

National Guard Association of Washington (NGAW)

June Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Meeting Details Information

Date 18 June 2026

Call to Order 1133

Adjournment 1235

Attendance

Name	Role / Title	Status
Fernando Garcia	President	Present
Jesse Morgan	Vice President	Present
Jim Kovell	Secretary	Present
Erin McMichael	Executive Director	Present
Brian Golonka	Office Manager	Present
Russell Anderson	Membership Director	Present
Jack Androski	Director of Development (Pending)	Present
Missy Wessman	Communications Manager	Present
Courtney Lawson	Minuteman Chair	Present
Jeffrey Cole	Treasurer	Present
Sophia Wahto	Legislative Director	Present

Motions and Approvals

Motion	Proposed By	Seconded By	Result
Approve May Board Meeting Minutes with amendment (correcting Courtney Lawson's title to Minuteman Chair)	Jim Kovell	Fernando Garcia	Approved
Approve the FY26-27 Budget as presented	Jeffrey Cole	Jesse Morgan	Approved

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Approve \$500 from the Unit Giving Fund to support the E9 Luncheon on FAFB	Fernando Garcia	Jim Kovell	Approved
Formally recognize and thank Erin McMichael for her outstanding service, hard work, and accomplishments as NGAW Executive Director, wishing her the best in future endeavors	Jim Kovell	Fernando Garcia	Approved

Executive Director Transition & FY26-27 Budget

Subject	Discussion & Action Items
Budget Overview	Jeff Cole presented the FY26-27 budget built on 5-year averages for revenue and expenses. Delineations for Association-only revenue/expenses were confirmed.
Golf Tournament Accounting	Clarified account routing: Sponsorship revenues go to the Foundation account; registration fees go to the Association account.
QuickBooks Transition	Erin recommended migrating to QuickBooks via TechSoup for \$80/year. Jeff will meet with Erin prior to her departure to secure Foundation numbers for the next board meeting.
ED Vacancy Interim Plan	In lieu of an immediate ED replacement, the Board will launch the Ambassador Program (budgeted at \$36K for travel/meal expenses). This program leverages recent retirees to assist in fundraising.
Operational Duties	The President and Vice President will absorb remaining ED responsibilities in the interim. Delineation of separate grant writing duties and a future reduced-responsibility ED role remain options.

Financial & Committee Reports

Committee / Officer	Updates & Discussion Points
Treasurer's Report	Jeff Cole reported CD1 is active; CD2 will launch in four months. Tax filing extension is in place through November; Jeff to sync with the tax preparation team.
Legislative Report	Sophia is researching State Active Duty (SAD) benefits for the next session. Jesse raised concerns regarding L&I coverage gaps for injuries/illnesses (specifically PTSD/BH) not reported while on SAD.

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Sophia confirmed the State Conference resolutions package has been submitted to NGAUS/EANGUS.

Membership Report

Russell Anderson reviewed active numbers, noting 240 retirees. Russell and Fernando are scheduled on the VFW State Commander's calendar on September 3rd to discuss VFW sponsorships.

Action Items (Membership)

1. Fernando to research price points for Civil Air Patrol memberships.
2. Jim to research associated by-law impacts of CAP memberships.
3. Missy to look into low-cost lifetime membership options.

Old & New Business

Topic	Discussion / Action Items
Scholarships & Gear	All scholarship checks have been successfully mailed. Brian purchased the new lawnmower and came in \$500 under budget.
E9 Luncheon (Spokane)	Approximately 75 E9s are expected. The approved \$500 donation from the Unit Giving Fund (supplementing USAA funds) leaves \$500 remaining in the joint fund.
Club/Bar Initiative	TAG remains interested in opening an on-base bar. Courtney Lawson will assist. The board will research Idaho's successful model program.
Payment Processing	Brian proposed utilizing Stripe portable readers to replace Gravity processing. Detailed proposal to be submitted before the next meeting.
Corporate Sponsorships	The board agreed with national associations to reject lifetime corporate sponsorships. Will instead explore multi-year discount structures (e.g., 5-year).
Golf Tournament	Agenda item flagged for next meeting: review tournament swag bags.

NGAUS / EANGUS Professional Development (PD) Coordination

Deadlines: NGAUS (3 July) | EANGUS (7 July)

Delegate Category / Action Item	Lead Assigned	Status / Follow-Up
Executive Director Role	Fernando	Confirmed attending NGAUS
Delegate	Garcia	
W2	N/A	Registered
Georgia Lamb (PD Candidate)	Jesse Morgan	Follow up on registration status

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E6 and Below PD Candidates	Fernando Garcia	Actively recruiting
CSEs / CMsgt Nolan Coordination	Courtney Lawson	Follow up with CMsgt Nolan
S1, A1, DJS, and State/LCC CSMs	Jim Kovell	Follow up on attendance status
CCWO Coordination	Jack Androski	Follow up on Chief Warrant Officer attendance

Minutes Prepared by:

James Kovell

Secretary

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