
FINAL MINUTES

Tuesday, July 25, 2017

PRESENT: Ordained: Brase*, Hoft, Knox*, Rueger*, Saunders*
Lay: Brendes, Doellinger, Eastburn*, Nuehring*, Swales*,
Venteicher*, White, Zoske* (*voting members)

1. Call to Order: Chairman Rueger called the meeting to order at 8:57 a.m. Rev. Knox led the board in praying Matins including Hymn 544, Psalm 125 and a message on Matthew 13:44-52.

2. Introductions: Chairman Rueger introduced new board member Roger Zoske. President Saunders also introduced Christina White, the new IDE Communication and Technology Coordinator. The board introduced themselves for the benefit of Roger and Christina.

3. Approval of Agenda: Moved and seconded to approve the agenda as published. Agenda was approved.

4. Approval of Minutes: Moved and seconded to approve the April 18, 2017 Board Meeting minutes as published. Minutes were approved.

5. Correspondence: The board received the following correspondence: Rev. Travis Berg acceptance of the position of Chair of the Schools Committee, Roger Zoske acceptance of appointment to the board of directors, and several mailings from LCMS Secretary Sias concerning preparations to the 2018 District Convention.

6. 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 June 30, 2017.

The Treasurer reported: a. District support from Congregations for the 2nd quarter of 2017 totaled \$550,296.60. This is the highest 2nd quarter total in the last 5 years. b. Actual cash expenses were \$639,111.93 year to date and were lower than revenues year to date by \$18,299.36. c. The Investment Committee met on July 20th. The market is strong and no changes are planned in holdings.

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.)

7. President Saunders' Report: The President reviewed his report. The Vacancy Update included New Hope, Charles City, Chris Gorshe, vacancy pastor; Our Savior, Newton, Joel Picard, vacancy pastor; St. Matthews, Sherrill, Kris Kincaid, vacancy pastor; St. John, Waverly, Michael Knox, vacancy pastor; St. Paul, (Artesian) Waverly, Ronnie Koch, vacancy pastor.

Accepted calls were Zachary Voss, candidate to St. John/Good Shepherd, Homestead/Wellman; Keith Bruestuen, St. Paul, Waverly to St. Paul, Montevideo,

Minnesota; Jan Horne, Emeriti to Calvary, Deep River; Randall Golter, LCMS International Center to Trinity, Davenport; Joel Koepp, St. Luke, Wood Lake, Minnesota to Immanuel, Grinnell. A pending call was Jon Ellingworth, Lutheran Church of Christ the King, Pawling, New York to St. John, Waverly.

Declined calls were Sean Hansen, St. Paul, Mt. Vernon to Zion, Vernon, Texas; Ross Engel, St. Peter, Middleburg, Florida to St. John, Waverly; Stephen Krenz, Trinity, Hoffman, Illinois to Immanuel, Grinnell; Ronnie Koch, St. Paul, Fredericksburg to St. Paul, Montevideo, Minnesota; Mark Milatz, Shepherd of the Lakes, Brighton, Michigan to Trinity, Davenport; Jon Ellingworth, Lutheran Church of Christ the King, Pawling, NY to Our Savior, Newton.

Vicars assigned in IDE are Robert Ricard, CTSFW to Hampton; Michael McGinley, CTSFW to Chariton; and Luke Scheele, CSL to Our Redeemer, Iowa City.

Commissioned minister vacancies include: Trinity, Cedar Rapids, 7th grade teacher; Bethany, Cedar Rapids – DCE; Community, Readlyn – various positions. Accepted calls were Emma Auger, DCE, Concordia-Chicago to St. Paul's, Marion; Chris Auger, teacher, Concordia-Chicago to Central, Newhall; Jade Wilds, Teacher, Concordia-Mequon to Valley, Cedar Falls; Patricia Monroe, Deaconess Candidate to Word of God, Cedar Rapids; Loren VanDenBerg, Teacher, Trinity, Cedar Rapids to Northeast Wisconsin Lutheran High School; Nicholas Muench, Teacher, Community, Readlyn to Marengo, Illinois; Sandra Muench, Teacher, Community, Readlyn to Marengo, Illinois.

Declined calls were Rebecca Livo-Biesanz, Teacher, Bethlehem, Aiken, South Carolina to St. Paul, Latimer; Nicholas Muench, Teacher, Community, Readlyn to St. Luke, Itasca, Illinois; Brian Mann, Teacher, Trinity, Winfield, Kansas to St. Paul, Latimer; Jill Schmitzer, Teacher, Trinity, Davenport to both Trinity, Sturgis, Michigan and Immanuel, Alpena, Michigan. (President Saunders' Report, Exhibit B, is attached to the protocol copy of these Minutes.)

8. ATTP Rev. Dr. Rothchild's Report: ATTP Rothchild's report was reviewed in his absence. The Proclaiming Christ Jesus! Campaign stands at a total of \$714,543 received and pledged. (ATTP Rothchild's Report, Exhibit C is attached to the protocol copy of these Minutes.)

9. ATTP Doellinger's Report: ATTP Doellinger reviewed her report. She highlighted the upcoming IDE/IDW Principals Conference and the Iowa Lutheran Teachers Conference. The board viewed a video on teacher succession by Concordia University-Nebraska (CUNE). CUNE is also launching a Lutheran School Ministry Program for non-LCMS educators. (ATTP Doellinger's Report, Exhibit D is attached to the protocol copy of these Minutes.)

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

Jim Swales, Camp Board liaison, reported that the Family Campground has moved to seasonal camping, which should prevent permanent campers. Camp IoDisEa saw a 10% increase this summer and finances are strong. He extended an invitation to the board for Summerfest on July 29th.

Ben Venteicher, Youth Committee liaison, reported that the committee is looking for youth to serve on the committee.

10. LCEF Report: LCEF VP Carole White reviewed her report. (LCEF VP White's Report, Exhibit F, is attached to the protocol copy of these Minutes.)

11. Unfinished Business:

A. Appointment of Legal Counsel: Office Committee Chair David Eastburn moved to reappoint O'Connor & Thomas, P.C. as District Legal Counsel. Motion was seconded and carried.

B. 2018 Concordia Health Plan Election: Treasurer Nuerhing and Office Manager Sherry Brendes presented the Concordia Plan Services (CPS) options for 2018. With only a 3.9% increase in premiums they recommended to continue offering the High Deductible Health Plan (HDHP) with a Health Reimbursement Account (HRA). The employees present concurred. Moved and seconded to continue in 2018 with the CPS HDHP and the HRA. Motion carried.

12. New Business:

A. Congregations' constitution and/or bylaws: The Constitution Review Committee has reviewed and recommended for approval the revised constitution and bylaws of St. Paul, McGregor. Moved and seconded to approve the revised constitution and bylaws of St. Paul, McGregor. Constitution and bylaws were approved.

B. District Bylaws: The secretary presented several points where the District bylaws could be updated including the electronic sending of convention workbooks, electing or appointing the treasurer and changing term limits. By consensus the board agreed to changing the bylaws to agree with the process of distributing convention workbooks as has been done the last two conventions, continuing to elect the treasurer and leaving board terms as they are.

C. District Committee Vacancies: The secretary reviewed current committee vacancies (Exhibit F attached to the protocol minutes of this meeting). Committees and boards will seek replacements for the vacancies. In preparation for the district convention, the vacancy on the Salary Study Committee needs to be filled. By consensus the District President will seek candidates and the board will handle the appointment electronically.

D. District Convention Timeline: The secretary presented proposed District Convention timeline (Exhibit G attached to the protocol minutes of this meeting). Moved and seconded to set dates according to the proposed timeline. Motion carried. He also reviewed the positions up for elections in 2018.

E. Request to be involved in missions in Tanzania: President Saunders read a letter from LCMS International Missions, which requested support for the seminary in Tanzania. The Global Seminary Initiative has no funds to continue funding the seminary. The support request was for \$23,000 of the \$56,000 cost and for two district pastors to teach in 2017-19.

Moved and seconded to refer the Tanzania request to the Mission Committee for a 2018 budget recommendation with the restriction that IDE remain faithful to our commitment to Spain. Motion carried.

12. Adjournment: Moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting was declared adjourned at 11:28 am.

13. Lunch Break: The board adjourned for an eat-in lunch. Rev. Knox offered the meal prayer.

14. Next Meeting: The next meeting will be Tuesday, October 24, 2017, 9:00 a.m. at the district office. Rev. Mons will lead devotions.