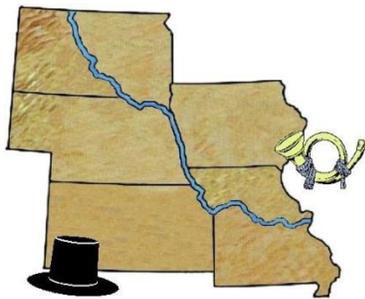


From: 1st Lieut. Rob Johnson (Battalion Adjutant)
CC: Col. James Crofutt - U.S. Muddy River Battalion
Sent:

To: Major Lloyd Coates (U.S. Muddy River Battalion – Field & Staff); 2nd Lieut. Sean Murphy (Aid-deCamp / U.S. Muddy River Battalion – Field & Staff); Sergeant Major Clinton Caperton (U.S. Muddy River Battalion – Field & Staff); Western Blue Coats Field Hospital (Mason Lumpkins); 13th U.S. Infantry – Co. D (Capt. Kevin Gansz); 1st Nebraska – Co. A (Capt. Josh Anderson); 7th & 30th Missouri Vols (Capt. Kevin Christensen); 25th Missouri – Co. A (Pvt. Donnie Mignery); 18th Missouri Co. A (Capt. Curtis Gammill); 18th Missouri Co. B (1Lt. Richard Montgomery); 26th Missouri (Capt. Noah Snelson); 15th Iowa (Capt. John Keller); McLanes Colorado Battery (Capt. Don Seba); 2nd Kansas - Company C (Capt. Greg Traxson); 1st Nebraska - Co. C (Capt. Joe Carlson); 1st Nebraska – Co. C (Sgt. Michael Sothan); 37th Illinois – Fremont Pathfinders (1Lt. Shane Johnson); 8th Missouri State Militia Cavalry (2Lt. Matt Cordoves); 36th Iowa – Co. C (2Lt. Dan Shoup); Capt. Johnathan Lee Hart 13th Kansas.



Headquarters - U.S. Muddy River Battalion

1st Brigade / 1st Federal Division

1FD Meeting - The First Federal Division 2017 annual meeting was held at Pickwick Landing State Park just south of Shiloh Tennessee on the weekend of January 28-29, 2017. A 1FD Board of Directors meeting was held at 8 o'clock and then the general meeting followed.

Roll Call of representatives of member units in attendance – U.S. Muddy River Battalion , U.S. Territorial Battalion, U.S. Frontier Brigade, Army of the Ohio, Minty's Cavalry Brigade, 1FD Cavalry Brigade, Western Artillery Reserve, & Army of the French Broad.

Greetings & Acknowledging guest – General Bob Minton took the floor and welcomed everyone and also thanked everyone for making the trip to Shiloh for this meeting. 1FD had Col. Robert Van of the Cumberland Guard in attendance as a guest and also Col. Steve Fratte of the Illinois Brigade. The General introduced both of them and welcomed them to the meeting. The General took a few minutes to talk about the importance of getting a 3 to 5 year plan laid out for the division. However a lot of things are talk on the importance of how Shiloh turns out for us. If the event is successful then we have a support base but if they lose their pants on this event then we don't have a lot of other options for events out there. Very important that we support the Shiloh event!

Secretary's Report – The 1FD Secretary Trevor Steinbach passed out the minutes from last years meeting and everyone reviewed them. A couple minor typos were noted but after that the meeting notes were passed with no issues.

Treasurers Report – 1st Federal Division currently has \$286 in its account.

Insurance Update – As far as we know there are no changes to the policy and it appears that it will still be \$11 per person for a years' worth of coverage. We had a lower number sign up for insurance last year compared to the year prior. Member units really should consider this because it's a benefit of being a member unit of the 1st Federal Division. Information for renewal will come out this spring when our policy is about ready to expire.

Elections – Every two years the General of the Division must be elected per 1FD By-Laws. General Bob Minton was nominated for re-election & seconded and was reelected to another 2 year term as General of the 1st Federal Division. Election of the Board of Directors was held and everyone currently on the board was re-elected as follows.

1FD Board of Directors – election of 2017 Board of Directors was held and is as follows.

- President – Bob Minton (reelected)
 - Secretary – Trevor Steinbach (reelected)
 - Treasurer – Bernie Biederman (reelected)
 - Kevin Harris (Artillery Reserve)
 - James Crofutt (Muddy River Battalion)
 - Jim Trent (Territorial Battalion)
 - Mike Cheves (1FD Cavalry Brigade)
-

2017 Shiloh & Future Events – General Minton talked about the problem of the 1FD not having a current plan for the future. He said it is very important that we establish a 3 to 5 year plan as soon as possible. They know for sure of a possible Chickamauga event in 2018 and a Franklin in 2019. Basically the calendar is looking pretty bare a lot of sites are drying up and we are having a hard time finding locations to do events. Possibly a big push for Prairie Grove in 2018 as a division effort and possibly Pea Ridge in a year or two after that. Unfortunately there is no great eastern effort to come out West despite our asking and so there will be no major push to support eastern events and it's a shame but we will keep trying to figure it out.

As far as Shiloh is concerned. Each brigade will be allowed to have their civilians on the perimeter of their brigade camp. Brigades are asked to coordinate with each other and try to work out placement of civilians.

Shiloh - The biggest issue about Shiloh is that we have to get our people to Shiloh! The Atlanta campaign folks cannot lose their shirts on this event. They have a lot of money invested into this event we need to push this event and we need to get people registered ASAP! This event also represents for the division the first time that we will be getting out into the field in a very long time as a division once again and so it's important that we all try to support this event to. This may well be the last time that we ever get to use this land for the Shiloh event because it is being developed and has had some development since the last time we were there five years ago. But again the importance of getting people registered for Shiloh was stressed in the Atlanta campaign folks did say they would try to get a PayPal system set up for folks to register online.

Question on formalizing a relationship between 1FD and C.S. Army of the West – the majority seemed to be an agreement that we need to take a wait-and-see stance and it depends on this weekend meeting and also how Shiloh event goes. The Confederate Army of the West still has some things that need to be worked out in its own organizations. And unfortunately they did not make a good first impression at the meeting on Saturday night. Meeting was at six and none of them showed until 7 o'clock. Gen. Bob Minton said he would talk to their general I doubt what happened.

Old business – there was no old business brought up.

New business – General Minton talked about the guidons that were used at Perryville and has expressed an interest in making that a permanent 1FD thing. He is asking to get more guidons made for each member Battalion and the numbers can be changed when we are portraying particular regiments. There was some discussion on the use of the white flag and blue numbers and the division staff said that if another store call design can be found they will consider it but for now we'll stick with the white flags and blue numbers.

Order a battle - Gen. Minton published the order of battle of the division and the seniority of Colonels for each branch of service. This will be published by email within a week after the meeting. U.S. Muddy River Battalion is now 1st Brigade and Col. James Crofutt is now senior Colonel of the First Federal division with the retirement of Col. Don Gross of the frontier brigade.

Shiloh paperwork – there was some discussion on proper paperwork for the Shiloh event the general basically stated that he absolutely must have standard morning reports weapons inspection forms and so forth. Other forms will be decided and developed between now and the event and will be released through Chief of Staff.

Adjournment – this concluded the yearly meeting of the First Federal division and there were no objections and so the meeting was closed for short break and then we held an open meeting.

Site Visit - At 1 PM brigade commanders got a chance to go out to the reenactment site and look around. This is the exact same ground that the event was held on five years ago but there have been some changes and some development. The fallen Timbers fight will be on Friday evening will march back to camp and then go back to fallen Timbers on Saturday morning for the first contact battle. Hornets' nest site will be right next our camps on Saturday and will then Grants Counterattack is just right near our camp should not be much marching except for getting to and from Fallen Timbers. Okay

The Social Aspect – it is important that our good Colonel got to this meeting. Muddy River Battalion is recognized in the reenactment world as a legitimate organization. The meeting of other organizations, handshaking and casual conversation are all important aspects of this meeting and representing the U.S. Muddy River Battalion. Right now muddy River is recognized as being an organization that can field a decent size Battalion we need to keep it that way and really focus our support and grow where we can.

End of Meeting - This pretty much concluded the 1FD annual meeting and again everyone was thanked and then the meeting was adjourned. Other - Muddy River was represented at said meeting by Colonel James Crofutt. This was a good opportunity for Muddy River to participate in 1st Federal Division, make connections and expand our contacts. Col. James Crofutt U.S. Muddy River Battalion 2nd Brigade – 1st Federal Division

