



Friday, May 19, 2023

CONTACT: Col. Bill Wyatt, 540-464-7207

### ***VMI Board of Visitors Concludes Spring Business***

On Thursday, May 18, the VMI Board of Visitors met to conclude unfinished business from their April 27 – 29, 2023, spring meeting. The meeting was held virtually and was conducted almost entirely in closed session. The primary topic of discussion was the annual performance review of VMI superintendent, Maj. Gen. Cedric T. Wins '85, for the 2022-2023 academic year, an annual requirement per the Board of Visitors' By-Laws. Additionally, the board developed a salary recommendation for the superintendent for the 2023-2024 academic year.

In order to avoid further budgetary constraints and to allocate resources elsewhere, prior to the meeting, the superintendent indicated his desire to forgo any salary increase for himself for the upcoming year including the scheduled 5% increase for state employees enacted by the General Assembly in 2022. The Board of Visitors unanimously approved this recommendation. Additionally, a majority of the board members voted to award Maj. Gen. Wins a \$50,000 bonus for his performance between July 1, 2022, through the present.

“You only needed to witness the spectacular commissioning and commencement ceremonies held earlier in the week to see that VMI continues to deliver on its mission of educating and training leaders of character,” said Tom Watjen '76, president of the VMI Board of Visitors. “Yesterday, we had a very thorough review of the superintendent’s performance, and while I believe there are many good things occurring at the Institute, there are always opportunities for improvement. I’d specifically point to the enrollment levels in the fall, which were well below our expectations which has created other challenges at the Institute. While I feel that we are now headed in the right direction, these factors needed to be included in our evaluation. The majority of the board felt that a bonus was appropriate, but at a reduced level compared to previous years.”

- V M I -