

MEETING MINUTES FROM THE 2015 BUSINESS MEETING

The Western Region Business Meeting at Our Redeemers LBC in Minot, ND was called to order at 9:38 A.M. on July 11th, 2015, by Western Region President Ron Erickson.

Rev. Dan Chell opened with scripture and prayer.

A motion was seconded and carried to adopt the agenda of the 2014 Biennial Western Region Business meeting, with the addition of another report from Hillcrest Lutheran Academy. MSC

A motion was made to approve speaking rights. MSC

The Secretary's report was given by Jason Rogness. MSC to accept Secretary's report.

The Treasurer's Report was made by Roger Solberg. MSC to accept the Treasurer's report.

Gary Witkop shared the Regional Pastor's Report. A handout was given regarding the work going on in each church. Gary shared regional highlights, which included recent events in the region and country, which affect our churches, and the opportunity we have to continue proclaiming grace. Updates were given on synodical position changes, as well as pastor changes since last year. Gary also shared about the church planting going on through NAM and 5th Act, and building updates in the region.

In the finance report, LaWayne Rogness gave a 2014-15 review, and 2015-16 finance report from the CLBA. A point of emphasis was made regarding the NAM budget which was a deficit of approx. \$42,000 before funds were allocated to it. He also shared an update on the Lifting our Eyes Advancement, and from the Seminary.

Chairman Ron Erickson suspended the rest of the reports, and moved on to elections in order for the Women's Ministry attendees who are delegates to vote before leaving.

There were no nominations from the floor for regional positions, and nominations ceased. Current nominees were elected. Shawn Bowman (Jamestown, ND) – Chairman, Pete Pederson (Minot, ND) – Vice Chairman, Jason Rogness (Arvada, CO) – Secretary, Roger Solberg (Malta, MT) – Treasurer, Scott Skones (Minot, ND) – COD Member (Lay Leader), Shawn Bowman (Jamestown, ND) – COD Member (Pastor).

A motion was made to appoint Rod Jonas (Grace-Bismarck, ND) and Bert Rogness (Blom Prairie-Toronto, SD) for the Inspiration Point Board Of Directors. MSC

Discussion was had regarding Regional Pastor Gary Witkop, and a motion that was made in 2013 regarding a sabbatical. A motion was made to affirm the appointment of Rev. Gary Witkop as Regional Pastor of the Western Region.

Elections ended, and reports continued.

Greg Anderson shared the Inspiration Point Bible Camp report. Highlights were: the purchase of two new lake lots, beds full during camp weeks, Sr. High kids flocking to camp, staff

development, and project updates and completions.

Wayne Stender gave a report from Hillcrest Lutheran Academy. Highlights were: student involvement within the CLBA as well as diversity outside the denomination and the country, lives changed through the gospel working in the classroom and mission trips, the need for students who are both strong in their faith and who have none at all. He also shared about the Hillcrest cafeteria and student union building update.

A motion was made to accept the reports as read. MSC

There was no Old Business, as the Regional Sabbatical Report was given during the reports.

Under New Business, Shawn Bowman made a motion on behalf of the executive committee regarding the recommendation for Living Word Church of Minot, to the Synod for membership to be voted at the 2016 CLBA Biennial Convention. MSC unanimously.

Shawn Bowman made a motion on behalf of the executive committee to support Yellowstone LBC in Billings, MT with up to \$12,000 per year for the next two years. Rev. Bill Poore gave an update from Yellowstone regarding their financial situation. MSC

Gary Witkop noted that pre-printed budgets were not given since the Yellowstone Vote hadn't been approved yet.

Roger Solberg presented the 2015-16 budget for the Western Region. Clarification was given regarding the allocation of dollars. The new budget consists of Women's Ministry - \$2,000, Western Region Convention - \$2,000, Pastors and Wives Retreats - \$4,000, Yellowstone LBC Support - \$12,000, for a total of \$20,000. MSC

Shawn Bowman made a motion on behalf of the executive committee to create a committee to work in conjunction with the Regional Executive Committee to plan and carry out the 2017 West Region Biennial Convention. MSC

The meeting was adjourned, and the meeting concluded.

Shawn Bowman gave an announcement regarding a symposium on Sept. 12th at Jamestown College with Scott Bearfoot, titled Homosexuality, Speaking God's Truth In Love.

Gary Witkop thanked Ron Erickson for his work as Chairman and closed in prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jason Rogness
Western Region Secretary