

**U.S. MORMON BATTALION
EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES
15 October 2005 - 9:00 a.m.
420 South 800 East, Salt Lake City, UT 84102**

DRAFT

- Conducting:** Col Norman T. Erekson
- Attending:** Col Norman T. Erekson; Maj Gloyd Sprouse, Maj Richard H. Bullock, Maj Tom Coyne, Maj Roger Grua, Capt Jay Bowen, Capt Earl Gillmore, Ltc Robert P. Paul, Capt Terry Wirth, Ltc Max Jamison.
- Excused:** Maj. Robert D. Welti, Ladies Auxiliary
- Invocation:** Maj Roger Grua
1. **Welcome:** Col Norm Erekson
 2. **Minutes:** The Minutes of 17 September 2005 were presented for approval. Motion to accept minutes made by Maj Tom Coyne, seconded by Maj Gloyd Sprouse, motion passed.
 3. **Calendar:** Calendar was presented by Col Norm Erekson and several additions were noted.
 4. **Memberships:** Col Norm Erekson reported the deaths of Lynn Willardson of Company D, and Curtis Slade of Company C. He also indicated a new Commander of the Dixie Company, Capt Johnnie Johnson, and a new Commander of Company D, Capt Gordon Coulson. Maj Gloyd Sprouse reported new Life member Gerald Harris; new annual members Clinton Hansom, Shane Osborn, and Lewis Earl Robbins whose memberships will be recognized until 2007. Motion to accept the new members made by Maj Richard Bullock, seconded by Maj Tom Coyne. Vote passed.
 5. **Financial:** Maj Tom Coyne reported that September resulted in a negative cash flow resulting in a year to date negative cash flow of \$561, leaving a balance of \$3,300 in operating cash. The Lifetime membership fund now stands at \$22,137.19 and now is earning a slightly higher rate of interest on the savings. The largest costs for the year have been Heritage Day at over \$5,000 and the *Valiant* at \$2,917.

6. **Stationery:** Col Norman T. Erekson presented a package of letterhead and envelopes for Battalion and Auxiliary communications. The packages were to be priced at \$5.00 donation per package of 50 each and the \$5.00 donation would cover the cost of the paper and printing. He encouraged the Companies to participate and help to upgrade our image.

7. **Goals:** Col Norman T. Erekson presented a discussion on the long and short-term goals of the Mormon Battalion. The short-term goals are education of the public through the use of the *Valiant*, Heritage Day, Essay Contest, the Website, Company meetings and community support, and most important the Visitors Center to be built at Heritage Park. There was then some discussion about the Essay Contest and it was agreed to continue it for 2006 and try to expand the exposure of the program, including the website. The long-term goals are defined as modifying the structure of the Battalion to become an umbrella of leadership to accommodate the growing variations in organizations that are becoming increasingly aware of the contributions of the Battalion, across the country, such as River of Time in Michigan and Winter Quarters in Nebraska. That the umbrella of leadership be structured in a similar fashion to the Church or Priesthood, remembering that we are a historical organization not a religious organization. Along those lines Maj Richard Bullock offered to re-write the current Bylaws to accommodate such a structure and modernize the Battalion. A motion to accept his offer was made by Maj Gloyd Sprouse, seconded by Maj Tom Coyne and vote approved by all Executive members.

Col Norman T. Erekson then proposed that Maj Robert Welti be temporarily placed on leave-of-absence while taking care of his wife and his vote on the Executive Board be filled by Maj Jerome G. Gourley as assistant to Ltc Robert Paul in fund raising and Jay Todd on the Heritage Day Committee.

Col Norman T. Erekson then placed a challenge on all Battalion members to recruit at least one additional new member to join the Battalion before the first of the year.

8. **Building:** Ltc Robert P. Paul stated that he needed more good men to help with his fund raising and new building efforts. Perhaps Maj Gourley in his new assignment will be a step in this direction. Ltc Paul indicated that after six years of effort there is now \$500K in

the new building account and that he would take a fresh look at other building options. He stressed the fact that we must find more good and active men to join in our efforts to find additional sources of finances. The image of the Battalion is being supported by our programs of the *Valiant*, Essay contests, meetings, etc. and that they are valuable tools to accomplish our goals.

Bishop Stephen Neal has begun casting on the “Duty Calls” heroic size monument, with Brigham Young’s figure completed and it looks “magnificent”. Work on the second statue is coming along. Ltc Paul indicated that he wants to continue working on the new building, monuments, and fund raising programs. He then excused himself for another commitment.

9. **Membership:** A discussion ensued regarding the status of John Hayes membership regarding his efforts on Heritage Day 2005 and the fact that he had personally spent over \$200 on the program efforts without asking to be being reimbursed. A motion was made by Maj Richard Bullock to issue him a Lifetime Membership, seconded by Maj Gloyd Sprouse. Vote was passed.

Benediction: Maj Gloyd Sprouse

Meeting dismissed 11:00 a.m.