

River Valley Alliance Church
Governing Board Meeting
September 21, 2017

Present: Pastor Caleb Atkins, Tim Beine, Bruce Cochrane (by video conferencing), Matt Colosky, Charlene Flint, Pastor Michael Golemi, Justin Roberts, Greg Schroeder, Ron Sokovich, Jeremy Walker, Robin Walker, Pastor Dave Zimmermann. Guests: Keith Neigenfind, Mike Friedl

Absent: Dan Ellsworth, Joe Haberkorn,

The meeting was called to order at 6 p.m. Justin Roberts opened the meeting in prayer.

Previous Minutes: The financial report from July 31, 2017 was inadvertently omitted from the August Governing Board Minutes. Charlene Flint made a **motion** to approve the August 17, 2017 Minutes amended to include: "July 2017 expenses exceeded revenues by over \$5,000. The Build the Future Sinking Fund balance as of June 30, 2017 is \$51,775.67. " Second. Motion carried.

A **motion** was made by Bruce Cochrane to approve the August 17, 2017 minutes as amended. Second. Motion carried.

Pastoral Report: Pastor Zimmermann: A written report was submitted. Vision: A Build the Future Committee has been chosen. Pastor Zimmermann makes a **motion** that, Joe Haberkorn, Amy Buchholtz, Dave Smith, Chris Mertens, Carol Sokovich, Tim Thomas, John Leischer, and Dave Zimmermann be appointed to the Build the Future Committee and tasked with the following:

1) Determine the challenges presented by our current facility, 2) By examining the projections of the staff and making their own data, the committee will determine the facility needs for the next 5-10 years. 3) If the committee deems facility expansion to be necessary, they will put together recommendations for facility development and a timeline for that development. Second. Motion carried.

Preaching: Beginning October 8, the sermon theme will be "InPowered In Christ"...a look at how the Holy Spirit gives us what we need to serve the Lord as laid out in the book of Ephesians. The Elders will be interviewing new members. New members will be received on December 10. A new River Valley Organizational Chart was presented to the Governing Board.

Disciplemaking Ministries:

Adults: A written report was submitted. Various fall small groups and Bible studies have already kicked off in the last couple of weeks. There are four small group facilitators who are ready to lead the 3rd service "Dwelling in the Word" group. They have been trained on the method and are in the progress of contacting potential group members. Pastor Atkins will attend a district discipleship training meeting October 9. There was once again a great turn-out for Sunday School with a total of over 80 people in the two classes. There have only been two weeks of Sunday school and a drop-off is expected, but if last year is repeated an average of 60-70 adults in Sunday school should be maintained. Middle School and High School: A written report was submitted. The 2017 Student Ministries Calendar has been finalized. The special events calendar is available on the church's website, social media, and hard copies are available in the Connection Center. For the youth group, the Alliance Youth team recommends courses created by The Youth Cartel. They offer several short studies that are conversation based, and are easily modifiable. Pastor Golemi will be using these. Attendance has been good the past two Sunday mornings. The middle school Sunday School has grown to the point of needing an additional teacher and a change of locations was necessary. The high school Sunday

School is spending three weeks discussing intimacy with God. Youth group began last Sunday, with a pleasing response! The change of day for the Middle school youth group is going to work well. The High school youth group was up in numbers. All the students from last year plus a few from the middle school. The focus this year will be on taking faith-filled risks, and them having a vested interest in *their* youth group. Children: A written report was submitted. The last two weeks of Discovery Land have been great. New kids are coming and attendance has averaged 27 kids (preschool-grade 5) for the last 2 weeks. Third service Discovery Land teachers are in place. Awana kicked off September 13 with disappointing attendance of 42 kids (rather than the normal attendance in the 70's). Mrs. Walker has made efforts to remedy this through social media and postcards. Awana worker training was held on September 6th, with almost all the workers in attendance. Nursery Worker training will be soon. Mrs. Walker will go through the manual with all nursery workers and get a copy of the handbook to all parents who use the nursery.

Elder Report: A written report was submitted. The Elders decided to have one service at 9:30 on Sunday morning, December 24 and then two services in the evening at 4:00 and 5:30. At the Elder Board meeting staff goals were discussed. Movement will be toward using an overarching Vision goal for each area on a staff person's job description and Target (SMART) Goals under each of those Vision Goals.

Finance Report: A written report was submitted by Tim Beine. The August 31 balances are: Checking account, \$54,418.69 and Money Market, \$80,141.43. Credit card debt for August was \$3,194.79. Expenses exceeded revenues by over \$10,000. The Build the Future Sinking Fund balance as of August 31, 2017 is \$63,865.56.

Impacts (Missions) Report: A written report was submitted. IMPACTS is currently supporting 14 missionaries in prayer on a rotating monthly basis. The logistics of supporting missionaries in creative access countries was discussed. Great Commission Fund contributions, while up in August, continue to lag and are 19.5% below target. The Unity of Faith trip left a surplus of \$6,063. This will enable IMPACTS' emphasis to be on prayer and stewardship of resources rather than focusing on fundraising. Missionary Keith Neigenfind was introduced and talked a bit about his mission field in Thailand.

Service and Benevolence Report: A written report was submitted. Deposits of \$1,238.00 were made. Disbursements for August were \$1,363.00. The end-of-month balance for the Benevolent Fund is \$4,033.34. During the September meeting several Benevolent requests were discussed along with planning for going to three services. Jeremy Walker made a **motion** to purchase a new set of communion ware not to exceed \$1,350 to prepare for the service of communion at three services with a limited time between services. Second. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: A written report was submitted. Treasurer Schroeder brought forth a timeline of tasks for the budgeting process. The budget process will begin in August and will end in December. As of August 31, 2017, River Valley has collected 3.6% fewer donations than anticipated year to date. Expenditures are nearly 10.5% over projections. River Valley has spent \$52,655 more than collected since the first of the year. The current balance is lower than expected, but there is a pending deposit for September that will provide sufficient liquidity for another contribution to the sinking fund. Greg Schroeder **motioned** to move \$10,000 from the general fund to the Build the Future Sinking Fund. Second. Motion carried. Treasurer Schroeder is in the process of digitizing all church records.

Trustee Report: A written report was submitted. The painting of the kitchen is completed and the kitchen cabinets are being hung. The Facility committee, Trustees committee and others toured Calvary Baptist church and received information on their church procedures on security. This was discussed with the Facility Committee. A plan was presented on how River Valley would implement a security system. Quotes will be acquired. The Facility Committee is working on the Emergency Facility Policy. Discussion was held regarding whether keys should be given to nonmember regular attenders.

Bruce Cochrane made a **motion** to accept all ministry area reports. Second. Motion carried. Each of the reports in their entirety is available in the church office upon request.

Old Business:

Policy Committees: Policy Committees: Facility: Bruce Cochrane **motions** to amend the Key Policy to include those who are members or “faithful attenders” over 18 as approved by the Board of Trustees. Second. Motion carried. Children: Mrs. Walker is going through the Children’s Policy and Procedures Manuals and implementing most, if not all, the recommendations from Church Mutual Insurance Company. Worship: The Usher Policy was presented to the Governing Board and discussed. It will be returned to the Usher Coordinator with suggestions. The River Valley Worship Policy was presented and discussed. It is to be renamed the River Valley Policy for Music in Worship. The term “faithful attender” was discussed. Pastor Zimmermann **moved** to define “faithful attender” as a person who conducts themselves in every way as a member without having filled out the application. This then would necessitate the person regularly attends, faithfully gives, and dutifully serves in the congregation. Second. Discussion. Motion carried. All policies and procedures are to be changed to be consistent to this definition. Greg Schroeder **moved** to adopt the Policy for Music in Worship and Covenant as amended. Second. Motion carried. Budget/Finance Committee: Ministry area budgets are due to the Treasurer September 30.

New Business: Nomination Committee: To be appointed at the Congregation meeting to be held the end of October. Nominating Committee members from the Board will be Bruce Cochrane and Charlene Flint. Open positions up for election in January: Treasurer; Assistant Treasurer; Secretary; Elders Sokovich and Colosky; Deacon Walker; Deaconesses Flint and Vogt; Trustees Carl Sr. and Kruzicki. Handbook Change: The Employee Handbook is to be changed regarding education reimbursement. This is to be dealt with at the Compensation Committee. Missions: The funds that the Governing Board pledged to Emmi Hanus were sent to the Christian and Missionary Alliance for her behalf. Copier Upgrade: Discussion was held regarding a new copier. The copier has been leased. Bruce Cochrane **moved** to act on the suggested upgrade in copier and contract as proposed. Second. Motion carried.

Pastor closed the meeting in prayer. The next Governing Board meeting will be held on October 19, 2017 at 6 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose room.

A **motion** was made to adjourn. Second. Motion carried.

The minutes contained in this report pend final approval by the Governing Board at the next formal meeting.

Charlene Flint,
Governing Board Secretary
River Valley Alliance Church