

IOWA DISTRICT EAST BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FINAL MINUTES

Tuesday, October 24, 2017

PRESENT: **Ordained:** Brase*, Hoft, Knox*, Mons*, Rothchild, Rueger*, Saunders*

Lay: Brendes, Doellinger, Eastburn*, Nuehring*, Swales*, Zoske*

(*voting members)

1. Call to Order: Chairman Rueger called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Rev. Mons led the board in praying Responsive Prayer 1, Psalm 96 and a short message.

2. Approval of Agenda: The following items were added to the agenda, new business: Congregations' Constitution and Bylaws, Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca Endowment, St. Paul Chapel Organ, Circuit Exemptions, Schools Committee Appointment, Youth Committee Appointment. Moved and seconded to approve the amended agenda. Motion carried.

3. Correspondence: No correspondence was presented.

4. Approval of Minutes: Moved and seconded to approve the July 25, 2017 Board Meeting minutes as published. Minutes were approved.

5. Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Nuehring presented the Treasurer's report. The report included IDE 5-Year Comparison Receipts, IDE 2017 Budget Spreadsheet, IDE Income & Expense Detail, IDE Statement of Financial Position, IDE Death Benefit Review for Annuities/IDE Loans Payable, IDE 2017 Congregational Remittances and IDE 2017 Workshops, all updated for the quarter ending September 30, 2017.

The Treasurer reported: a. District support from Congregations down slightly from last year at 67.5% of budget compared to 68.04% in prior year. We received \$357K in the 4th quarter 2016. If we receive the same amount in 2017, we finish the year \$33k below the budgeted amount of \$1,200,000. b. Actual expenses were lower than budget through September by \$65,388. Total revenue is exceeding budget by \$36,884 through September primarily due to favorable unrealized gains on investments (\$24,490). c. Investment Committee met on October 17, 2017. YTD returns are 7.98%. d. Need to approve housing allowance for 2018. e. Need to approve use of LCEF earnings distribution for 2018 of \$35,723. Treasurer answered various questions.

Moved and seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report. Report approved. (The Treasurer's Report, Exhibit A, is attached to the protocol copy of these minutes.)

6. President Saunders' Report: The President reviewed his report. The Vacancy Update included New Hope, Charles City, Chris Gorshe, vacancy pastor; Christ, Gladbrook, Troy Peperkorn, vacancy pastor; Our Savior, Newton, Joel Picard, vacancy pastor; St. John, Osage, Clarke Frederick, vacancy pastor; Immanuel, St. Ansgar, Michael Parris, vacancy pastor; and St. Paul, (Artesian) Waverly, Ronnie Koch, vacancy pastor.

Accepted calls were Matt Moss, St. Paul, Readlyn, to St. John, Corcoran, Minnesota; Dave Rempfer, Grace, Blairstown to St. John, Seward, Nebraska. Pending calls were John Preus, Trinity, Clinton to St John, Rockford, Illinois. Declined calls were James Daub, St. Paul, Havelock, North Carolina to Our Savior, Newton, Iowa. Commissioned minister vacancies include: Bethany, Cedar Rapids, DCE; King of Kings, Cedar Rapids, DCE.

President Saunders reported on his activities in the past month including the Fall Pastors' Conference, teaching at Concordia Theological Seminary and presenting at a number of convocations. (President Saunders' Report, Exhibit B, is attached to the protocol copy of these minutes.)

7. ATTP Doellinger's Report: ATTP Doellinger reviewed her report. She continues to visit IDE preschools. The Early Childhood (EC) Educators Conference is set for March 24 at Zion, Hiawatha. Regional (EC) Director meetings are being considered. Lutheran School Consulting Service is working with Community Lutheran School, Readlyn. Iowa Teachers Conference is October 26 and 27 at Gloria Die, Urbandale. (ATTP Doellinger's Report, Exhibit D is attached to the protocol copy of these minutes.)

8. ATTP Rev. Dr. Rothchild's Report: ATTP Rothchild reviewed his report. Deaf Ministry Deaconess Pat Monroe has not been commissioned and installed because she is in Wisconsin caring for her ailing father. The Mission Committee recommended changes for wage and mileage stipend for the UIHC Chaplaincy. The District Convention is progressing well. ATTP Rothchild is working on a district giving flyer. The Proclaiming Christ Jesus! Campaign stands at a total of \$723,067 received and pledged. (ATTP Rothchild's Report, Exhibit C is attached to the protocol copy of these minutes.)

Moved and seconded to approve the reports of the President and ATTPs. Reports were approved.

9. Unfinished Business:

A. Appointment for Salary Study Committee: The President appointed Richard Balvanz to the Salary Study Committee. Moved and seconded to ratify the appointment of Rich Balvanz to the Salary Study Committee. Motion carried.

10. New Business:

A. 2018 Budget Approval: The Treasurer and Business manager distributed and reviewed the proposed budget for 2018. (The 2018 Proposed Budget, exhibit E, is attached to the protocol copy of these Minutes.) Proposed changes, Mission Committee and Schools Committee recommendations were reviewed. A letter from the Schools Committee was read (Exhibit F attached to the protocol copy of these minutes).

Moved and seconded to adjust line 73150-150 Principals Meetings by reducing it from \$5000 to \$1500. Motion carried.

Discussion ensued concerning various meetings at the district office and for which expenses the district is responsible. By consensus, the matter was referred to the Office Committee, which will report back at the January board meeting.

The board discussed the cost of the IDE Today. President Saunders will inquire of congregations on the numbers of copies they each need.

Moved and seconded to adjust line 71220-150 New Hope, Charles City to \$0 since no subsidy was requested. Motion carried.

Moved and seconded to adjust line 71420-570 Chaplaincy Mileage from \$9,600 to \$12,000. The board discussed the Mission Committee recommendation. Motion carried.

Moved and seconded to accept the revised budget with \$4,945.69 net cash balance and (\$10,884.84) net after non-cash. The 2018 budget was approved.

B. Setting annual housing allowance: Moved and seconded for it to be resolved that Iowa District East authorizes and establishes the 2018 housing allowance for all called employees equal to 50% of each called employee's gross salary. Motion carried.

C. District Bylaws: The secretary presented the proposed bylaw change to replace bylaw 11.3.1 which reads:

"The district office shall mail printed copies of the convention workbook to registered delegates (voting and advisory), officers, boards and committees of the district four weeks before the convention."

With the following paragraph:

"The convention workbook will be provided electronically to registered delegates (voting and advisory), officers, boards and committees of the district four weeks before the convention. A printed copy will be provided upon request to the designated recipients. (LCMS Handbook 4.2.1 (g))"

Moved and seconded to submit the change to the CCM for approval. Motion carried.

D. LCEF Earnings Distribution: IDE's portion of the LCEF earnings distribution for 2018 is \$35,723. Moved and seconded to designate the LCEF earnings distribution for the following budgeted missions: Spain (\$12,000), Tanzania (\$11,750), direct missionary support (\$9,000) and Eastside Mission (\$2,750). Motion carried.

E. Filling BOD Vacancy left by Ben Venteicher: With Ben Venteicher taking a call outside the district the commissioned position on the BOD is vacant. Board members are encouraged to bring the name of a commissioned minister serving in the district along with his or her permission to be appointed.

F. Set BOD meeting dates for 2018: By consensus the board set its 2018 meeting dates as follows: January 30, April 17, July 31, October 30.

G. Northwest District Response: The Northwest District Board of Directors has distributed a letter (Exhibit G attached to the protocol copy of these minutes.) and a formal dissent of the 2016 Synod Convention's adoption of Resolution 13-02A – to Regularize the Status of Licensed Lay Deacons Involved in Word and Sacrament Ministry. The letter invites other District Board of Directors to respond. The Wyoming District has already prepared a response. By consensus the board directed President Saunders to distribute the Wyoming response to the IDE board for study and possible action at the January board meeting.

H. Congregations' constitution and/or bylaws: The Constitution Review Committee has reviewed and recommended for approval the revised constitution

and bylaws of Zion, Wilton; New Hope, Charles City and Trinity, Dillon. Moved and seconded to approve the revised constitution and bylaws of Zion, Wilton; New Hope, Charles City and Trinity, Dillon. Constitutions and bylaws were approved.

I. Camp Endowment: The BOD is required to approve the spending of endowment earnings as temporary restricted funds. Camp IoDisECa board of directors requests \$3,000 from the endowment earnings to erect a playground at the main site. Moved and seconded to liquidate \$3,000 of Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca's Endowment Fund earnings for the purchase and installation of a new playset at the main site. Motion carried.

J. St. Paul Chapel Organ: St. Paul Chapel posited the following questions: Who owns the organ, congregation or district? Would the IDE BOD need to cosign a loan to replace or repair the organ?

Moved and seconded that the organ is not a part of the church structure, which is owned by IDE, thus the organ is the congregation's responsibility to repair or replace. Motion carried.

K. Circuit Exemption: IDE has received notification that the Mount Pleasant circuit does not meet the handbook requirements to be a voting circuit at the Synod Convention. Moved and seconded to request an exemption from the Synod President for the Mount Pleasant circuit. Motion carried.

Rev. Traphagen requested that the congregations of the dual parish which he serves be placed into the same circuit. This change would cause a circuit to not meet the handbook requirements to be a voting circuit. Moved and seconded to communicate with Rev. Traphagen that His congregations will remain in the current circuits. Motion carried.

L. Schools Committee Appointment: The elementary teacher position on the committee is vacant. Proposed appointments along with permission to appoint should be brought to the January meeting.

M. Youth Committee Appointment: The Youth Committee recommends Mark Sperry, Grace, Dewitt be appointed to the Youth Committee. Moved and seconded to appoint Mark Sperry to the Youth Committee. Appointment approved.

12. Adjournment: Moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting was declared adjourned at 11:41 p.m.

13. Lunch Break: The board adjourned for an eat-in lunch. Rev. Mons offered the closing and meal prayers.

14. Next Meeting: The next meeting will be Tuesday, January 30th, 2017, 9:00 a.m. at the district office. Rev. Rothchild will lead devotions.