

Minutes
LCMS North Dakota District Board of Directors
November 30, 2020 – Special Meeting

CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING DEVOTION

The November 30, 2020 Special meeting of the LCMS North Dakota Board of Directors was called to order by Rev. Tom Marcis, Chairman at 8:00 p.m. Members present: Rev. Arie Bertsch, District President; Rev. Kirk Peters, 1st Vice President; Rev. Steve Schulz 2nd 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, Rev. Dan Voth, Mr. Kirk Rosin, Mr. Paul Huber Absent: none.

President Bertsch opened with a reading from 1 Peter on the occasion of St. Andrew Day, and offered a prayer for the church and the work of the board.

Chairman Marcis reviewed the agenda. Rebekah Jahnke had contacted President Bertsch today about the status of CTAP forgiveness, her request was added to the agenda. It was moved, seconded, and passed to adopt the agenda as amended.

COP Meeting Review

It was discussed at COP meeting last week and a poll was taken by the District Presidents that President Harrison poll the congregations of synod in order to receive approval to postpone all district conventions from 2021 to 2022. 25% of all synod congregations must approve the proposal to postpone. Since ND is the first district convention, President Bertsch believed it was necessary to postpone the ND district convention and therefore prudent to officially postpone before all synod congregations respond by February.

Convention Delay Impact

Elected officers, board members and task force members will remain in their current positions, (unless the individual were to resign) even though the terms would have normally expired the end of January 2021.

Budget for 2021

Because there will be no convention in 2021, the international mission commitments will remain in force. Therefore, it was moved, seconded and passed to direct Tami to use general fund monies to fulfill the '20-'21 current mission commitments to Chile and Kenya.

Nominations and Overtures Impact

It may be necessary for the district to redo the entire nominations, and overtures process preceding the district convention in 2022. Further direction will be forthcoming from synod about the process to reschedule district conventions.

2021 BOD Priorities

Synod Secretary Consultation. The board plan to bring Synod Secretary Sias to consult with the board at the April meeting in regard to the BOD Policy Manual in preparation for the next board to take over.

Task Force Guidelines. The sitting board will develop Task Force Guidelines during

District Bylaws

North Dakota District Bylaw 8.1.2 states: “When necessitated by amendments to the Synod Constitution or Bylaws, or otherwise expressly directed by a resolution of the Synod in convention, amendments may be made by a two-thirds majority of the district board of directors. Such amendments shall be drafted by the district Standing Committee on Constitution and Bylaws and shall be reviewed and approved in advance by the LCMS Commission on Constitutional Matters (CCM).”

The District Standing Committee on Constitution and Bylaws reviewed North Dakota bylaws and made revisions according the CCM recommendations following the 2019 Synod Convention, and submitted the revised document to the CCM for review. In CCM Opinion (20-2948), published September 15, 2020, the CCM identified further necessary revisions and approved the ND Bylaws provided these further revisions be included in the ND District Bylaws. The committee has made those necessary revisions.

The majority of revisions made were due to mandatory CCM requirements. One bylaw revision was suggested by the Board of Directors in regard to the nominations process of Vice Presidents. While this revision has been approved by CCM, since it was mandated by CCM, its proper to present this suggested bylaw change to the District Convention in 2022.

It was moved, seconded to approve the CCM mandated and approved revisions to the district bylaws, with the exception of the change in nomination process for VP’s which will be taken to the convention in 2022.

Rebekah Janke CTAP

Rebakah contacted President Bertch by phone asking if her current service experience could possibly count toward loan forgiveness. Pastor Wolters also sent a letter recommending that her service and experience count toward forgiveness qualification. By consensus the board directed President Bertsch to restate the resolution regarding her loan balance at the October meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was Adjourned at 8:59 p.m. by Chairman Marcis.

Sub Cruce,

Rev. Joshua D. Reimche, Secretary