

## Minutes of Governing Board Meeting – 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021

**Attendees:** Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston, Rev. Elder Diane Fisher, Clare Coughlin, Mark Godette,  
Rev. Alberto Najera, Chad Hobbs, Rev. Paul Whiting

**Staff:** Marina Laws

**Apologies:** Rev. Marie Alford-Harkey, James Chavis

**Establish Quorum:** Meeting commenced at 5:05 pm US Eastern / 10:05 pm UK / 4:05 pm US Central

**Opening Prayer:** Rev. Elder Carolyn Mobley-Bowie

**Brief Check In:** Check in from all present

### **Consent Agenda:**

- Minutes of August Meeting
- Moderator's Report

**Move to accept the minutes of the August meeting and the Moderator's Report.**

**Moved:** Chad Hobbs

**Seconded:** Rev. Elder Diane Fisher

**Passed**

### **Discussion Agenda:**

#### **COVID-19 Update:**

We are hearing of more MCC churches, in the US and around the world, who are going back to online only service, due to the rising case numbers around the globe.

#### **General Conference Update: Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston**

Rev. Elder Cecilia gave an update on her monthly meetings with Rev. Lauren Bennett & Mike Haase, regarding our various venues around the world. The team is starting to think about where staff, Governing Board & Council of Elders members will / would like to be, in-person, at our various venues.

It is helpful to note that ALL MCC members are welcome to travel to any venue, anywhere in the world; they do not have to stay in their local venue.

#### **Financial Report: Chad Hobbs**

Chad Hobbs gave an update of the June & July finances via the dashboards, which will be available on the MCC website after the meeting.

Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston updated the Governing Board on the current progress with the Partners in Hope program

**Move to accept the June 2021 Dashboard**

**Moved:** Rev. Elder Diane Fisher

**Seconded:** Clare Coughlin

**Passed**

## **Move to accept the July 2021 Dashboard**

**Moved: Rev. Elder Diane Fisher**

**Seconded: Alberto Najera**

**Passed**

## **Audit 2020:**

**Motion of thanks to Tammy Erwin for her many years of hard work in catching up several years of past audits and for a truly clean 2020 audit.**

**Moved: Chad Hobbs**

**Seconded: Clare Coughlin**

**Passed**

## **Budget 2022:**

Chad Hobbs gave an update that most local churches & the denomination, within the USA, have received two rounds of PPP loans/grants, as part of the CARES Act; this is likely not going to continue into 2022. The two PPP loans enabled churches, & the denomination, to keep staff employed & the churches running in 2021 due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

UFMCC has been able to prove that it has spent the funds on staff salaries for the first round, & the loan will now be converted into a grant. MCC is waiting to submit paperwork for the 2<sup>nd</sup> round.

We are expecting a modest income from our churches, in the months ahead, mainly due to the pandemic.

With this year's budget, we have been able to give staff a modest pay rise, recognize & appreciate the ministry of our volunteer translators, fund admin staffing for the Garner Institute, the website is being redesigned, additional IT support and we now have a Press & PR team.

Regarding next year's budget, things that the Governing Board want to ensure that funds are available operationally:

Rev. Elder Diane Fisher: Resource Development, General Conference should be a priority

Chad Hobbs: Attorney Fees

The Finance Committee are working with Rev. Lauren Bennett & Mike Haase, to ensure that we have an appropriate & comprehensive budget for General Conference 2022. The committee will start working on the 2022 budget in October 2021.

## **Update on Meeting with Henderson Financial Group (Endowment Fund): Chad Hobbs**

Chad Hobbs gave an update on progress with the monthly meetings with the Henderson Financial Group (HFG).

The MCC Endowment Fund is now up & running & already earning money for MCC. The HFG is a wonderful group to be working with; every meeting begins in prayer. The current amount in the fund is:

US\$194,063.11

**Accounting Manual Update: Chad Hobbs**

Work is ongoing; goal is for completion by the end of 2021

**Executive Session:** Marina Laws left the meeting, for the duration of the executive session

**Motion: to update the sick leave policy for MCC employees**

**Moved: Rev. Elder Diane Fisher**

**Seconded: Clare Coughlin** **Passed**

Marina Laws rejoined the meeting after the discussion & vote.

**Governance: Rev. Paul Whiting**

The work of the Governance Committee is ongoing. The Governance Committee is responsible to finding nominees for the Governing Board Nominating Committee

**Motion: to appoint Janet Fitzsimmons to the Governing Board Nominating Committee**

**Moved: Rev. Paul Whiting**

**Seconded: Rev. Elder Diane Fisher** **Passed**

**Motion to appoint JoAnne Ludy to the Governing Board Nominating Committee**

**Moved: Rev. Paul Whiting**

**Seconded: Rev. Elder Diane Fisher** **Passed**

**Motion to appoint Stuart Sutherland to the Governing Board Nominating Committee**

**Moved: Rev. Paul Whiting**

**Seconded: Alberto Najera** **Passed**

The Governing Board is delighted that 3 lay people have stepped forward to serve on this committee. The Governing Board Nominating Committee did work hard to include youth, and as many diverse people, also people with first language other than English, as possible to the committee.

**Affiliation for Church Criteria:** Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston

Tabled to October meeting

**Church Updates, Closures and Disaffiliations:** Rev. Elder Diane Fisher

- No update this month; work is ongoing.

**Commissions: The Work of the Commissions is ongoing**

- **Commission on Communication: Rev. Alberto Najera Governing Board Liaison**  
Currently waiting to send out a communication about the commission & ask for suggestions
- **General Conference Commission: Rev. Paul Whiting in his role as Chair of the Governance Team as Governing Board Liaison.**

**Motion: Move to allow the General Conference Commission to present its final report later than General Conference 2022, to incorporate any learnings from General Conference 2022 into its final report and recommendations.**

**Moved: Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston**

**Seconded: Clare Coughlin**

**Passed**

- **Assessments Commission: Rev. Elder Diane Fisher as Governing Board Liaison**  
No current update
- **Commission on Rites and Sacraments: Rev. Marie Alford-Harkey as Governing Board Liaison & Rev. Dr. Axel Schwaigert – Commission Co-Chair**  
No current update

**Commission on Pathways of Healing and Reconciliation: Clare Coughlin as Governing Board Liaison.**

No current update

**Feedback from Judiciary Joint Mtg: Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston**

Report from Judiciary Process Working Group: work is ongoing  
Update on Clergy License Revocation Process: Work is ongoing

**Racial Equity, Diversity and Inclusion: Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston**

**MCC Diversity & Inclusion Reports – Governing Board Actions (Working Group Members)**

Work is ongoing on reviewing the Diversity & Inclusion reports.

**Work Ahead for the Year:**

**Future Agenda Items:**

October – Look at HR Manual

November – Strategic aims between now & General Conference 2022; Financial Deep Dive & Budget

**Review of Minutes:**

**Governing Board Update Items:**

**Motion of thanks to Marina Laws for her support & hard work, to the Governing Board, over the last 2 years**

**Moved: Chad Hobbs**

**Seconded: Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston**

**Passed**

**Ongoing Items:**

**Governing Board Policy Manual – Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston**

**Dates of future meetings:**

**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

**Joint COE / GB Meeting**

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

**Chad Hobbs will be PTO**

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021**

**Partners in Hope Presentation**

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2022**

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

**Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston will be on PTO**

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2022**

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> August 2022**

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2022**

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2022**

**Close in Prayer:** Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston closed the meeting in prayer at 7:15 pm US Eastern / 00.15 am UK time / 6:15 pm US Central