

# Mormon Battalion Association

## Minutes – Board of Directors Meeting

11:00 AM, Friday, 12 September 2014

LTC Max Jamison Residence, 2854 N. Augusta Drive  
Lehi, UT 84043

The Mormon Battalion Association Board of Directors meets at least once a year at a time and place of their mutual agreement.

**Board of Directors Attendance:** The minimum quorum was present: D. Guy Dickson (Director), James L. Waite (Director), LTC Max W. Jamison (President), COL Carl V. Larson (Vice President). Excused: Edwin N. Kimball (Chairman), Greg Christofferson (Director), Hugh S. Gregson (Director), S. Dennis Holland (Director). Temporary Leave of Absence: Al Matheson (Director) and Ashley J. Hall (Director). (Note: Al Matheson's health is improving, and he may rejoin us soon. Ashley Hall is President of the Old Spanish Trail Association, which is hosting its Annual Conference in Las Vegas on 15-19 October 2014. He is requesting a leave of absence at least until 1 November 14.)

**Leadership Attendance:** COL Jerome G. Gourley (Battalion Commander's Chief Advisor), Margaret Larson (Membership Officer).

Welcome / Call to Order / Recognize Guests / Administrative Items

LTC Jamison

Invocation

COL Gourley

Review of Minutes of 25 July 2014 Meeting

Approved as written.

Action Item Review

### Leadership:

- All: Recruit civic and community leaders to serve on our new **Board of Directors**.
- 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**) in August 2014, who will stand for election for two years. *See New Business below.*
- LTC Jamison: Create and send cover letter, *Membership Forms*, and *Nomination Forms* to all current and former members for general elections. *See New Business below.*
- Edwin Kimball: Coordinate special oversight duties among Directors. *LTC Jamison to follow up.*

### Reconfirm our Charge from President McKay:

- COL Gourley and Gregg Christofferson: Contact Elder D. Todd Christofferson to ask if we have fulfilled President Young's prophesy and President McKay's charges. If so, do we have permission to disband? If not, will they render some sort of support or endorsement to help us continue our charges? Are we to fund traveling good will representatives, or are we to build local service units "in place" all over the world? *Need "champion" in Quorum of the Twelve, who will provide direction to Director of Church History or the like. New mandate should include (1) stake service missionaries and (2) financial support.*

### Finances:

- Edwin Kimball and LTC Jamison: Meet to set up QuickBooks and create a Battalion financial network similar to that of the LDS Church.
- All: Recruit and vet a new **Chief Finance Officer**, preferably a CPA already familiar with QuickBooks. *Col Gourley to approach his friend and retired CPA, Gary Lunt, again.*

- Edwin Kimball and James Waite: Recruit CPAs in their local communities to serve as volunteer **Inspector(s) General** who will carry out a confidential but intensive financial audit of the Battalion and all of its local units over the past 13 years, and then to carry out regular change of command and "spot" audits. *Duties of Inspector(s) General will concentrate on audits, while those of Chief Finance Officer will be day to day accounting and budgeting.*
- All: Create a financial policy statement in accordance with Sections 7.01 and 7.02 of our *Articles of Incorporation* and Article IX of our *Bylaws*.
- Ed Kimball: Investigate 501(c)(3) Golden Stamp rate with US Post Office. *LTC Jamison reported that Lebi Post Office knew nothing about it. Ed helped invent it; he is best prepared to track it down.*

**Headquarters Building:**

- Edwin Kimball: Revisit locating Mormon Battalion Headquarters and Museum at This Is the Place Heritage Park.

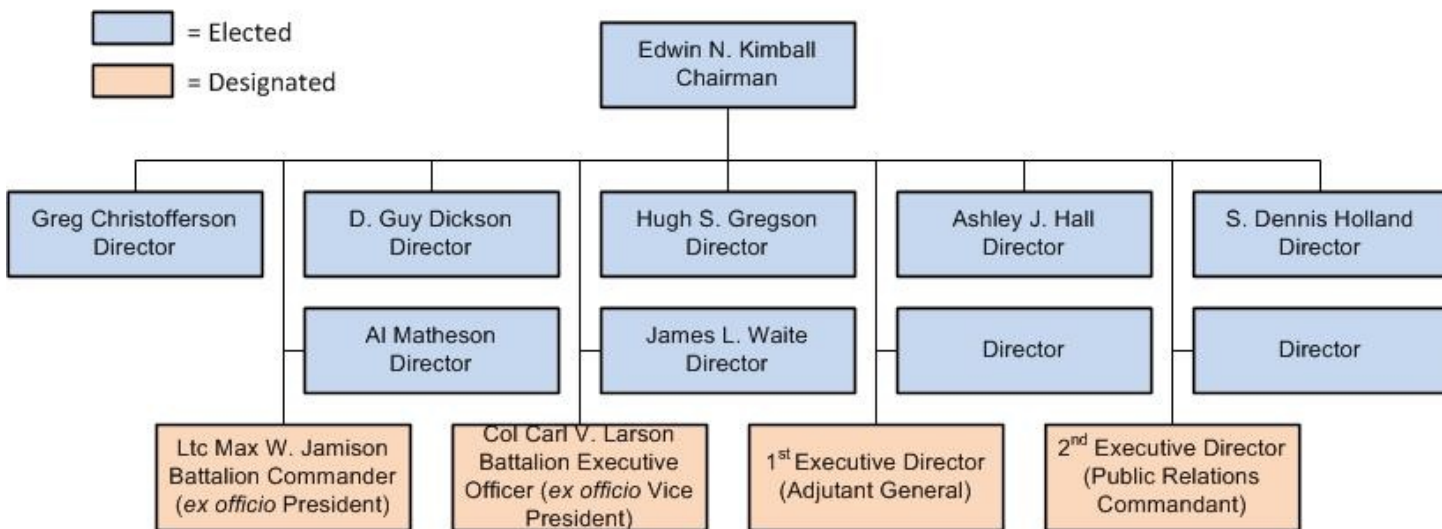
**Annual Symposia:**

- James Waite: Help set up 2015 symposium, including continued youth essay contest and adult academic papers. *Tabled pending response from LDS Church.*

General Business

# Mormon Battalion Association

## Board of Directors



● **Board Membership:** Ryan Church respectfully resigned from the Board for personal reasons. Our Board of Directors now comprises the following civic and community leaders from California, Nevada, Texas, and Utah:

- Chairman:** Edwin N. Kimball, Sandy, UT
- Director:** Greg Christofferson, Lockhart, TX (moving to Utah)
- Director:** D. Guy Dickson, Irvine, CA
- Director:** Hugh S. Gregson, Orem, UT (moving from Boise, ID)
- Director:** Ashley J. Hall (BG retired), Las Vegas, NV
- Director:** S. Dennis Holland, Placerville, CA
- Director:** Al Matheson (COL retired), Hurricane and Cedar City, UT
- Director:** James L. Waite (CDR retired), Nibley, UT
- Director:** [TBD]
- Director:** [TBD]

**President (Battalion Commander):** LTC Max W. Jamison, Lehi, UT

**Vice President (Battalion Executive Officer):** COL Carl V. Larson, Spanish Fork, UT

**1<sup>st</sup> Executive Director:** [TBD]

**2<sup>nd</sup> Executive Director:** [TBD]

Your nominations for the remaining two Director positions and the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Executive Directors of business administration are welcome. LTC Jamison offered to serve as either 1<sup>st</sup> Executive Director or Webmaster after being released as Battalion Commander. In our last meeting, the Board decided that they needed to appoint a non-voting Executive Secretary. LTC Jamison nominated COL Gourley for this position, Guy Dickson seconded, unanimous approval. Col Gourley to take all future minutes, submitting to LTC Jamison, who will translate into final document.

- **Swearing in of New Board Members:** Still need to swear in Directors Greg Christofferson, Hugh S. Gregson, D. Guy Dickson, Dennis Holland, and Al Matheson. *Tabled until their attendance.*

## New Business

**(Open to Floor)**

- **Mormon Battalion Memorial in Cedar City Veterans Park:** Al Matheson: I was just asked if I could/would sponsor a monument to the Mormon Battalion in our Cedar City Veterans Park. I think the answer is yes, over to you, and how do we go about it. I think this is a significant honor, in that the existing park is one of the most beautiful veteran's parks in the State, if not in the Western states. I presume the verbiage is in your court, I can make arrangements for the plaque in bronze or alodyne (<\$1,000.00) made here in Utah at cost. Things like the design and architecture are cardinal if not critical, however...The people here are SERIOUS about the Mormon Battalion Memorial, I have access through the SUP for the metal work and facilities, If we are going to do it, we need to do it well. The Sons of Utah Pioneers have voted to lend their full support and to pay for a plaque. I can coordinate that. Glade Hamblin in the Rotary Club is chair for the project.
- **Preparations for General Elections:** LTC Jamison: The one man job of extracting membership data and inserting it into four different forms is daunting. At best, I am able to mail 6-8 packets per day. I have been able to send out 58 membership packets to date. I am working my way through the list, going in first name order. I'm up to the G's now. I see no alternative to extending our deadlines one month:
  - **10 October 2014** – Deadline for each Lifetime Individual Member of the Mormon Battalion Association in good standing to submit a completed, signed, and dated Membership Form to be eligible to cast one vote in the September Battalion-level general elections. Also deadline for properly registered members of the Mormon Battalion Association to submit a completed copy of the attached Nomination Form recommending other properly registered members in good standing for election to the offices of Battalion Commander (*ex officio* President of Board) and Battalion Executive Officer (*ex officio* Vice President of Board).
  - **15 October 2014** – Deadline for Board of Directors to mail Official Ballots to members registered by 10 October.
  - **1 November 2014** – Deadline for receipt of completed Official Ballots by Board of Directors.
  - **15 November 2014** – Board of Directors to meet at 11:00 AM to count Official Ballots. Winners will be announced during our Annual Business Meeting at noon. The new Battalion Commander and Battalion Executive Officer will be sworn in at that meeting or as soon as possible thereafter to serve two years from November 2014 through October 2016. LTC Jamison to find location for meeting in Lehi.

To date, we have received responses from 20 members plus six dead letter returns. Of the 20 responses, we have only received two nominations for Battalion Commander, John Bascomb and myself. John is willing, but his employment in Utah did not pan out, and he plans on moving back to California. I'm not sure if we are yet capable of operating with an "out of area" Battalion Commander. And Carl and I do not plan on running.

Incidentally, I received a letter from Erma and Richard Bullock, the 2014-15 President and Treasurer of **Friends of the Battalion**, in response to our membership letters. After making some caustic remarks about the Battalion, they stated: "We will not be participating in any way in your association, but we are glad you are looking at being restructured, and we will always know that we are Lifetime Members." They are unaware that we completed our restructuring over a year ago. Their claim to be Lifetime Members is a moot point because their failure/refusal to return completed *Membership Forms* voids their good standing and eligibility to participate in the Battalion. James Waite proposed, Carl Larson seconded, and the Board unanimously voted to place any Lifetime Members who do not return signed *Membership Forms* in an inactive status with no rights. After the elections, the new Battalion Commander will send a letter to all inactive members inviting them to reactivate their membership by submitting a signed *Membership Form*. We will also notify all members that we are going paperless, using hard copy by special request only.

- **Letter to First Presidency Requesting Permission to Complete Temple Ordinances:** LTC Jamison: Without any knowledge of the Inspirational Thought I included in the minutes of our last meeting, our Senior Historian, Kevin Henson, drafted for my signature the following 1 September 2014 letter to the First Presidency of the LDS Church:

Dear Brethren,

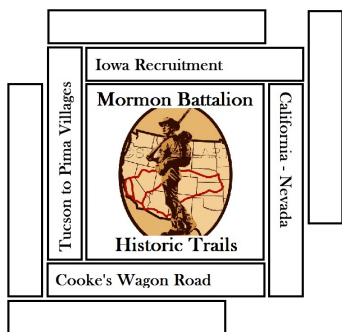
When David O. McKay asked his Huntsville neighbor, Fred M. Reese, to form a modern Mormon Battalion in the late 1940s, he gave him four charters. The very first one was to “enable our present day members to do genealogy and research work ...of the original group.”

Our organization has been compiling historical records for Mormon Battalion members, the Army officers appointed to lead the Battalion, and other men associated with the Battalion’s story.

We have identified a number of men (and their families) for whom temple work has never been completed – now some 170 years following their service to the country and the Church. Our impression is that if possible, the temple work should be done.

With the assistance of Family History Library researchers, we have identified some lines that are completely extinct; there are no living relatives from whom we could get permission.

Family History Library leadership has directed us that the proper procedure is to request First Presidency authorization to perform ordinances for individuals we’ve identified with no relatives. We regret having to bother you with this item, but want to follow the rules in place.



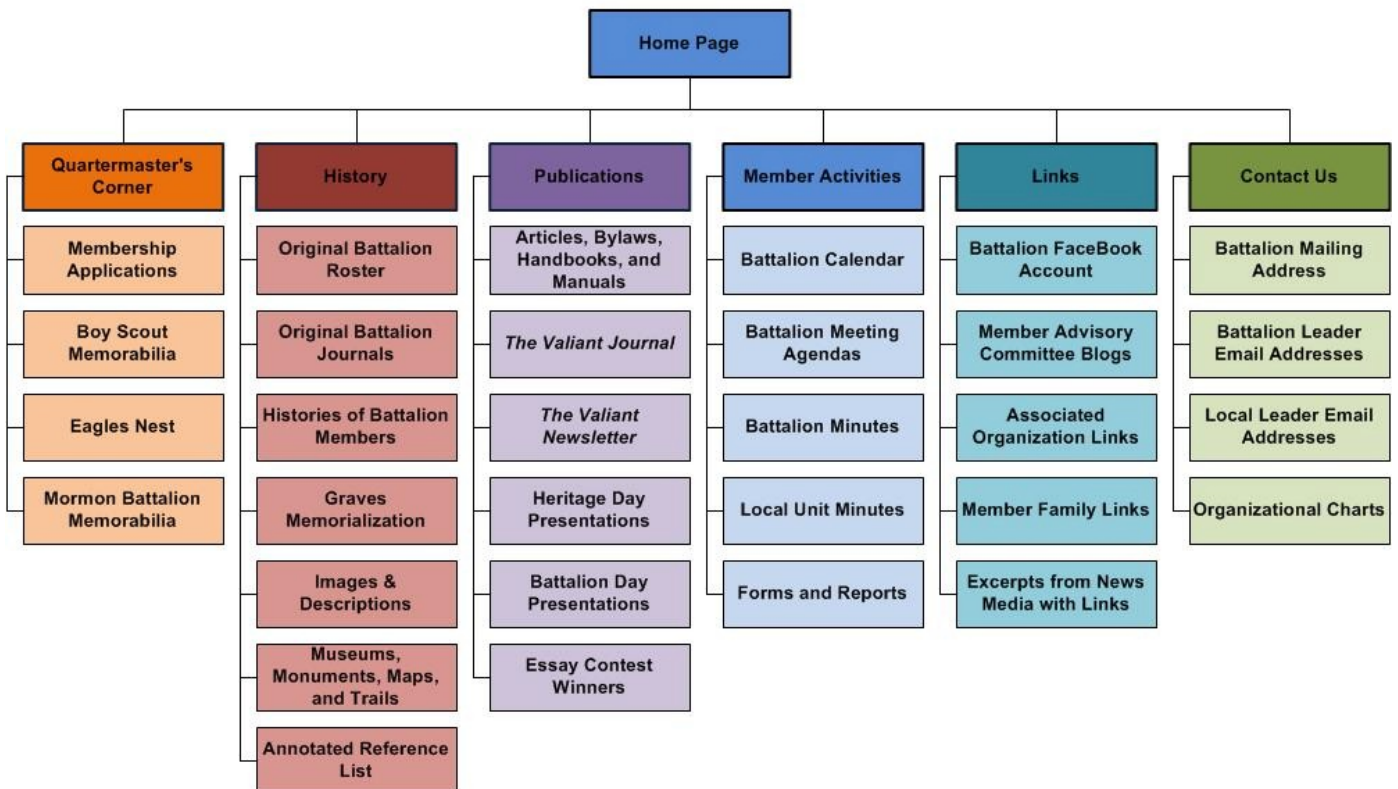
- **Revision of Mormon Battalion Historic Trails Award:** LTC Jamison: CPT Blaine Bachman, Commander of our Albuquerque local unit, has volunteered to serve on our Mormon Battalion Historic Trails Award Member Advisory Committee. Due to the potential number of trail segments, we have decided to rename the award the “Mormon Battalion Historic Trails Award.” Kevin Henson has recommended that we make the “core” patch square rather than oval shaped so we can spiral numerous color coded segment awards outward around the core patch. He is designing a new white map showing the various Battalion routes which can be used on the patch. (See next page.) Ltc Jamison has recommended using same colors as on website Site Map. (See next page.)





- **Website Release 3.0:** LTC Jamison and Website Design Member Advisory Committee: Within 24 hours, we will be going live with the long awaited Release 3.0 of our website. We will be gradually flushing out the website over the next few months, but the following tabs are now active:

## Mormon Battalion Association Website Site Map



- **Quartermaster's Corner** – PayPal connections for online Membership applications, plus all of our Mormon Battalion and Boy Scout Memorabilia (including stubs for our new Mormon Battalion Trail Award and Segment Awards). *After years of failing to deliver in Releases 1.0 and 2.0, we will finally be able to market all of our products!*
- **History** – Transferred the following from our old website: Short History of the Mormon Battalion, Original Battalion Roster, Histories of Battalion Members submitted by their descendants, Battalion Music, data on our Museum and Monuments, and the Annotated Reference List. Kevin Henson will shortly be submitting his final map of the various Battalion Trails (which we will use in our new Mormon Battalion Trail Award).
- **Publications** – Inserted the current *Articles of Incorporation*, *Bylaws*, and issues of *The Valiant Newsletter*. Posting of our *General Handbook* awaits copyright release for several drawings.
- **Member Activities** – Inserted most of our old Battalion Meeting Agendas Battalion Minutes, and the current Annual Budget Request form.
- **Links** – Inserted links to our FaceBook page and several Associated Organizations.
- **Contact Us** – Inserted Battalion Mailing Address, Battalion Commander email address, and numerous Organizational Charts.

### Projected Action Items

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**Headquarters Building:**

□ Edwin Kimball: Revisit locating Mormon Battalion Headquarters and Museum at This Is the Place Heritage Park.

Closing Remarks

LTC Max W. Jamison

Inspirational Thought

None

Benediction

James Waite

Next Board of Directors Meeting:

11:00 AM-12:00 PM, Friday, 15 November 2014

Location to be determined