



**Iowa-Illinois Chapter National Defense Industrial Association (NDIA) Board of Directors  
Meeting Minutes  
13 July 2021**

1. The Iowa-Illinois Chapter of NDIA Board of Directors held its bi-monthly meeting via Zoom on 13 July 2021. Mr. George Rivard, President, called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. Board Members and Chapter Officers present were Ms. Natalie Linnville-Mass, Mr. Mark Westrom, Mr. Ryan Bunge, Ms. Tammy Dean, Mr. John Masengarb, Ms. Kim White, Ms. Janet Masamoto, and Ms. Joy Fleming. Grace Bradley-Leon joined as a visitor.

2. Mr. Rivard stated that the minutes from the 11 May 2021 Board Meeting were electronically distributed for review and approved by those in attendance. Recommended changes received during the staffing process were accommodated, and the minutes were posted on the Chapter's website.

**3. Treasurer's Report:** Ms. Joy Fleming

a. The Treasurer's Report for the period ending 30 Jun 2021 was viewed. The report showed a computed beginning bank balance of \$80,511.63 in the Chapter's checking and savings accounts. Savings account income of \$4,002.97 was added with the largest income being \$4,000.00 total for the Midwest Regional Conference sponsors. Expenses of \$5,094.64, with the largest expense being for two \$2,500.00 scholarships, were subtracted. Bringing the ending bank balance to \$8079,419.96. There were also three outstanding checks two for \$2,500 in scholarships and one for \$330.00 for annual web maintenance to the Augustana Web Guild. A motion was made by Mr. Mark Westrom to approve the Treasurer's Report. Mr. Masengarb seconded. All were in favor, and the Treasurer's Report was approved.

b. 3<sup>rd</sup> Qtr Financial Report was submitted 10 July 2021. Next Qtr will be due in mid-October.

c. Before the next meeting, Joy and George will prepare the FY2022 budget. Without our large income source, we are still in dire straits, but believe we will be able to put something together. We are banking on going live next year with our symposium.

**4. Scholarship Committee:** Mr. John Masengarb-Chair, Ms. Tammy Dean, Ms. Jan Masamoto, and Mr. Ryan Bunge

a. 13 applications reviewed. Awarded two-\$2,500 NDIA scholarships and two-\$2,500 SGT Paul Fisher scholarships. If you haven't been able to see the website, the winners are: NDIA: Hanna Hentzel from Burlington, IA, Chloe Kalb from Wataga, IA near Burlington, IA, and SGT Fisher: Anna Meyer from Dow City, IA, and Caroline Wolters from Ames, IA.

b. Thank you to the committee for quick turn-around and review. See you again next year.

c. Thank you notes from Hanna and Chloe are posted on the website, and thank yous from Anna and Caroline were verbal. Also, as shared previously, received a thank you from the Quad City Engineering and Science Council.



5. **Mark Westrom Issues:** Engineers not being groomed properly to be put into those roles. That is one of the issues, but broader. Historically, NDIA has been trying to get the STEM scholarships out. There are other sticky/contentious issues not being handled such as not having a knowledge base for armament or engineers in the fields they deal with. Also, history is being lost as old guys pass away. Suggesting that the errors are about to be relived. We have extremely complex business systems or business controls that are inefficient, and political impact that sways the business and procurement industries also. It isn't clear what NDIA is doing to raise concerns about the inefficiencies or get them solved. Some are easy to do such as gathering history for new folks to consult across the services. Some of these things sound simple but are difficult because of turf considerations or if done by internet, how do you control who comes in. It all starts with a beginning. I see NDIA scratching the surface with getting some element of military, industry and academia together and it looks like it would be easier with modern communications to put this together as a centralized NDIA effort or another one outside of NDIA.

Mr. Rivard interjected with he used to and the Command use to put together a history with obstacles and solutions. Picatinny was also putting a database together with lessons learned and project information for up-and-coming engineers. As far as a suggestion for policy, try NDIA Connect and put feelers out to see if you get interest from other NDIA organizations. If get good feedback, it will get the attention of the policy folks. Also, Vital Signs 2021 briefing, this Thursday, as part of virtual conference we are putting on is something to look at. Vital Signs 2021 is on the website to pull up. Acquisition reform has been ongoing forever but haven't heard of any activity lately.

Mr. Westrom is to draft something up with examples and send out to all for any improvements or additions.

5. **Donations Committee:** Mr. Al Kruse/Mr. George Rivard- Co-chairs

a. Joy and George did go to the Frank n' Friday which restarted last Friday, 9 Jul 21. It was actually the grand reopening of that event. It was jam packed even with the new capacity layout. Pictures have been posted to website. Went through 96 hot dogs, ran out of buns.

b. In one of the e-mails, it appears we have two events left. Nothing has been heard on a schedule, but I will get back with them.

6. **AWARDS Committee:** (VACANT)

a. Lifetime Achievement Award nominations are accepted at any time.

b. Need volunteer to refocus and reinvigorate above awards.

7. **Membership:** Ms. Kim White-Chair and Mr. George Rivard

a. Last list dated 31 May 2021; membership stood at 611-up 4.

b. Haven't heard back from Bob Haag with a recommendation for replacement from Crystal Group. Mr. Bunge did receive a name from him but hasn't been able to make contact yet. He was removed from website as he has been removed from roster from NDIA. Wish him well and sounds like he is on to another career.



c. Kim was on mute. She said George stated membership as is and would like to see a little more robust Board of Directors. Excited that Ryan has someone from Crystal Group. Kim would be happy to meet with him as she is not far from Cedar Rapids. Ryan to set something up for them to meet.

8. **Nominating Committee:** (Natalie (Chair), Tammy, Ryan, Al Kruse)

a. Mr. Rivard had offered his draft of officer/board job descriptions several months ago.

b. The Committee has not met. Fast approaching typical time for elections at end of FY, so the group will get back together to get something to put in front of the group to vote on. The succession plan for George was put together last Fall, but it hadn't been voted upon. Need to do that. Mr. Rivard said there were e-mails exchanged, but at least he hadn't seen succession plan draft nor outline. A one-page document is likely sufficient; does not have to be elaborate. The Model Chapter/Chapter of Excellence is coming up with that criterion in there, so Mr. Rivard would like to say that not only do we have a plan but we have or are executing it. The committee is to get together in the next couple weeks. Mr. Rivard will look at to see which direction they need to go with the succession plan. Then, send out to Board to approve. Time is of the essences as Mr. Rivard needs to attach it for the Chapter of Excellence.

c. Positions are up again in September. Anyone who wants to fill a position, to make a nomination, or to have other Board members come on board, please send to Natalie prior to September meeting. We are also slated to have a symposium in 2022, so if there are any volunteers for that, she would like to know that too.

9. **Program Committee.** Ms. Natalie Linville-Mass-Chair, Ms. Kim White and Mr. John Masengarb.

a. Next large non-virtual symposium is targeted for May of 2022.~Sep 2021 Planning Believe that Ms. Huber is still on board with helping with the symposium. Will be looking at new sites. Interested in checking out Bend XPO area as it is now finished. Will call to take a tour and get pricing with Ms. Huber.

b. **Smaller Virtual Events**

- We did have our event first. We were able to get sponsors to come up with the money, and we had a lot of date changes.
- There is a bonus event with Col Hallman from NDIA this Thursday.
- Boeing is coming up from Great Rivers Chapter.
- Our sponsors from our event and Great Lakes will get added publicity at the event on Thursday.
- We had good attendance with 77 out of 137 registered.
- We had about that many for the Great Lakes Event held 22 Jun with MG Ross Coffman, Next Gen Vehicles was an exciting speaker.
- We have maybe 40 some registered for Col Hallman, USAF (Ret), Senior Vice President, Strategy & Policy, NDIA 15 July 9:00-10:00 am CST event. That will be a good event to listen to giving an overview of the Vital Signs 2021.
- Natalie and her group did a good job on the Constant Contact, Facebook, and LinkedIn. Mr. Rivard put some things up on LinkedIn to market our events, and PTACs posted information about it.
- Everyone worked pretty good together on it.



- The last Virtual Event of Series-Reschedule from 29 Jun to 22 July hosted by Great Rivers Chapter. Keynote: Mr. John Frederick, Director, State & Local Government Relations, The Boeing Company. His session is now integrated into Day 1 (Free) of the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Wisconsin Government Opportunities Business Conference (GOBC).

10. **Website/Facebook/Constant Contact.** Mr. George Rivard and Ms. Natalie Linville-Mass

a. Normal website maintenance plus posting of Virtual Event/Sponsors, Scholarship recipients, 2020 Model Chapter Certificate, and Frank n' Fridays.

b. Ms. Linville-Mass noted that the last July/September meetings we opened our meeting up to the group at different locations. Do we want to do that for this September? George made it clear the meetings were at other locations in order to recognize and honor corporate members; not so much as a membership meeting. Also, we had an annual meeting in the past for all members, but dropped it as it was only those who regularly came to meetings attended. Natalie asked members present what their thoughts were. It received a positive response. Mr. Rivard left it up to Ms. Linville-Mass to set it up; perhaps with Crystal Group. Mr. Bunge expressed his concern that they were approaching Crystal Group for Board member, and perhaps it was wasn't a good idea to also approach them to host a meeting. Ms. Linville-Mass asked Mr. Rivard to send her his contacts for Caterpillar to see if they would now be interested. Ms. White probably has better contact information. She is to send to Natalie and copy furnish George tomorrow.

c. 71 followers on Facebook.

d. Constant Contact eblasts for new virtual events.

e. NDIA will have Event Management module in near future for Chapter use.

11. **STEM Committee:** Ms. Celia Hadden-Chair and Mr. George Rivard

Unfortunately, Ms. Hadden is on vacation. She was going to update us on the remaining STEM budget.

12. **Small Business Committee:** Ms. Natalie Linville-Mass/Ms. Janet Masamoto-Co-chairs

No activity. We used to try to link with NDIA Small Business. Ms. Linville-Mass has not seen any e-mails and is not sure how to connect with them. Mr. Rivard believes there is a section in NDIA Connect. Natalie asked George to send that. Mr. Rivard stated that a few years ago NDIA used to request there be two Small Business contacts, but he never heard anything after that.

13. **NEW/OTHER BUSINESS/INFO:**

a. **Model Chapter/Chapter of Excellence:** Attended NDIA Webinar on 16 Jun describing new fillable .pdf and criteria. Submission due NLT 3 Sep to National. Want to complete as much as possible by mid-Aug. George will prepare but needs help specifically in the Chapter Membership Outreach section, from Natalie, and Chapter Financials from Joy.



- b. **National Defense Industrial Association Member Leadership Council (NMLC)** – No recent meeting, but something scheduled for August. Topics unknown. In past, talked about Treasurer function. Not much going on there. Mr. Rivard had informed us about the push back from the larger Chapters with the million-dollar accounts as far as pulling that to National. Now, National is backing off on how they will manage that and meet the non-profit audit requisites they have as far as fiduciary responsibility. They are pretty much leaving us alone. We could do a trial program, but Mr. Rivard don't see doing that. We were prepared and did send in our recommendation of how we would like it to be done. Mr. Rivard is just letting it ride for now.
- c. Still would like to have all corporate members to have POC specifically to collect and channel policy issues they have that NDIA may be able to assist in seeking resolution.
- d. **Location for next meeting.** Virtual Event - 14 September 2021, 5PM. ZOOM invites were sent for all meetings. Will try to get Caterpillar engaged and will keep ZOOM invite for those who can't attend.
- e. On Model Chapter, Mr. Rivard needs input from Ms. Linville-Mass and Ms. Fleming for the application. He did send that out. It has been modified to be able to save changes without losing information. Thanks to Mr. Rivard's suggestions.
- f. There will be a Leadership Conference; assuming at NDIA, live. Believe it is sometime in November. Model Chapter of Excellence Awards are supposed to be at the Conference.
- **Note:** We remain booked another year thru November 2021. Will be in conjunction with Rock Island Ale House. Holiday Inn (Jamie) has confirmed the schedule (2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, every other month, starting in January 2021) and knows are default currently is virtual. Mr. Rivard knows it is still good to meet in person once in a while. SCORE is now resuming face-to-face meetings.
- g. Motion was made by Mr. Masengarb to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Bunge seconded. All were in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 5:42 p.m.

*The NDIA has a policy of strict compliance with federal and state antitrust laws. The antitrust laws prohibit competitors from engaging in actions that could result in an unreasonable restraint of trade. Consequently, NDIA members must avoid discussing certain topics when they are together – both at formal association membership, board, committee, and other meetings and in informal contacts with other industry members: prices, fees, rates, profit margins, or other terms or conditions of sale (including allowances, credit terms, and warranties); allocation of markets or customers or division of territories; or refusals to deal with or boycotts of suppliers, customers or other third parties, or topics that may lead participants not to deal with a particular supplier, customer or third party.*