

Draft US Mormon Battalion Executive Board Minutes 16 April 2005 - 9:10am Historic 10<sup>th</sup> Ward  
420 South 800 East, Salt Lake City, UT 84102

Conducting: COL Norman T Erekson

Attending, COL N T Erekson, LTC Robert P Paul, MAJ Richard H Bullock, LTC Gaylen Maynes, Pres Annie P Erekson, MAJ Thomas Coyne, MAJ Roger Grua. Excused: MAJ Robert D Welti, MAJ Gloyd Sprouse Others: LTC Max Jamison, Capt Earl Gillmore, Capt Jay Bowen, Erma Bullock, Norma Bench, Roselyn Slade Guest: Doug Williams

Invocation: MAJ Roger Grua

1. Welcome: COL Norm Erekson

2. Minutes: The Minutes of 19 February were presented for approval. Correction made by Max Jamison. Motion to accept amended minutes made by LTC Robert Paul, seconded by MAJ Thomas Coyne, motion passed. Minutes of special meeting held on 12 March 2005 were presented for approval. Motion to accept made by LTC Robert Paul, seconded by MAJ Thomas Coyne. Motion was passed.

3. Calendar: Calendar presented by COL Norm Erekson. Several changes were made to the June schedule.

4. Historian: COL Norm Erekson proposed the addition of Doug Williams to the National Staff in the position of Historian. Doug Williams presented a profile of his background and a motion to accept him as Historian was made by MAJ Bullock, seconded by LTC Robert Paul. Vote carried.

5. New Members: New Members were presented by COL Norm Erekson. New Life Members proposed were Blake E. Judd, Daryl Harris, Truman Lynch, Keith Alexander, and Clark F. Olsen. New annual members were John Sehbstedt, Christopher Robison, and Dean Cooper. A motion to accept the new members made by LTC Bob Paul, seconded by MAJ Tom Coyne. Approval vote unanimous. MAJ Bullock spoke about the credentials of Daryl Harris as a publisher and writer.

6. Valiant: Capt Earl Gillmore reported that the Valiant had been finished with copies mailed to members. He asked that new articles be presented as early as possible for selection for the next newsletter.

7. San Diego: COL Erekson talked about his conversation with Ron Peterson of San Diego and the possibility that they would be joining our group.

8. New Building: LTC Robert Paul commented that good strong ties have now been made to Battalion members in California as a result of the March trip to San Juan Capistrano. He stated that \$285K have been made in donations with \$270K in the bank. Many pledges are in progress. Met with Noel Barton, a descendant of Christopher Layton, and had a spiritual experience. As a result, the Battalion will be receiving one of only five bricks that were used to line the wells in San Diego in 1847. Announced that "Battalion Man" and the Battalion diorama will be donated to our Visitor's Center. He had made arrangements to send a truck to San Diego for the two articles and have them transported here and placed in storage until the building is ready. As a result, the roof of the building will need to be raised to house the added height of the "Battalion Man." He then stated that MAJ Gloyd Sprouse had located the grave of David Pettegrew in Los Angeles and paid tribute to MAJ Sprouse's efforts. The visitor center gardens to have a monument to the discovery of gold, and one about the women of the Battalion. He also stated that he is negotiating with Lagoon Corp. for the return of the Battalion memorabilia.

9. Financial: MAJ Tom Coyne announced that we have nearly \$5K in our working account, and that interest from the Life Fund has been transferred into the general fund. He suggested purchasing a CD with the Life Membership funds. LTC Gaylen Maynes announced that we have taken in about \$400K to date.

10. Essay: MAJ Roger Grua announced the expansion of the essay contest to Idaho and Arizona with Church cooperation. The deadline has been established as May 1st. A committee consisting of Doug Williams, the Maynes', the Erekson's and the Gourley's have accepted the role of judging the contest.

11. Heritage Day: Max Jamison reported that the tickets for the Heritage Day picnic are being printed, with the back of the ticket to also include an application for membership in the Battalion and make donations. The tickets are being printed on the Battalion's new laser printer by Capt Earl Gillmore. John Hays is going to tape the program and make it available on DVD.

12. Staff: COL Norm Erekson talked about the amount of effort that has been expended by Brian Cole in updating and maintaining the website, and that he is to be commended. COL Erekson suggested that Brian be given a life membership in the Battalion. MAJ Tom Coyne made a proposal for the same, seconded by Bob Paul and vote passed. Max Jamison commented that he wanted to add marketing to the website and expand the amount of items that we offer.

**Ladies departed for their meeting at 10:35 a.m.**

13. Comments: COL Norm Erekson indicated that there is a new youth program in Northern California. He also indicated that an ex-Navy man would like to form a Company in New Orleans and has asked for guidance. He next commented about a new organization in Arizona, "U.S. Army of the West," that are becoming active and getting a monument to the Battalion made for their area. The next statement he made is that we had made application to the Days of '47 committee to be part of the parade on the 24th of July celebration. COL Erekson indicated that the Cowboy Poetry Festival in Sevier county have invited us to have a booth at their festival. COL Erekson indicated that Mark Alfred Child, a possible Mormon Battalion soldier is not on the Battalion roster and should be added, according to a descendant, and COL Carl Larson also be notified. More research needs to be conducted on this claim. His last comment concerned the River of Time - Bud Henson, wants to memorialize the gravesite of COL Philip St. George Cook with one of our markers and asked if we wanted to participate.

**Meeting adjourned at 10:50am**

Benediction: LTC Gaylen Maynes