

Army ROTC Advisory Board Minutes
10 AUG 2026, 2:00-3:30 pm
In-person and Zoom Meeting

Present

- Chairman, COL (Ret.) Barry Baer
- Mr. Damian Friend
- Mr. Gabe Bodner
- Mr. Jeff Sears
- Mr. Aaron Sager
- Mr. Jake Shepherd
- Mr. David Scott
- COL (Ret.) David Ray
- BG (Ret.) Jesse Morehouse
- COL (Ret.) Michael Stowell
- Ms. Lisa Darrah

LTC Wyatt Ottmar
MAJ Matthew Chase
SFC Eric Nutt
Ms. Meggan Foster

Quorum 60%, 10 members at
beginning of meeting

Absent

- COL (Ret.) Dale Farrand
- Mr. Andy Flynn
- Mr. Kevin Ruelas

Meeting requirements

- Mr. Baer confirmed all members who were present and absent, quorum was met
- Mr. Baer called the meeting to order

Introduction of two new cadre

MAJ Chase introduced LTC Ottmar and SFC Nutt

- LTC Wyatt Ottmar came to us from Central Washington University Army ROTC branching in Armor, went on to Iraqi Freedom, served two stints as instructor, was APMS at Eastern Washington University, went to Naval War College for his Masters, deployed to Afghanistan, then was a program instructor at NGSW, served as XO with 199th Brigade, then spent two years in Australia as an instructor, and now here at the GBB.
- SFC Eric Nutt has served 16 years in the Army, assigned to Korea and Afghanistan, obtained tons of experience over his career and now serving for the first time in a college setting.

Purpose of board

COL Baer reviewed the reasons for the Advisory Board

- Provide material support
- Ambassadors on/off campus
- Raise issues to Cadet Command or at university level while acting on AROTC's behalf
- COL Baer noted
 - o That the new CU Chancellor is very welcoming to the military, actually presents special cord for graduation to all veterans
 - o That CU-Boulder also has an internal advisory board with CU faculty/ administration assisting with issues on campus for the ROTC units
 - o This Advisory Board has had two resignations from the membership [COL (Ret.) Bill Ostlund and LTC Sarah Howes]

Who we are

MAJ Chase and LTC Ottmar reviewed the latest overview of the GBB

- Ranked top 5 schools nationally after CST results
- Currently have 146 cadets in the program with 70 at CU-Boulder
- Cadet Command determined that Regis University will no longer be a part of the GBB
- We are expecting 5 NCO Cadre to the program, largest number seen in a while
- We still strive to be a "Cadet-led organization" where cadets lead all activities with guidance from cadre

LRTC schedule

LTC Ottmar discussed the upcoming events for this fall and beyond

- All 3 company's will have a new student orientation at the end of August/beginning of September
- Fall FTX is early again this year, set for September 17-20 at Guernsey, Wyoming
- October is full of events like the Ranger Challenge and Superlab
- Still haven't heard back from CU Athletics on the Stadium Clean-up schedule, those dates are tentative for the fall football season
- Looking ahead in the spring our FTX will be in April down at USAFA
- David Scott noted that more alumni would like to be involved/help out with the GBB – he currently has 266 alumni on Facebook and 40 alumni on LinkedIn

CST results

LTC Ottmar reviewed the results compiled from this summer's camp

- Again we are the top 5 schools nationally in leadership, ranked 76% for leadership "excellence" and 29% national average
- We had 1 RECONDO this year (unlike the 3 we had last summer)
- Ranked 35th in the nation in average cadet evaluation points
- LTC Ottmar noted that areas to focus work on is hand grenade throwing and marksmanship
- MAJ Chase mentioned the agreement that is in the works with Integrated Physiology and Professor Peter Kim will also assist with our overall fitness test scores (OUE and Erika Randall has given \$13,500 to pay for half of a graduate student to head this "one year pilot")
- COL Baer asked about how the results affect the students OML – MAJ Chase will find out the CST cadets national ranking in early September, he will share the results after he reviews them with the cadets
- A question came up about the interview process with branching and how that affects the overall OML – MAJ Chase said that the branches don't publish the interview results, so unsure how much the interview makes or breaks a cadets branch choices

Cadre inbound/outbound update

- MAJ Matthew Chase asked for an extension, so he will be here for another year (until summer 2028)
- CPT McGuire put in for an extension to be here until June/July instead of end of December
- SFC Castillo is looking to put in for retirement, but not confirmed
- CPT Meaux will be here until next summer, leaving with her husband when he goes to ILE
- CPT Hermerding out spring or summer of next year
- LTC McKenna also out spring or summer of next year
- Expecting a new Sergeant coming soon to act as our supply tech (Cadet Command not filling slot with civilian staff)

- Expecting another NCO assigned to MSUD in early September and potentially 2 more NCO's coming

Top 5 points/ideas, plus other updates/obstacles

LTC Ottmar reviewed the top big 5 ideas

- [1] Old campus rifle range – still unobtainable due to environmental and building issues):
 - o Department has obtained rifles to practice marksmanship
 - o Would like to use the “dance studio” in Carlson Gym for the rifle training
 - Space owned by the Provost office – need to look into asking for space for AROTC
- [2] Integrated Physiology partnership:
 - o Working with Prof. Kim on MOU and details on start of program
 - o OUE has agreed to pay for half of the salary of a graduate student
- [3] Land use for training/labs/FTX:
 - o Need location of land close to campus since expecting South Campus to go off-line soon
 - o Suggested to look into Boulder County or City of Boulder Open Space areas – ask either entity if land usage is possible (Marshall Mesa?)
 - MAJ Chase mentioned that CPT Meaux was tasked with looking into this as an option
 - MAJ Chase also mentioned that we are using Open Space for Fall Superlab
- [4] Cadre tuition benefits:
 - o MAJ Chase reported seeing email from Navy Commander on the money given to ROTC for tuition costs – but OUE came back and stated certain documentation was needed to be defined in order for that to happen
 - o MAJ Chase also mentioned that CPT McGuire was our choice for the tuition dollars
- [5] Meat locker location:
 - o LTC Ottmar reported that Cadet Command has designated us as a primary supply issuer for new cadet gear, so more space is needed
 - o MAJ Chase mentioned that we put in a request to obtain part of the old print shop in the Stadium – just waiting to hear back from the CU space optimization group
 - o Basically looking for a closer space to easily distribute gear to cadets

Other topics introduced

- MAJ Chase mentioned we need to follow-up with Erika Randall from OUE regarding a meeting with the CU financial aid and recruiting teams to discuss our needs for potential incoming freshmen
 - o Discuss the restrictions seen when a student receives an CU on-campus scholarship, but has to give up other scholarships awarded due to that one CU scholarship
 - o Meggan to follow-up with Ms. Randall to schedule a meeting with LTC Ottmar and MAJ Chase
- MAJ Chase also mentioned that the “Stripes scholarship” now includes in-state tuition (used to be for only out-of-state cadets)
- MAJ Chase reported that Ms. Hageman saw that four national scholarship winners passed on coming to CU due to the scholarship limitations

Additional items

COL Baer added a discussion on board engagement/challenges:

- COL Baer mentioned that board members are wanting to help out more, but need ways to engage with cadets through the cadre.
 - o COL Baer mentioned the financial readiness class that he taught to the MSIV's last year – cadet feedback was that it was very beneficial
 - o Mr. Sager mentioned that more information needs to be added to the “Board Profile and Details” excel sheet – like a column stating what board members can help out with
 - Example that Mr. Sager is a photographer and will provide free photography for any AROTC events if asked

Meeting closed at 3:38pm

Next meeting will be in September/October and then January/February (scholarship selections meeting) and information will be sent out soon