

**Minutes**  
**LCMS North Dakota District Board of Directors**  
**April 21, 2020 – Special Meeting**

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**CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING PRAYER**

The April 21, 2020 special video conference meeting of the LCMS North Dakota Board of Directors was called to order by Rev. Tom Marcis, Chairman at 7:01 p.m. Members present: Rev. Arie Bertsch, District President; Rev. Kirk Peters, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President; Rev. Tom Marcis, Chairman; Mr. John Riley, Vice Chairman; Rev. Joshua Reimche, Secretary; Mr. Leon Bladow, Treasurer; Mrs. Tina Davidson, Mrs. Tami Ulland, Business Manager; Mr. Jason Paradis, Mr. Tom Langer, Mrs. Kay Kreklau, Mr. Kirk Rosin, Mr. Paul Huber Absent: Rev. Steve Schulz 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Rev. Dan Voth

President Bertsch opened with a prayer for the Church, the District, and members of the board.

**BOARD APPROVAL ITEMS**

The purpose of this special video conference meeting is to discuss the pros and cons of the LCMS ND District potentially applying for the Covid-19 Paycheck Protection Program (PPP).

Tami began by reviewing the application process, and what information needs to be submitted. The District has 3 full time employees, with retirement and health insurance. Two part time employees with retirement. And one who only receives a stipend which is reported on Form W-2. Monies can be used for mortgage, rent and other business expenses. At least 75% of the funds must be used for payroll expenses in order to have the loan forgiven. District would apply through US Bank, since this is the district's bank.

The district is eligible to receive 2.5 months of PPP, which amounts to \$59,000

District has approximately \$700,000 in liquid cash, though some of that is restricted funds, there would still be approximately \$380,000 that could be used during this time. Thus the need to apply for PPP is not absolutely essential at this point.

Some members expressed moral and ethical concerns with taking government money. Other members questioned the certainty of the forgiveness conditions, since those are not yet specified by the government, though even with no forgiveness, it would be low interest loan in the worst case scenario. Additionally, some of the board agreed that the PPP money is a short term solution for a much larger problem, namely because the district had a \$60,000 deficit at the end of the last fiscal year, thus this program would be a temporary fix because the need is evident that the board needs to review district expenses.

It was moved, and seconded **NOT** to apply for PPP funds for the district. Discussion ensued. A secret ballot was received via text message to the District Secretary. Yes 7. No 3. Motion passed, **NOT** to apply for the PPP relief program at this time.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was Adjourned at 8:00 p.m. by Chairman Marcis.

Sub Cruce,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rev. Joshua D. Reimche". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "R".

Rev. Joshua D. Reimche, Secretary