support, briefed the members on the FY17-18 Budget and Construction Projects. A copy of his slides will be appended to these minutes as Appendix III.

a. VMI began the process of developing the FY 2018 budget. An overview of the preliminary budget was presented. Tuition and fees assumptions and enrollment assumptions were briefed. In-state tuition and fees are projected to rise by 3.7% and out-of-state are projected to rise by 4.7%. For FY18, 500 new cadets and 1,756 total cadets are being assumed for budget purposes with 61.7% of all cadets from the Commonwealth. In E&G Program Revenue VMI is currently projecting a 3.0% increase
with a minimal decrease in UMA Program revenues, a slight increase in Auxiliary Fund Balance, and Unrestricted Local Funds, and the Contingencies Budget remaining unchanged. Colonel Inman briefed that the Governor’s proposed budget includes a $901K reduction in General Funds, which is the only element impacted by the current budgetary reductions. The Equipment Trust Funds and General Funds for Financial Assistance remain unchanged. VMI has experienced an 8.7% increase in employer health insurance premiums. There is an $85K increase for the VMI Quality Enhancement Plan and a $100K increase in the E&G budget for utilities, insurance and other unavoidable costs. VMI is projecting salary increase of 3% for the teaching faculty and A/P employees effective December 2017 and a 1.5% bonus for classified employees. VMI remains postured to adjust since the Governor’s budget proposal is subject to change during the General Assembly session. The BOV will review and approve the final FY18 annual operating budget in May 2017.

b. Colonel Inman provided the members a Construction Update. The estimated budget for Phases 1, 2, and 3 is ~$30.1M with ~$11.1M authorized for the preliminary design. The architect for the project is Wiley Wilson of Lynchburg. The Construction Manager is Branch and Associates of Roanoke. The scope of the project includes renovations to the Heat Plant, Post Police headquarters, upgrades to post utilities, and a replacement of the Anderson Drive bridge. The Preston Library Renovation project is ~$15.2M with $984K authorized for the preliminary design. The scope of this project includes renovations and upgrades to the interior and exterior portions of the facility. The Scott Shipp Hall expansion and renovation project budget is ~$39.9M with ~$2.2M designated for preliminary design. The scope of this project includes renovations and upgrades to the facility, with a 28K square foot addition to the building. Colonel Inman concluded the construction update with a discussion on active small construction projects. These include the 1) Cameron Hall roof replacement, 2) Carroll Hall psychology labs, Chessie Trail improvements, Cocke Hall pool repairs, Mallory Hall space modifications, Richardson Hall electrical and HVAC upgrades, the Davidson Tucker House addition, 450 Institute Hill (Chaplains Quarters) renovation, and the Crozet Hall floor replacement project.

6. BG Jeffrey Smith ’79, Dean of the Faculty, updated the members on the Academic Program at VMI. A copy of his slides will be appended to these minutes as Appendix IV. His topic items focused on updates to the ongoing Reaffirmation process, Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), International Programs, and Instructor-in-Residence program.

a. General Smith provided the Board an update to the reaffirmation timeline for the Class of 2017. He informed the Board that VMI is judged by our compliance with regional and federal requirements and standards, as well as the plan to enhance the quality of our academic program. The Institute has until 20 March 2017 to respond to the one recommendation and finding provided by the SACS COC On-Site Report and the Board of Trustees decision for final reaffirmation will occur in the June 2017 timeframe.
b. General Smith provided an overview to the QEP process and the current timeline. The QEP is organized around modules that present real world problem sets relevant to the academic and professional interests of the cadets, and introduces them to relevant mathematical and computational skills. The QEP was submitted in September 2016 with the final report of results to the SACSCOC in spring 2022. He briefed that curriculum development is still ongoing.

c. General Smith provided an overview of the International Programs. He reviewed the program mission and objectives, and the various credit bearing programs affiliated with the office. There are currently 27 full-time international students enrolled and 7 semester-only exchange students. He discussed that 35 cadets take advantage of the Semester Abroad program. He reviewed the summer Study Abroad and Enrichment Programs, as well as the various challenges and opportunities that have resulted from the implementation of these initiatives.

d. General Smith concluded his remarks with an update to the BOV approved Instructor-in-Residence Program. The program recognizes cadets and VMI graduates with the potential to be teachers in higher education through a private endowment. The endowment will cover the cost of two years of graduate school (tuition, fees, and living stipend) and in return, the ‘instructors-in-residence’ will serve two years on the VMI faculty. The endowment will now cover the full compensation cost of each “instructor-in-residence” at the Assistant Professor rate.

7. Colonel Vern Beitzel '72 provided the Board with an update to the current Admissions target for the matriculants of 2021. The current projection is between 490-500 cadets with 54% in-state and 46% out-of-state. He is estimating that over 60 females will be accepted in this class. There are 110 recruited athletes and 70% have indicated a desire to commission upon graduation. The average high school grade point average is 3.73, and an average SAT score of 1222/ACT score of 26.

8. Colonel Bill Wanovich '87 provided the Board with an update on the Corps activities to date. He discussed the success from the recent Presidential Inaugural parade. He attributed the success to a total team effort across post, with the cadet leaders setting the example of discipline throughout the operation. The Board members commented how proud they were of the Corps of Cadets and their representation of VMI. Colonel Wanovich concluded his remarks by discussing the current attrition rates for the year, and the commissioning forecast for FY16 and FY17. The commissioning numbers remain steady, but he anticipates a slight increase headed into FY17 since some of the services are opening the aperture to accept more officers due to increases in officer end strength.
9. Colonel Sam Ratcliffe ’74, Director of Career Services, briefed the Board on the most recent employment data and services provided to our 2016 graduates. Of those graduating in May 2016, 99% of them were either employed, attending graduate school, or commissioned following graduation. Of those graduates that accepted full-time employment, 76% accepted salary offers above the national entry-level average for their respective majors. Colonel Ratcliffe provided the Board with a summary of the top employers and graduate programs for the Class of 2016, and concluded his remarks with a statistical trend analysis on employment services from 2007-present.

10. General Peay concluded the morning session by providing a review of the Vision 2039 Simplified Descriptors, his Current Concentrations, and a Look Ahead of the major events scheduled for the upcoming semester. He highlighted that Chief Justice Ginsburg (1 Feb) and General Milley, Army Chief of Staff (8 Feb) are slated to address the Corps. The VMI Sports Hall of Fame (11 Feb), SCHEV Conference (20-21 Mar), Virginia State Science and Engineering Fair (24-25 Mar), Spring FTX (31 Mar-4 Apr), Environment Virginia Conference (4-6 Apr), the Commandant’s Retreat (7-8 Apr), and two Spring Reunions were the major events slated prior to the next meeting of the BOV in May.

Saturday, 28 January 2017 – 0800 hours

11. General Jumper called the meeting to order at 0800. Mr. Eugene Scott departed early and was unable to attend the morning session.

12. A motion was made by Mr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Boland, to approve the minutes of the 13-14 September 2016 meeting of the Board of Visitors. The motion passed unanimously.

13. First Class President Hamp A. Beddoes ’17, Regimental Commander Timothy J. Davison ’17, and Honor Court President Eric W. Inman ’17 were introduced and made brief statements to the Board regarding their particular areas within the Corps of Cadets.

a. Cadet Beddoes addressed the members of the Board. The rats recently completed a 20-mile march and they are gearing up for Breakout events within the next week. The first class has taken lead and the schedule of events have been finalized. He concluded his remarks by assuring the Board that the class system remains strong, that they are looking forward to the weekend events, and assured the Board that the appropriate supervision for breakout is in place.

b. Cadet Inman reported on his primary focus on continued education for the Corps of Cadets. There have been 3 cases year to date. He emphasized that continued training on
plagiarism and proper citing of sources is a priority in an era where it is easy to copy information from the Internet. He also stressed that education of the rat class also remains a priority as it relates to official statements and certification. He concluded his remarks by assuring the Board that the Honor Code is as strong as it has ever been and remains fully supported.

c. Cadet Davison reported that the first semester went very well and that morale of the Corps is on the rise and attrition rates are down. The Inaugural Parade was a tremendous success and he thanked his leadership team for their hours of preparation and the buy in from the Corps in advance. The cadre leadership continues to impress and he is also looking forward to breakout for the coming weekend.

d. General Jumper commended the cadre leadership for their fantastic performance at the Presidential Inaugural Parade and asked that they relay the appreciation of the Board back to the Corps of Cadets.

14. General Jumper introduced Mr. John Iamarino, Commissioner of the Southern Conference (SOCON), who provided the Board with an overview and his perspective on the current status of athletics in the conference. The conference consists of 10 members across 6 states. He opened his remarks with challenges facing the NCAA, specifically, the gap between the five power conferences and the 27 remaining Division I conferences across the country. He provided statistics in revenues, programs, and salaries for school presidents and their coaches in the five power conferences as related to the remaining Division I schools. Many of the non-power conferences are now chasing this status; however, the SOCON remains committed to its values and has no intent to make a cultural shift in that direction. Emphasis remains focused on academics and producing high quality student-athletes throughout the conference. He discussed challenges related to pay for play compensation, SOCON academic initiatives/programs through collaboration with its 10 member schools, and his vision for the future of the conference. He concluded his remarks by thanking the Board for inviting him to their meeting and he looks forward to participating in the indoor track meet and basketball game later in the day.

15. The Board received remarks from representatives of the Alumni Agencies: Mr. Robert P. Louthan ’82, President of the VMI Alumni Association (VMIAA); Mr. U. "Buzz" Birzenieks ’64, President, VMI Keydet Club; and Mr. Hugh Fain, Jr. ’80, President, VMI Foundation (VMIF).

a. Mr. U. "Buzz" Birzenieks ’64, President, VMI Keydet Club provided his remarks to the Board. He discussed his initiative to raise funds for the Basketball Team to play overseas in Europe this coming summer. It is an overall sports, cultural and educational initiative for the program. He concluded his remarks by stating that the Keydet Club remains on target with its fundraising goals for the year and he thanked everyone for their support.
b. Mr. Robert P. Louthan ’82, President of the VMI Alumni Association provided his remarks to the Board. He discussed his gratitude and pride in the performance of the Corps of Cadets in the Inaugural parade, which he attended with his wife. He provided the Board with an overview of the VMIAA mission and gave an update on the various programs and initiatives for the remainder of the year. He discussed briefly the ongoing effort to consolidate the three agencies and the hiring search for a senior executive to lead the organization. He briefed that the current Operating Officer, Adam Volant, has been recalled to active duty and will be out for an extended period of time. He concluded his remarks by stating that communication remains a constant priority and that the Agency remains committed to supporting the mission of the Institute.

c. Mr. Hugh Fain, Jr. ’80, President, VMI Foundation provided an update on the VMI Campaign. He briefed the Board on the VMIF mission and thanked Mr. Buddy Bryan for his ongoing work as the acting Chief Executive Officer due to Mr. Crockett’s recent retirement. As of 31 Dec 2016, the VMI Endowment was at $396M. The Foundation is halfway through the fiscal year reporting and has raised $18.7M in gifts, cash giving is $11.7M, and alumni giving rate is slightly above FY16 participation. The VMI Campaign report as of 31 Dec 2016 stands at $310M raised as it reaches the finale date of 30 June 2017. The Campaign $13M has been raised this fiscal year. He thanked the Campaign Cabinet for doing a fantastic job, and all the players involved in making the Campaign a huge success. Mr. Fain concluded his remarks by discussing the ongoing Search Committee process in the search for the new CEO of the VMI Alumni Agency and briefed the Board that several high caliber applicants are being considered.

16. Mrs. Lara Chambers briefed the Board with regards to her visit during the fall Open House visit. She provided the Board members her observations and assessment from what she considered a highly organized and professional Open House event. The academic departments’ affiliations and relationships with multiple graduate programs was impressive and highly relevant to prospective undergraduates. She commented that prospects are shown a high level of respect and care, with the Institute represented as acutely attentive regarding issues of women’s integration, diversity, and gender. She commented that while athletic programs were represented and discussed, she thought that prospective cadets may have received mixed messages regarding athletics’ value and inclusion at VMI. Finally, she commented that while VMI is competing for top talent amidst many prestigious commissioning programs, that our ROTC Departments should more effectively highlight the unmistakable value a VMI ROTC scholarship represents. Overall, she felt the Open House was very successful and she appreciated the invitation of General Peay to take a look at the Admissions program. General Jumper thanked Mrs. Chambers for her work and informed the Board members that she will be the BOV representative to meet Chief Justice Ginsburg during her visit to VMI in a few weeks.
17. Major General Timothy Williams briefed the Board on the “Virginia National Guard 2017 and Beyond.” His topics of discussion included the following: 1) Evolution of the Army National Guard, 2) Mission of the Virginia National Guard, 3) State of the Guard, 4) the Virginia National Guard at VMI, and 5) Connection with the Virginia National Guard. The Virginia National Guard is a dual-status force with state and federal missions. In 2016, 1.1K Guardsmen served on state active duty, and 1.5K Guardsmen served on federal active duty. The Virginia National Guard is postured to grow 2K soldiers and 1K Airmen. The increasing force structure will include focus on cyber, field artillery, and special operations. There are currently 38 cadets in the VANG who are also enrolled full-time at VMI. Major General Williams thanked the Board for the opportunity to discuss with them the ongoing VANG issues and challenges, and thanked VMI for supporting the overall Guard mission.

18. Mr. Hines, Chair of Academic Affairs, reported on the meeting of his Committee.

a. A motion was made by Mr. Hines, seconded by Mr. Latsha: The Academic Affairs Committee has considered the Changes in Faculty and Staff list dated 13 January 2017, and recommend that the Board of Visitors approve these changes and that the list be made part of the minutes. The motion passed unanimously. These Changes will be filed with the minutes as Appendix V.

b. Mr. Hines made the following motion, seconded by Mr. Collins: The Academic Affairs Committee has considered the Graduation List dated 13 January 2017. The Committee recommends the Board of Visitors approve this preliminary list of graduates. The Board of Visitors grants to the Deputy Superintendent for Academics and Dean of the Faculty the authority to delete names of cadets who do not meet the requirements for graduation from VMI and to add the names of graduates who may fulfill the requirements for graduation. The Committee further recommends that the final list of 15 September 2016 graduates (Memorandum Number 15, dated 15 September 2016 – Enclosure 2) and 20 December 2016 graduates (Memorandum Number 21, dated 20 December 2016 – Enclosure 3) be accepted and filed with the minutes of this meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The final list of September and December 2016 graduates is filed with the minutes of this meeting as Appendix VI.

c. Mr. Hines made the following motion, seconded by Mr. Boland: The Academic Affairs Committee has considered the recommended Curricular Changes dated 13 January 2017. The Committee recommends that the Board of Visitors approve these changes and that they be made part of the minutes. The motion passed unanimously. These changes will be filed with the minutes of this meeting as Appendix VII.

d. Mr. Hines made the following motion, seconded by Mr. Latsha: The Academic Affairs Committee has considered the changes to the Academic Regulations dated 13 January 2017. The Committee recommends that the Board of Visitors approve these changes and
that they be made part of the minutes. The motion passed unanimously. These changes will be filed with the minutes of this meeting as Appendix VIII.

e. Mr. Hines made the following motion, seconded by Mr. Boland: The Academic Affairs Committee has considered the Faculty Handbook, dated January 2017. The Committee recommends that the Board of Visitors approve the Faculty Handbook, January 2017 and that it be made part of the minutes. The motion passed unanimously. These changes will be filed with the minutes of this meeting as Appendix IX.

f. Mr. Hines made the following motion, seconded by Mr. Latsha: The Academic Affairs Committee has considered the Recommended Entrance Rate Guidelines for Faculty Salaries for the 2017-2018 academic year, dated 13 January 2017. The Committee recommends that the Board of Visitors approve these changes and that they be made part of the minutes. The motion passed unanimously. These changes will be filed with the minutes of this meeting as Appendix X.

19. Mr. Hall, Chair of the Audit, Finance and Planning Committee reported on the meeting of his Committee.

a. The Committee approved their minutes from the 13 September 2016 meeting. Mr. Hall also welcomed the Audit Program Manager, Mr. Quisenberry, to VMI for the audit which is now in progress. He anticipates that the VMI audit will be completed prior to the May Board meeting.

b. A motion was made by Mr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Collins, that the Board of Visitors approve VMI’s unaudited financial statements for the fiscal year ending on 30 June 2016. The motion passed unanimously. The FY 2016 unaudited financial statements are on file in the Office of the Comptroller and were provided to the members.

c. A motion was made by Mr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Latsha, that the Board of Visitors amend VMI’s 2016-17 Operating Budget by the amount of $1,635,000 as outlined in Attachment A. The motion passed unanimously. The amendment is on file in the Office of the Comptroller and was provided to the members. The memorandum supporting these requests will be filed with the minutes as Appendix XI.

d. A motion was made by Mr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Boland, that the Board of Visitors approve the Post Facilities Master Plan dated January 2017. The motion passed unanimously. The 2017 Post Facilities Master Plan is on file in the Office of the Deputy Superintendent for Finance, Administration, and Support and was provided to the members.

e. The Committee received a report from Colonel Thomas Hopkins, the Director of Information Technology. He briefed that the Institute has increased its overall bandwidth and created a second link to the World Wide Web as a back-up. He has also
implemented a cloud based storage system across VMI which is holding over 4.5 terabytes of information.

f. Mr. Hall briefed that Colonel Jeff Lawhorne provided the Committee with a review of the basic budget assumptions for the upcoming year. Colonel Lawhorne has 74 major assumptions he and his team uses which drives the budget assessment for year to come. The sense of the AFP Committee is to endorse his assumptions and thanked him for his hard work in this very demanding and important task for VMI.

20. Mr. Latsha, Chair of the Appeals Committee, reported on the meeting of his Committee.

a. The Committee met with the cadet Honor Court leaders and with Colonel Thomas S. Baur ’75 and Lieutenant Colonel George M. “Merce” Brooke IV ’94, the Superintendent’s lead and assistant faculty representatives, respectively, to the Honor Court. He commented that the Honor Court continues to be as strong as it has ever been and that they have done a remarkable job during his time on the Board. He stated that the caliber of individuals on the Court continues to be most impressive.

b. Mr. Latsha commented that the work of the Committee has been very productive. The diversity of the Committee has given great perspective, and has led to very healthy dialogue. Specifically, he commented that the inputs from the non-alumni on the Committee have been tremendously helpful and has forced them to view things differently which has led to a stronger system.

21. Mr. Boland, Chair of the Athletics Committee, reported on the meeting of his Committee.

a. He briefed that the Committee had the opportunity to meet several cadet-athletes and hear their stories about the upcoming season and life as a cadet. The Committee was very impressed by those cadets that were able to attend. He commented that all athletes that did not have an event marched in the Presidential Inaugural parade.

b. Mr. Boland briefed that several new hires have taken place in the Athletic Department. Dr. Diles has done a tremendous job backfilling these vacancies with extremely high quality individuals.

c. Mr. Boland informed the Board that the VMI Sports Hall of Fame was being held on 11 February 2017. He encouraged the Board members to participate if they were able. Mr. Eugene Scott, a current BOV member, is being inducted for his achievements on the Track Team during his time as a cadet.
d. Mr. Boland covered the VMI Academic Report. VMI Athletics continues to be on the rise with significant improvement over the past year period. VMI has only lost one NCAA athlete this season due to academic non-compliance.

22. Mr. Latsha, Acting Chair of the Cadet/Military Affairs Committee, reported on the meeting of his Committee.

a. He reported that the ROTC and commissioning program remains strong. He stated that the high quality of officer and staff NCO’s in our detachments is amazing. It was quite evident that they all have a commitment to work together toward a common goal. The Army had the top ROTC cadet in the country and continues to commission more than any other detachment. He also commented that the Air Force is seeking to commission more officers since opening the aperture for more cadets to serve on active duty.

b. He commented that the VMI Boxing Championships will be held by VMI in the spring. He also commented that the ROTC's have a “Spartan Competition” later in the spring that pits service versus service in an effort to promote more unity and cohesion among our future commissionees.

23. Mr. Reeder, Chair of External Relations, reported on the meeting of his Committee.

a. Mr. Reeder reported that the Communications and Marketing Office is in the final stages of procuring the services of a higher education marketing firm to review marketing activities, and to align the marketing program with industry best practices. The study is expected to continue into the summer.

b. Mr. Reeder described to the Board members implementation of the new “Reach Out” app that is now available to cadets. The app, which can be installed on any smart phone, provides information immediately available to cadets to help them respond to incidents of sexual misconduct.

c. Mr. Reeder reported on ongoing VMI Museum operations. He briefed that the VMI Museum put together a PowerPoint presentation on inaugurations for the Corps prior to the parade to provide cadets with context and an appreciation for their participation in the inauguration. He also reported that the carriages of the Cadet Battery were rebuilt using cast aluminum and the battery was returned to its place on the Parade Ground. Author Jeff Shaarar donated $10,000 toward the cost of the new carriages. Finally, the museum system is nearing the end of a two-year process to be reaccredited by the American Museum Association. An on-site visit by evaluators from the association is scheduled for April.

d. Mr. Reeder concluded his remarks by stating that the Jonathan M. Daniels ’61 Humanitarian Award will be presented next spring. He will be chairing the selection committee which plans to meet in the March timeframe. He asked the Board members to
consider any nominees worthy of recognition and to provide those inputs to Lt Col Harrington for consideration by the Committee. The proposed nominee will be presented to the full Board for a vote at the next Board meeting.

24. Mr. Collins reported on the activities of the Nominating and Governance Committee.

   a. Mr. Collins stated the Committee had reviewed a slate of candidates for appointment and reappointment to the Board. The terms for General Jumper and Mr. Latsha are expiring at the end of the academic year. Mr. Boland and LtGen Wilson are eligible for reappointment. The Committee voted to advance Mr. Boland and LtGen Wilson for reappointment and recommended two candidates be submitted as nominees for the two vacant positions. The Committee approved them and recommended them to the full Board. A motion was made by Mr. Collins, seconded by Mr. Hall, that the slate of candidates for appointment and reappointment be approved by the Board. The motion passed unanimously. A copy of the approved slate of candidates will be provided to the VMI Alumni Agency for consideration.

25. The Board took a brief recess at 1116 hours. The Board reconvened at 1125 hours.

26. Entered into Closed Session: A motion was made by General Jumper, seconded by Mr. Hines, to enter into a Closed Session. The motion passed unanimously and the Board entered into Closed Session at 1126 hours to discuss:

   1. Disciplinary and other matters that would involve disclosure of information contained in the scholastic records of specific cadets, pursuant to Va. Code Section 2.2-3711 (A)(2), relating to discipline, sexual assault cases, and Honor Court cases.

   2. Consultation with legal counsel regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel, pursuant to Va. Code Section 2.2-3711 (A)(7), relating to (i) the Office for Civil Rights resolution agreement.

   3. Personnel matters related to the employment, assignment, appointment, or performance of specific individuals (pursuant to Va. Code Section 2.2-3711 (A) 1), pertaining to (i) the Deputy Superintendent for Finance Administration and Support; and (ii) a faculty misconduct matter, and (iii) an issue related to the VMI Police Department in accordance with Va. Code Section 23-2.03.

27. Return to Open Meeting: At 1255 hours, a motion was made by General Jumper, seconded by Mr. Collins, certifying the Closed Meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The Board returned to open session at 1255 hours.
28. There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 1257 hours.

SEAN P. HARRINGTON, Lt Col, USAF (Ret.)
Secretary