

**Presbytery of Yellowstone
Stated Meeting – November 2-3, 2012
1st Presbyterian Church, Lewistown, Montana**

MINUTES

The Presbytery of Yellowstone met in a stated meeting at The 1st Presbyterian Church in Lewistown, Montana on Friday and Saturday, November 2 and 3, 2012. The meeting was held in conjunction with the Glacier/Yellowstone Convocation.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2012

12 – 081 – Call to Order – Moderator, Rev Jody McDevitt called the meeting to Order at 5:00 p. m. and offered the opening prayer.

12 - 082 – Roll Call – Ron mentioned that the actual Roll Call will be based on the completed Registration sheets. He did however introduce Kristin and Brandon Willett, the co-pastors of the Miles City Church who were installed last Sunday, and Aline Russell, the new Interim pastor at St. Andrew Church and reminded folks to make sure to introduce themselves and greet these new members. Those present were:

Church	Minister Member	Elder Commissioner	Others Present
Anaconda	Mary Davis	Linda Smith	
Big Hole	Dick Davis		
Billings, First	David Thompson`	Janet Kline	Bob Culbertson (HE)
Billings, St. Andrew	Aline Russell	Curt Kochner	
Bozeman	Jody Mc Devitt (Mod.) Dan Krebill	Suzanne Bratsky-PW	Susan Gibb Dan Holland (B&F) Ric Tieman Gillian Erlandson
Butte	Excused	John Clark	Ron Hanson (Stated Clerk)
Colstrip	Unexcused	David McNay	Darlene McNay
Deer Lodge	Vacant	Unexcused	
Dillon	David Andrew	Unexcused	
Ennis	Excused	Excused	
Forsyth	Cathy McLean	Gayle Holland	Don Holland (Vice-Moderator)
Geyser	Editha McKay	Fern Kaiser	Keri Olson
Harlowton	Unexcused	Unexcused	
Hysham	Paul Cannon	Unexcused	
Jordan	Excused	Claudia Stanton	
Lewistown	Jed Cauffman	Charles Brown	Dave Byerly

Manhattan	Debbie Funke	Debbie Blackburn	Helen Hutchison
Miles City	Brandon Willett	Verna Viall	
	Kristin Willett		
Phillipsburg	Unexcused	Jim Christiansen	Jan Christiansen
Poplar	Susan Ennis	Unexcused	
Roy	Unexcused	Ken Siroky	Suzanne Siroky
Stanford	Editha McKay	Jodi Licht	Dixie Youderian
Terry	Leon Rathbun	Unexcused	
West Yellowstone	Vacant	Rick Moler	Linda Blenk
White Sulphur			
Springs	James Kidd	Pam Jackson	
Wolf Point	Unexcused	Unexcused	

Other Minister Members Present:

George H Goodrich, Jr. (Co-General Presbyter)

Kathy Goodrich (Co- General Presbyter)

Neva Rathbun

Doug Johnson

Freeman McCall

Corresponding Members Present:

Rev. David Ezekiel, Presbytery of Chicago

Rev. Kevin Keaton, Presbytery of New Covenant

Rev. Tom Tewell, Presbytery of Greater Atlanta

Also Present:

Katy Holland, 2012 YAAD Commissioner to the 2012 General Assembly

12 - 083 – Quorum – A Quorum was declared present.

12 - 084 – Procedural Motion – The following Procedural Motion was approved by the presbytery:

- That the roll for this meeting be established by completed Registration Sheets.
- That written and oral requests for absences received by the Stated Clerk be approved.
- That any Corresponding members present be seated.
- That the Presbytery grant the Moderator the authority to give privilege of the floor to persons, other than Members or Commissioners, for the purpose of reporting to this meeting.
- That the Moderator and the Stated Clerk be empowered to make adjustments to the Agenda during the meeting, as may be necessary, to provide for efficiency in reporting.

12 – 085 – Approval of the Docket – The Docket was approved with several additions.

12 - 086 – Structure Task Force Report (STF) – George presented the Vision Statement and Kathy

followed with a reminder of the four strands for fulfilling the statement. George then stated the purpose of the presentation with a series of questions for the presbytery to think about during the presentation. He followed with the process that the STF had used. Dan presented a map of the branches (i.e. Covenant Orders) that the STF envisioned. Ric presented a structure diagram of the presbytery as envisioned by the STF. Some discussion followed. George then passed out a questionnaire for members and asked them to fill it out and return it to the STF members (9 were received). David led the singing of “The Lord is Good to Me” and offered a blessing for the evening meal.

12 – 087 – Recess for Dinner

12 – 088 – Joint Worship Service – A joint worship service, with Rev. Dr. Tom Tewell preaching, was held at 7:00 p.m. The title of his sermon was “When You Have to Go to Plan B” and was based on Acts 16: 6-16. Rev. Jed Cauffman presided over the serving of Communion. The service was followed by a social gathering plus a gathering of those who requested prayers.

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 3, 2012

12 - 089 – Breakfast – A hearty breakfast was provided by the men of the Lewistown Church.

12 - 090 – Worship – Opening worship and “Dwelling in the Word” was led by Rev. Jim Kidd. His selection was Romans 8:18-30. Those present gathered in small groups to discuss the passage.

12 - 091 – Reconvening - Presbytery reconvened at 9:00 a.m. Moderator Jody offered an opening prayer.

12 – 092 – West Yellowstone Dismissal Agreement – Dick Davis, on behalf of the COM, presented a draft of the Agreement, along with a report that covered the process the Resolution Team followed and its rationale for some of the items in the Agreement. He stated that the Agreement had been negotiated in good faith with the session of the Community Protestant Church of West Yellowstone (CPC). The body asked a number of questions which Dick and the members of the Resolution Team responded to. Rick Moler and Linda Bleck, session members of the CPC also shared their comments in support of the Agreement. Dick noted that the Agreement still needed to be reviewed by attorneys for the presbytery and the CPC. Additionally, the Agreement can not be executed until the CPC has been accepted by the Evangelical Presbyterian Church (EPC).

Ü Presbytery voted to approve the Dismissal Agreement, subject to legal Council review, and dismiss the CPC to the EPC upon finalization of the Agreement.

12 – 093 – Board of Pensions - Kevin Keaton, our representative from the Board of Pensions, presented an oral report. He stated that there will be a Board meeting in March which may result in some changes to the Major Medical coverage of the Pension Plan.

12 – 094 – Sexual Misconduct Policy – Debbie Funke presented the presbytery’s Sexual Misconduct Policy for a second reading. She noted that all the suggested changes mentioned at the first reading had been incorporated in the document.

Ü Presbytery voted to adopt the Sexual Misconduct Policy with the changes noted at the First Reading (Attachment A).

12 – 095 – Personnel Committee – Debbie Funke stated that an evaluation questionnaire for the employees of presbytery will be sent out in January. She also stated that the committee is looking at the idea of a Sabbatical for George and Kathy.

12 – 096 - General Assembly Commissioners Report – Jody called the presbyteries attention to the Church wide Pastoral Letter issued by the GA Moderator, Vice Moderator, Stated Clerk and the Executive Director of the Presbyterian Mission Agency. The letter contained some of the high lights of the 2012 General Assembly. Katy shared her experiences as our YAAD and

responded to questions from those present.

12 – 097 – Synod Coordinating Council Report – Ron presented a written report. He called the groups attention to an action of the GA. They have appointed an Administrative Commission which was given the power to change Synod and Presbytery boundaries.

12 – 098 – Synod Interim Executive Report – David Ezekiel gave a verbal report on the activities of the Synod. David stated that he felt Synods would be part of the Denominations structure at least through 2018.

12 – 099 – Young Adult Volunteer Program – Jack Mattingly of Glacier Presbytery introduced Maggie Lewis and they talked about the benefits of the program.

12 – 100 – Leadership Cabinet – Leon called people’s attention to the Cabinet’s written report which detailed actions of the Cabinet since the last presbytery meeting (Attachment B).

12 – 101 – Standing Rules – Dan Krebill presented the Standing Rules changes for their second reading and summarized the changes.

Ü Presbytery voted to approve the presented changes to the Standing Rules. (Attachment C).

12 - 102 – Budget and Finance – Dan Holland presented three items for vote. The first was a proposal to consolidate a number of designated funds into three accounts as detailed in Attachment D.

Ü Presbytery voted to approve the proposal noting that the approval negated the Development Fund Policy which detailed the use of the Springhill dismissal funds.

The second and third were the presentations of the 2013 Administrative Budget and the 2013 Program Budget.

Ü Presbytery voted to adopt the 2013 Administrative Budget with the change the budget will show a deficit of \$10,000 because of the elimination of \$10,000 of income from the Springhill fund. The Springhill fund will show \$0 in the income portion of the Administrative Budget. (Attachment E).

Ü Presbytery voted to approve the 2013 Mission Budget as presented (Attachment F).

Dan also presented the most recent (August 2012) Financial Report and asked if there were any questions on the report (Attachment G).

12 – 103 - Camping and Youth – Curt presented the committees written report. He mentioned that the Fall Retreat had 37 youth and 11 adults present.

12 – 104 - Committee on Ministry – Neva presented the committees report listing actions taken on behalf of presbytery (Attachment H). Included in the report was a recommendation on the Minimum Salary for Pastors for 2013 (Attachments I) and a set of guidelines for retired clergy and clergy at large (Attachment J).

Ü Presbytery voted to approve the recommended Minimum Salary for Pastors for 2013.

12 – 105 – Higher Education – Bob Culbertson presented the committees written report.

12 – 106 – PW – Suzanne Bratsky and Susan Gibb reported on the 2012 meetings of PW and the scheduled meetings for 2013.

12 – 107 – Docket Extension –

Ü Presbytery voted to extend the docket by 20 minutes.

12 – 108 – Nominating Committee – Suzanne presented the report of the Nominating Committee which included a recommendation to set aside the Standing Rules and a written Ballot of the Nominating Committee. Two names were removed from the ballot because of term limits.

Ü Presbytery voted to set aside the Standing Rule (S5.01, S5.02 and S6.02) to allow persons completing their second term on certain committees to continue to serve an additional 6 months until June 30, 2013 while a new committee structure is put in place.

Ü Presbytery voted to elect the following persons:

- 2013 Presbytery Moderator – RE Don Holland
- 2013 Presbytery Vice Moderator – TE Jed Cauffman

- 2013 Committee on Mission – TE Paul Cannon & TE Mary Davis Co-Moderators
- **Note: All other committee moderators remain in place through June 30, 2013**
- Camping and Youth, Class of 2015 – RE Veva Larson, RE Eldon Rice
- Higher Education, Class of 2015 – RE Chuck Broughton, RE Curt Kochner
- Committee on Ministry, Class of 2015 – TE David Andrew, RE Gayle Holland and RE Russ Kline
- Committee on Mission, Class of 2015 – TE Paul Cannon, TE Mary Davis and TE Lanny Rounds
- St. Timothy’s Chapel Committee, Class of 2015 – RE Cal Boyle, TE Rusty Craig and RE Art Neil
- Permanent Judicial Commission, Class of 2018 – TE Dan Krebill, RE Lloyd Mandeville and TE Sally Ralston. The other members of the Permanent Judicial Commission and their Classes are: Class of 2016 – TE Neva Rathbun and TE Jean Johnson; Class 2014 – RE MilAnn Combs and CRE Editha McKay; Others available to serve include: Class of 2012 – RE Jim Babcock, RE Don Holland and TE Freeman McCall; Class of 2010 – TE Jean Johnson; Class of 2008 – RE Fern Kaiser and TE Jody McDevitt: Class of 2006 – None and Class of 2004 – RE James Hubbe and RE Ken Siroky.

12 - 109 – Co-General Presbyters Report – George and Kathy commented on their written report (Attachment K).

12 - 110 – Stated Clerks – Ron called attention to his written report (Attachment L) and requested approval of the May 14-15, 2012 Stated Meeting Minutes of May 14-15, 2012 and the Special Meeting Minutes of August 24, 2012.

ü Presbytery voted to approve the presbytery meeting minutes of May 14-15, 2012 and August 24, 2012.

12-111 - Announcements – The following announcements were made:

- The collection at the Installation Service for Brandon and Kirstin Willett to the Miles City Church was \$556 which was deposited into the Linda Hofer Fund.
- The Clergy Emergency fund is very short of money.
- The 1st Presbyterian Church of Bozeman will be requesting a Special Meeting of Presbytery before December 31, 2012 to ask for authorization to purchase a lot to the north of their church.

12- 112 – Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned, until the next Stated Meeting scheduled for February 22-23, 2013, with a prayer by the Moderator, Jody McDevitt, at 12:05 p.m.

Stated Clerk
Ron Hanson