

Mormon Battalion Association

Minutes – Executive Leadership Meeting

7:00 PM, Thursday, 17 October 2019

LTC Max Jamison Residence and via GoToMeeting.com

189 E. 1864 South, Orem, UT 84058

The Mormon Battalion Association Executive Staff meets at least once per quarter on the third Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm, except when that day is a holiday or conflicts with another event. In that case, the meeting will be re-scheduled and the Executive Leadership will be notified of the change. Members of the public are invited to attend. *Policy:* As with U.S. Congressional minutes, anyone can read appropriate items into the minutes. In the interest of expediency, all participants should be familiar with our proposed minutes *before* each meeting. We will only address items requiring discussion and decisions. The Action Item Review may refer to more detailed discussion in Membership Reports, Member Advisory Committee Reports, and Commander's Staff Reports.

Executive Staff Attendance: The following were present: LTC Max W. Jamison (Battalion Commander), MAJ Laura Anderson (Senior Historian), MAJ Val John Halford (Quartermaster/Logistics Officer), Mike Anderson (Chair of the Historians Editorial Review Board), and Kevin Henson (Trails Experts).

The following were absent: COL Jerome Gourley (Battalion Commander's Chief Advisor and Executive Secretary of the Board of Directors), COL Carl V. Larson (Battalion Executive Officer) and Margaret Larson (Acting Membership/Human Relations Officer) who are working at the Payson Temple, CPT Todd Crappa (Chief Finance Officer and Board Member) who is caring for his special needs family, MAJ Clark Olsen (Scouting Relations Officer) who is working, CSM David Munford (Command Sergeant Major) who is working in Heber Valley, and Steve Reinhart (Judge Advocate General),.

Board of Directors Attendance: The following were absent: Edwin Kimball (Chair), James Waite (Vice Chair), Greg Christofferson, Guy Dickson, Ashley Hall, Dennis Holland, and Al Matheson (Members).

Local Leadership Attendance: The following were present: SGT David Jamiel (Colorado Squad) and CPT Thomas Griggs (Eastern Idaho Squad).

The following were absent: CPT Blaine Bachman (Albuquerque Squad), SGT Larry Bilyeu (Cedar City Squad),.

Associated Organization Attendance: The following was present: Peter Guilbert (California LDS Living History Mission, Northern California Area).

Guests: Aspen Anderson (website designer).

Welcome / Call to Order / Recognize Guests / Administrative Items

LTC Jamison

Invocation

SGT David Jamiel

Minutes of 19 September 2019 Executive Leadership Meeting – Approved

General Business:

Recognition & Awards

None

Service Opportunities

See <https://www.JustServe.org>™ website.

Project Request Forms and Annual Budget Requests

We have received no *Project Request Forms* and *Annual Budget Requests* from local units. We can only allocate funds to you if we know your plans and needs.

Action Item Review:

Leadership:

- All: Recruit civic and community leaders to serve on our new **Board of Directors**. We have two remaining unfilled positions.
- All: Find viable candidates to run for offices of **Battalion Commander (*ex officio* President of Board)** and **Battalion Executive Officer (*ex officio* Vice President of Board)**, who will stand for election for two years. Section 2.02 of the *Articles of Incorporation* states that they coordinate and direct all member activities. Their roles are that of Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Chief Operations Officer (COO).
- All: Find individuals willing to serve as **1st Executive Director** (S7 - Senior Historian) and **2nd Executive Director** (S1 - Adjutant General) of the Battalion Continental Support Staff. Section 2.02 of the *Articles of Incorporation* states that they manage all administrative support business matters. Their roles are that of Chief Business Executive (CBE) and Chief of Business Operations (CBO), supervising the Battalion Continental Support Staff. *MAJ Anderson and CPT Griggs were nominated, respectively for the two Executive Director positions.*

Finances:

- LTC Jamison: Work with CPA Gary Lunt, Steven Reinhart, and legal colleague to prepare IRS Form 1023. *In process.*
- LTC Jamison: Prepare summary of finances to forward to Board of Directors for internal audit. *In process.*

Mormon Battalion Historic Trails Awards:

- COL Gourley and Greg Christofferson: *Continue* coordination with Elder D. Todd Christofferson regarding continued association between LDS Church and Mormon Battalion Association, including historical research and LDS participation.
- CSM Munford and Greg Christofferson: Arrange for a meeting in the near future with the youth leadership of the LDS Church to obtain their endorsement and support for our new awards program.
- Dennis Holland: Coordinate placement of posters and website information with Mormon Battalion Historic Site, San Diego, California, and other strategic locations in California.

Honorary Memberships:

- Dennis Holland: Submit list of current and past missionaries for honorary membership certificates to LTC Jamison.
- LTC Jamison: Contact Mormon Battalion Historic Site, San Diego for list of current and past missionaries for honorary membership certificates.
- LTC Jamison and Kevin Henson: Send honorary membership certificates to those who have so kindly assisted Mr. Henson in his historical research for and about the Mormon Battalion, particularly Tim Kimball, Terry Latey, and Gail Holmes.
- LTC Jamison, Dennis Holland, Dennis Amaral, and Guy Dickson: Provide honorary membership certificates to current and past California LDS Living History Mission members. *Peter Guilbert will help put together a list for Northern California.*

Website Updates:

- LTC Jamison: Create new recruiting materials (brief background of Association and donation page with receipt) for website to go with Membership Application. Forward copies to David Jamiel.
- LTC Jamison and SGT Jamiel: Complete four Historical Fact sheets and post on website:
 - *The Mormon Battalion Monument*, Pueblo, Colorado.
 - *Peaceful Valley Sign – Mormon Battalion Interpretive Panels* adjacent to Kiowa County Courthouse, Kiowa, Colorado.
 - *Trapper Trails Monument* in the Adams County Historical Site, Brighton, Colorado.
 - *California Trail Interpretive Center* in Elko, Nevada.

“All Things Mormon Battalion” Project:

- Dan Roper: Implement Release 4.0 as quickly as possible. *He is working with Aspen Anderson, a professional website designer, to build our new website using open source software similar to Dan’s proposal. They are scheduled to meet with LTC Jamison and MAJ Anderson Saturday afternoon. (See New Business.)*
- All: Nominate indexers good at reading cursive to MAJ Anderson to help with indexing and transcription in Kindex™ software.
- COL Gourley and LTC Jamison: Follow up with Greg Christofferson regarding his contacts with our friends with deep pockets to fund \$20,000 for two BYU students in Dr. Jill Crandall’s BYU Center for Family History and Genealogy to find and digitize original “cradle to grave” documents of the approximately 2,000 members of the original Mormon Battalion and their laundresses, guides, and family members.

Research Mormon Battalion Association Documents in BYU Special Collections:

- LTC Jamison: Research missing history of Mormon Battalion Association from late 1940s through late 1990s in the Special Collections, Harold B. Lee Library, Brigham Young University.

Membership Reports:

Affiliate Organization Reports:

1. Battalion Trek/MapNTour.com (Michigan Contingent) – Kevin and Denny Henson: x

2. Boy Scouts of America: No report.

3. California LDS Living History Mission, Southern California Area – Guy Dickson: None

4. California LDS Living History Mission, Northern California Area – Dennis Amaral:

Past Activities:

- 17 August – Sutter’s Fort
- 18 August – Group Meeting, Citrus Heights
- 15 September – Group Meeting, Citrus Heights
- 13-14 September – American Heritage Day, Rocklin, CA, 1,500 children

5. California Pioneer Heritage Foundation – Dennis Holland: No report.

6. Daughters of Utah Pioneers: No report.

7. Early Saints Research Group – MAJ Laura Anderson: No report.

8. FamilySearch™: No report.

9. Friends of the Battalion & Ship *Brooklyn* – President Donald L. Eastman: No report.

10. Heritage Trails Association – Marilyn Mills: No report.

11. Mormon Battalion Arizona (Mesa Company) – CPT Owen Garner: No report.

12. Mormon Battalion Historic Site, San Diego, California: No report.

13. Mormon Battalion Volunteers, Historic Reenactment Group, Utah Living History Association. – CPT Jared Cornell: No report.

14. Mormon History Association – President Brian Cannon: No report.

15. Old Spanish Trail Association (OSTA) – Ashley Hall: No report.

16. Sons of Utah Pioneers: No report.

17. Oregon-California Trail Association (OCTA) – Gar Elison, Convention Committee Chairman: (Kevin Henson) Laura and Kevin attended and made presentations. Side conversations regarding 27-29 January 2022. OCTA Administrator, Travis Boley, discussed midyear OCTA convention in San Diego in association with Becky Davies, LDS Public Relations Representative and 13 stake LDS commemoration in Old Town, San Diego.

18. Santa Fe Trail Association – No report.

Board of Directors Reports: No report.

Local Unit Reports:

Headquarters (HHC) Company – MAJ Clark Olsen: No report.

Utah North Platoon – CPT Robert Olson: No report.

Eastern Idaho Squad – CPT Thomas Griggs: No report.

Logan Squad – James Waite: No report.
Ogden Section – MAJ Clark Olsen: No report.
Salt Lake Squad – CSM Munford: No report.
Utah South Platoon – LTC Jerry Harris: No report.
Albuquerque Squad – CPT Blaine Bachman: No report.
Cedar City Squad – SGT Larry Bilyeu: No report.
Colorado Squad – SGT David Jamiel: Four events coming in the next week.
St. George Squad – CPT Robert Wood: COL Gourley made several Eagle Scout slide presentations.
White Mountain Squad – CPT David Crockett: No report.
Field Company – CPT Lynn Tegland: No report.
California Detached Section – LTC Frank Szeles: No report.
California South Squad (aka “B” Company): No report.
Arizona Detached Section: No report.
Yuma Squad – CPT Gary L. Smith: No report.
At Large Members – No report.

Membership Advisory Committee Reports:

- 1. Art Committee – Mike Anderson:** Working on plans for a new painting.
- 2. Website Historians Editorial Review Board (HERB) – Mike Anderson:** New list of approved documents submitted to LTC Jamison.
- 3. “All Things Mormon Battalion” Project –** No report.
- 4. Mormon Battalion Historic Trails Award Program Committee – CSM Munford, Chair:** No Report.
- 5. 2022 Events – Kevin Henson:** 175th Anniversary of Battalion passage events making contacts and building interest along Mormon Battalion Trail. 200th Anniversary of Santa Fe Trail at Bent Fort, Colorado.

Commander’s Staff Reports:

1. Senior Historian’s Report – MAJ Anderson:

Dr. Crandall, Kevin Henson, and I will be presenting and the Oregon California Trails Association (OCTA) Convention in Santa Fe on 3-10 September. I will have some expenses on the OCTA Santa Fe trip in September, but these will be minimal, as OCTA will give me some stipend money for speaking. This will give the Mormon Battalion Association a lot of exposure and help with networking with those who are in these areas for putting together our future events.

I plan on going on my fourth Battalion sponsored trip to the NARA in November, when the specialists are there again this year. Hopefully, the Battalion can help with this trip! LTC Jamison and Kevin Hensen are talking about joining me on this trip.

2. Commander’s Report – LTC Jamison: No report.

Continental Support Staff Reports:

1. Chief Finance Officer Report – CPT Crappa: (LTC Jamison) We currently have a bank balance of **\$10,839.92**, up from \$10,823.98. Since our last meeting in August, we have had the following activity:

a. Main Share Savings:

- *Deposits:* None
- *Current Balance:* **\$1.05**
- *Pending Expenditures:* None

b. General Fund:

- *Deposits:* \$0.12 interest, \$27.50 cash donations, and \$257.76 PayPal deposits,

- *Expenditures:* \$39.40 for normal monthly fee from GoToMeeting.com™ and \$179.40 for annual internet service provider services.
- *Current Balance:* **\$2,747.66**, up from \$2,733.48
- *Pending Expenditures:* \$250.00 to Gary Lunt, CPA, to prepare IRS Form 1023, normal monthly shipping and handling fees, and normal \$39.26 monthly fee from GoToMeeting.com
- *Pending Deposits:* \$1,000.00 donation from Maj Laura Anderson, which would be forwarded to Kindex to further their work in our behalf

c. Arts Fund:

- *Deposits:* \$2.58 interest
- *Expenditures:* None
- *Current Balance:* **6.745.00**, up from \$6,742.42
- *Pending Expenditures:* None

d. Historical Research Fund:

- *Deposits:* \$0.29 interest
- *Expenditures:* None
- *Current Balance:* **\$1.347.32**, up from \$1,347.03
- *Pending Expenditures:* Minimal stipends for MAJ Anderson's and Kevin Henson's trip to represent us at the September OCTA Convention in Santa Fe, and a \$250.00 stipend for MAJ Anderson's November NARA trip, and Mr. Henson also requested assistance with funding the search for and marking of the common grave of **PVTs James Hampton and John Green** in New Mexico.

We have gradually depleted the \$10,000 Historical Research Fund grant given us three years ago, and need to start raising funds to continue this vital work. Pending those donations, LTC Jamison suggests that we transfer some funds from our Arts Fund to the Historical Research Fund.

2. Webmaster – LTC Jamison: No report.

New Business

(Open to Floor)

1. Implications of LTC Jamison Marrying – Delegation of authority and tasks per discussion last month:

- Accouterments have been transferred to MAJ Halford in Farmington, Utah
- Quartermaster Store has been transferred to MAJ (promoted) Griggs in Idaho Falls, Idaho, who is setting up tax free status there.
- Battalion Library to be transferred to MAJ Anderson in Tooele, Utah, who will assess for digitizing and hosting on our new website. LTC Jamison and MAJ Anderson will inventory and donate hard copies to BYU, Bancroft Library, or Great Basin Community College in Elko, NV.
- Obtaining duplicate debit card for MAJ Anderson for easier travel expense payment
- LTC Jamison will continue, remotely if necessary, as Battalion Commander until released, but will continue to actively serve the Battalion as webmaster and any other functions requested.

2. Proposed Restructuring of Battalion Leadership – Proposal submitted to Board of Directors on 12 October. Approval expected shortly.

- **Battalion Executive Officer** on Executive Staff and Board of Directors – I propose that we release COL Carl V. Larson from this position with a vote of thanks. He asked to be released several years ago when he was called to serve in the then new Payson Temple. We need to continue searching for a replacement for him.
- **1st Executive Director** on Executive Staff and Board of Directors (currently vacant) – I propose that we fill this vacancy with MAJ Laura Anderson, currently our Senior Historian. This position concentrates on External Affairs, and I propose that she continue with the dual title of Senior Historian. Assuming your approval, I have already started the process of making her a cosigner on our bank accounts, and requesting a debit card in her name so that she can (with approval) charge her expenses directly instead of obtaining stipends. Pending your approval, she will consider accepting this position.
- **2nd Executive Director** on Executive Staff and Board of Directors (currently vacant) – I propose that we fill this vacancy with CPT Thomas Griggs, currently Commander of the Eastern Idaho Squad, Utah North Platoon, HHC

Company. This position concentrates on Internal Affairs. I propose he be given the dual titles of Adjutant General and subordinate Quartermaster/Logistics Officer and be promoted to the honorary rank of Major. His internal duties would be analogous to a military Adjutant General, i.e., "responsible for providing personnel support that affects Soldiers' overall welfare and well-being, while assisting commanders by accounting for and keeping Soldiers combat-ready." Pending your approval, he has accepted this position. He would continue in his current role as Eastern Idaho Squad Commander until we can find a replacement.

- **Finance Officer** on the Executive Staff and Board of Directors – I propose that we release CPT Todd Crappa with a vote of thanks. He has been unable to perform his function for over two years due to family health issues. We need to look for a replacement for him.
- **Judge Advocate General** on the Battalion Commander's Advisory Staff – I propose that we release Steven L. Rinehart from this position with a vote of thanks. He has been unable to perform his function for several two years due to other pressing activities. I propose we appoint David Day, a lawyer who recently joined the Battalion, to this position. Pending your approval, he has accepted this position. I propose that we offer him the honorary rank of Major.
- **Membership Officer** on Executive Staff – I propose that we release Margaret Larson from this position with a vote of thanks. She, like her husband, asked to be released several years ago when she was called to serve in the then new Payson Temple. We need to continue searching for a replacement for her.
- **Reenactor Coordinator** on the Executive Staff (new position) – I propose that we transfer MAJ Val John Halford from his current position as Quartermaster/Logistics Officer to this new position under MAJ Anderson. Pending your approval, he has accepted this new assignment.
- **Acquisitions/Fund Raising Officer** on the Executive Staff (new position) – I propose that we offer Greg Christofferson this new position, while continuing him as a member of the Board. He is unaware of my proposal as of this writing.

3. Proposed New Website –Per 15 August 2019 decision, LTC Jamison contracted with Aspen Anderson to redesign website implementing Dan Roper's Release 4.0 template. Ms. Anderson, MAJ Anderson, and LTC Jamison held initial discussions and signed a contract on 5 October, and early design review by Dan Roper and the HERB began today. Will soon hold detailed discussions with Dan Roper as soon as possible.

Projected Action Items

x Leadership:

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Closing Remarks & Inspirational Thought

LTC Jamison

None

Benediction

MAJ Anderson

Next Executive Staff Meeting:

7:00 PM, Thursday, 19 December 2019

(No meeting in November)

Residence of LTC Max W. Jamison

189 E. 1864 South

Orem, UT 84058