

NORTH WISCONSIN DISTRICT LCMS
Board of Directors Meeting
November 8, 2018
Minutes

NWD Board Members Attending

Mr. Paul Duerst, Chairman
Rev. Dr. Timothy Roser, 1st P
Rev. William Plautz, 2nd VP
Rev. Timothy Shoup, 3rd VP
Rev. Donald Engebretson, Secretary
Mr. David Ackerman, Treasurer
Mr. Richard Bartanen
Mr. Brian Betts
Mr. Stephen Fisher
Rev. Aaron Gehrke
Mrs. Sharon Voigt
Rev. Dwayne Lueck, President

North Wisconsin District Staff Present

Mr. Dennis Johnson
Mr. DJ Schult

NWD Board Unable to Attend

Mr. Bruce Plautz
Mrs. Karol Selle
Mrs. Kathy Strasser

Recording Secretary

Mrs. Lori Kavajecz

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Duerst at 9:10 a.m.

Opening Devotion – Mr. Richard Bartanen provided the Opening Devotion on peace.

Adoption of Agenda

A **motion** was made, seconded and approved to adopt the agenda as presented. **APPROVED.**

Consent Voting Agenda

- ❖ Approval of August 6 & 7, 2018 NWD Board Minutes
- ❖ NWD Unaudited September 2018 Financials
- ❖ NWD Consolidated P & L
- ❖ Section 2 – Board Self Governance Policies

A **motion** was made and seconded to approve the above Consent Voting Agenda as presented. **APPROVED.**

NWD 2019 Budget

President Lueck provided a brief overview of the 2019 budget.

After discussion, a **motion** was made and seconded to approve the 2019 Budget as presented. **APPROVED.**

Rostered Church Worker Debt

Rev. Roser stated that he had emailed and asked for feedback from pastors in our District that have been in the field for up to eight years asking them about their student debt. He shared confidentially and anonymously with the Board the comments he received. He also shared that he had been in conversation with Mr. Ron Smith of Gift Planning Services regarding the

possibility of setting up an endowment fund to assist our rostered church workers with their student debt.

After much discussion, a **motion** was made and seconded that the North Wisconsin District Board of Directors authorizes the creation of an endowment fund and for Gift Planning Services to collect monies for the purpose of rostered church worker debt relief. **APPROVED.**

February Board Meeting

President Lueck shared that he has several conflicts with future already scheduled Board meetings. He stated that the Board could meet without him or proceed to reschedule said meetings. Below are the changes that were agreed upon by Board members:

Tuesday, February 5, 2019 changed to → Thursday, January 31, 2019

Tuesday, November 5, 2019 changed to → Thursday, November 7, 2019

Tuesday, November 3, 2020 changed to → Thursday, November 5, 2020

Camp Luther Report

Rev. Aaron Gehrke was unable to attend the meeting, but provided Attachment F as information for Board members.

Election of Camp Luther Board Members

President Lueck shared that the terms for two Members at Large on the Camp Luther Board are open for nomination. The North Wisconsin District Board is responsible for filling these positions. The two individuals that currently hold these positions can be re-elected as they have only served one term. The current members are Rev. Steve Hulke and Mr. Thane Bublitz. President Lueck also shared that other nominations can be made.

Hearing no other nominations, a **motion** was made and seconded to re-appoint Rev. Steve Hulke and Mr. Thane Bublitz to another three-year term. **APPROVED.**

Constitution & Bylaws

National Synod Convention

Secretary Engebretson requested additional time to share the status of delegates to the 2019 Synod Convention. He reported that all 19 Circuits have submitted their delegates and have been sent to St. Louis in a timely fashion to qualify for representation at the convention. Unfortunately, we do not have a full 38 voting delegates attending; several circuits were unable to secure lay delegates. He also shared that DJ Schult will be the NWD staff representative and Brian Betts will be representing the District, as well as the Board.

Secretary Engebretson presented the following Constitution & Bylaw change requests:

Peace-Arbor Vitae – This was presented at the August meeting and determined it needed clarification on some of the language prior to approval. Secretary Engebretson consulted with Secretary Sias and it was determined that the language would be acceptable as submitted.

Trinity Lutheran Chapel-Cable – Secretary Engebretson shared that Article V of the Constitution says nothing of the necessity of the pastor being an ordained member of The Lutheran

Church—Missouri Synod. The verbiage used is: “The Pastoral Office of this congregation shall be conferred only on such ministers and candidates who profess and adhere to the confessional standard set forth in Article III [Doctrinal Standard] of this Constitution and who are qualified for their work. Pastors shall be pledged to this confessional standard.” In the Guidelines from Synod it is recommended that the constitution state that the pastoral office be conferred only those “who have been endorsed by and are members of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.” The Board agreed that if this verbiage was changed they would recommend approval

St. John-Hamburg – This constitution was reviewed and proposed with minor changes.

Mount Olive-Weston – Secretary Engebretson shared that he only received proposed verbiage changes to the Bylaws. He has requested an electronic copy of the entire Constitution to ensure that the proposed Bylaw changes are in order with the Constitution and with Synod and District. The Board agreed that Secretary Engebretson should obtain a copy of the Constitution to ensure that both are in agreement with each other, as well as District and Synod.

After the above review, a **motion** was made and seconded to approve Peace-Arbor Vitae and St. John-Hamburg as presented and Trinity-Lutheran Chapel-Cable as conditionally approved after the proposed verbiage is changed. **APPROVED.**

Secretary Engebretson will follow up with Trinity Lutheran Chapel-Cable to ensure the verbiage is changed and also with Mount Olive to obtain their Constitution to ensure that it is in alignment with their Bylaws, District and Synod.

Standing Committee Updates

Administrative Services Committee

Rev. William Plautz shared that he has taken a few phone calls with questions regarding the new compensation tool.

President Lueck shared that he received a request to create an Organist Supply List similar to our Supply Pastor List for our website. He will be working on creating said list for future publication.

Audit & Investment Management Committee

Mr. Dave Ackerman shared that we will once again be hiring Wipfli to conduct our 2018 audit scheduled for March 18-20, 2019. He also shared that our education fund balance is slightly higher than a year ago. Allocations for scholarships will begin to be put together after December 31, 2018; he will have a better idea of what those scholarships will look like at that time.

Governance Committee

Rev. Roser shared that there is nothing further to report.

Stewardship Committee

Mr. Dennis Johnson shared that he is in conversation with a representative from Stewardship Innovations for guidance on the proper direction to get important stewardship information onto our website. He is hoping to have something for the website by 2019.

President's Report

President Lueck distributed his report to all attendees—see attached.

DJ Schult – Education/Communication

DJ shared the following highlights from his area:

- ❖ 2019 National Youth Gathering – DCEs from St. Paul, Stevens Point and Immanuel, Wisconsin Rapids are doing an amazing job of promoting and communicating this event.
- ❖ One large Leadership meeting scheduled on January 29, 2019 at Trinity, Wausau. This one meeting replaces the 5-6 meetings we have had in previous years held in various circuits throughout the District. Also of note, if there are new lay leaders in your congregation that are unable to make this meeting, let us know and we can take the show on the road.
- ❖ There is money set aside in the 2019 budget to assist in helping keep our schools safe. Exploring a program called Ministry Safe.

Dennis Johnson

LCEF/Stewardship

Dennis shared the following highlights from his area:

- ❖ In the middle of the LCEF restructure
- ❖ Has been a great year for loans – hoping to end strong
- ❖ LCEF Fall Conference members meeting held in San Diego later this month
- ❖ \$68,000 in operating results included in the 2019 District budget for ministry efforts

Building & Grounds

- ❖ Continue to work on the Master Schedule for Maintenance
- ❖ Roof should be good to go for another 10 years
- ❖ Continue to slowly implement LED lighting
- ❖ Plans to finish the kitchen in December 😊

Mr. Bartanen closed the meeting with a prayer

Meeting adjourned at 1:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Reverend Donald Engebretson, District Secretary
Lori A. Kavajecz, Recording Secretary