

NORTH WISCONSIN DISTRICT LCMS

Board of Directors Meeting

February 1, 2022

Minutes

NWD Board Members Attending

Mr. Bruce Plautz, Chairman
Rev. Dr. Timothy Roser, 1st VP
Rev. William Plautz, 2nd VP
Rev. Timothy Shoup, 3rd VP
Rev. Don Engebretson Secretary
Mr. Brian Betts
Rev. Aaron Gehrke
Mr. Dwayne Maroszek, Treasurer
Mrs. Paula Krueger
Mrs. Karol Selle
Mr. Craig Timm

North Wisconsin District Staff Present

Rev. Dwayne Lueck, President
Mr. Bill Jordan
Mr. DJ Schult

NWD Board Unable to Attend

Mr. Paul Duerst
Mr. Stephen Fisher
Mrs. Sharon Voight

Recording Secretary

Mrs. Lori Kavajecz

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m.

Opening Devotion – Rev. William Plautz shared an Opening Devotion.

Adoption of Agenda

A **motion** was made, seconded and approve the agenda as presented.

APPROVED.

Consent Voting Agenda

- ❖ Approval of November 2, 2021 Minutes
- ❖ NWD Unaudited December 2021 Financials & Consolidated
- ❖ Section 3 – Board & Executive Relationship Policies Review

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

APPROVED.

Worker Debt Grant Report

Mr. Jordan shared that there was an increase in applications for the Labor of Love grants in 2021. He shared that there were nine applicants including five pastors, 2 DCEs and 2 teachers. A total of \$20,000 in rewards were given out.

In 2022 there were 17 applicants with 15 applicants awarded grant monies; one applicant had too little debt and the other was in the ministry for too long. A total of \$30,000 was awarded.

He shared that where we are financially right now this program should be sustainable for another 5-6 years. He asked Board members to remember to get the word out on this program so that others can take advantage of it.

After discussion, the Board determined that they would like to craft an overture to be taken to the 2022 District Convention. Staff were asked to craft the overture and bring it back to the Board for approval.

Mission Mini Grants

Rev. Shoup shared that the Task Force received eight applications in 2021. After review it was determined that six of the submissions were qualified to receive grants; \$18,000 was available for distribution. The Committee met to determine grant amounts to be provided; all would receive less than originally requested. Five applicants combined equaled the \$18,000; the Committee would be short \$2,000 for the sixth applicant. Rev. Shoup asked President Lueck if the District would be able to provide the \$2,000 to cover this last grant. It was determined that there is an account that would allow for the District to assist with this final grant recipient.

A **motion** was made and seconded to approve the \$18,000 be distributed as presented.

APPROVED.

A **motion** was made and seconded to approve an additional \$2,000 from North Wisconsin District monies to cover the additional grant.

APPROVED.

Camp Luther

Rev. Gehrke shared that he is serving on the Search Committee for the next Executive Director. He stated that they had initial interviews via Zoom with five candidates. They will be bringing in one candidate for an in-person interview on Monday, February 7th to meet with the Camp Luther Board and staff. President Lueck shared that he will also be joining that interview via Zoom.

Rev. Roser shared that the Management Agreement and Lease will expire at the end of 2022. He and others on the Task Force from our Board will be setting up meetings to begin these discussions with Camp leaders.

Constitution and Bylaw Changes

Secretary Engbretson shared that he had been on a phone call with the pastor and leadership of St. Matthew-Eau Claire to discuss and make changes to their Constitution & Bylaws.

Secretary Engbretson recommended approval of constitution changes for Calvary-Waupaca as they were submitted. A **motion** was made and seconded to approve.

APPROVED.

National Youth Gathering

Ms. Tara Darling and Ms. Samantha Tracy joined the Zoom meeting to share information about the upcoming National Youth Gathering in Houston, Texas.

Ms. Darling shared that to date we have 36 North Wisconsin District churches registered to attend with a total of 520 participants.

Ms. Tracy shared that the North Wisconsin District will be co-hosting a district event with the South Wisconsin District. This district event will allow attendees to connect with other churches from their district all in one location. This event will begin before the National Youth Gathering and is scheduled for July 8th from 9-11 pm at a cost of \$36/person. This cost will include full aquarium access and a meal.

Standing Committee Updates

Administrative Services Committee

Rev. Plautz stated there is no report at this time.

Audit & Investment Management Committee

Mr. Maroszek stated that our investments have been up and down over the last few months. We are still in the conservative position and he believes this is a good place to be for now. He will continue to watch the market. The Audit is scheduled to start on Monday, February 14th with the auditors onsite.

Governance Committee

Rev. Roser stated that he had nothing further to report.

Stewardship Committee

Mr. Jordan shared that there is no report at this time.

President's Report

President Lueck shared his report with all attendees.

Staff Reports

DJ Schult

Mr. Schult provided the following updates to his respective area:

- ❖ Shared survey results from the North/South Teachers Conference in Wisconsin Dells
- ❖ More requests than Concordia graduates; 450 requests/88 graduates
- ❖ DCE Retreat at Camp Luther – February 28 – March 1
- ❖ 20 of 22 North Wisconsin Elementary & High Schools are accredited; 21 of 22 will be at the end of 2022
- ❖ Lots of Board training going on
- ❖ Team Ministry Workshop
- ❖ Hearts for Jesus – February – Helping Hands Bulgaria (Ukraine)
- ❖ Principal Gathering – February 3rd

Bill Jordan

Mr. Jordan provided the following updates to his respective areas:

- ❖ DVP Meeting – St. Louis – November 1-4
- ❖ JBAC – St. Louis – November 16-18
- ❖ CRM training for Salesforce – St. Louis – December 8-10
- ❖ Trinity-Port Edwards – Investment opportunity
- ❖ St Paul-Luxemburg – Construction loan
- ❖ Peace-Arbor Vitae – Demographic reports
- ❖ LCEF Signature Sponsorship Grants help church with larger equipment purchases
- ❖ Looking for at least 7 LCEF advocates across the District. Need motivated volunteers in congregations who embrace the mission of LCEF.
- ❖ Continued opportunities for legacy planning. Churches can get District help to share in the cost. Economy of scale is achieved when several congregations partner up.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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