

**Yellowstone Presbytery Meeting
November 8, 2013
1st Presbyterian Church
Great Falls, Montana**

13-056 – Call to Order – Moderator Don Holland called the meeting to order at 1:40 p.m. Paul Cannon offered the opening prayer.

13-057 – Introductions – Those present introduced themselves and stated where they were from.

13-058 - Quorum – The Clerk stated that a quorum was present.

13-059 – Procedural Motion – The Stated Clerk moves the following Procedural Motion:

1. That the roll for this meeting be established by completed Registration Sheets.
 2. That written and oral requests for absences received by the Stated Clerk be approved.
 3. That any Corresponding members present be seated.
 4. 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.
 5. 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.
 6. That all reports received at this meeting be accepted.
- ü Presbytery voted to approve the above motion.

13-060 – Docket - The Docket was approved.

13-060 – Roll Call – The following people filled out registration sheets for the meeting:

Church	Minister Member	Elder Commissioner	Others Present
Anaconda	Vacant	Linda Smith	
Big Hole	Vacant		
Billings, First	David Thompson`		
Billings, St. Andrew		Curt Kochner	
Bozeman	Jody Mc Devitt Dan Krebill	Gillian Erlandson	Dan Holland (B&F) Ric Tieman (VSTF)
Butte	Lanny Rounds	Unexcused	Ron Hanson (Stated Clerk)
Colstrip	Unexcused		
Deer Lodge	Teresa Kendall	Tom Cotton	
Dillon	David Andrew	Unexcused	Merry Lee Hooks (PW)
Ennis	Excused	Unexcused	
Forsyth	Cathy McLean	Gayle Holland	Don Holland (Moderator)
Geyser	Editha McKay	Unexcused	
Harlowton	Unexcused	Unexcused	
Hysham	Paul Cannon	Excused	Joleanna Cannon

Jordan	Excused	Excused	
Lewistown	Jed Cauffman	Unexcused	
Manhattan	Debbie Funke	Debbie Blackburn	
Miles City	Brandon Willett Kristin Willett		
Phillipsburg	Unexcused	Jim Christianson	Jan Christianson
Poplar	Susie Ennis	Excused	
Roy	Unexcused	Unexcused	
Stanford	Editha McKay	Jodie Licht	
Terry	Melanie Martin-Dent	Unexcused	
White Sulphur Springs	Excused	Excused	
Wolf Point	Unexcused	Unexcused	

Also Present:

TE Freeman McCall
TE George Goodrich, Co-General Presbyter
TE Kathy Goodrich, Co-General Presbyter
TE Susan Thomas
TE Neva Rathbun
TE Freeman McCall

Corresponding Members Present:

TE David Ezekiel, Chicago Presbytery
Rev. Rob Kirby, MSU-Billings
TE Jerry Swanson, Dakota Presbytery
RE Vera White, Pittsburg Presbytery

13-061 – Dwelling in the Word – Vera White led this section. Her scriptural selection was Luke 10:1-9. She posed seven questions for discussion by small groups of 2-4 people. Following the small group discussions she transitioned to Resourcing the Presbytery (1001 Worshiping Communities).

13-062 – Resourcing the Presbytery – Vera continued with a presentation on 1001 Worshiping Communities. She shared a story of how the program got started in Pittsburgh Presbytery. She said that grant funds and resource people (coaches) are available for folks that are interested in implementing the program.

13-063 – Co-General Presbyters Report – George and Kathy presented their written report (See Attachment A).

13-064 – Break

13-065 – Vision Structure Task Force Report – Ric Tieman reviewed the past several years of the visioning process as well as the cloud document. Debbie Blackburn went over the proposed structure documents for Leadership Cabinet and Camping and Youth. Kathy reviewed the document for the Pastoral Ministry Team. Ric went over Representation/Nominating Ministry Team and PJC. George reviewed the Fifth Strand document. There was a time for

questions and comments on the proposed structure. It was noted that communications would be especially important with the proposed structure. Any further comments or questions should be sent to either Ric or Debbie by December 1, 2013.

13-066 – Standing Rules changes – 1st reading – Dan Krebill reviewed the proposed changes to the standing rules. There were a few comments concerning the details of email voting. Any additional questions or comments should be sent to Dan by December 1, 2013.

13-067 – Relief of Conscience – Manhattan Church – Debbie Funke presented a request from the Session of Manhattan Presbyterian Church for the Presbytery to grant relief of conscience for the portion of their medical dues used to pay for abortions.

√ Presbytery voted to approve this request.

13-068 – Mission Support – There was a discussion regarding the suggested percentages for general mission pledges. Currently the split is: Presbytery 65%, Synod 23%, and General Assembly 12%. There was no action taken so the recommended percentages will remain the same for 2014. Churches may elect to allocate their pledges differently than the suggested figures.

13-069 – Leadership Cabinet Report – Don Holland read a request from the Leadership Cabinet that certain standing rules be set aside. The current standing rules state that the election of committee members shall take place at the last stated meeting of the year (S3.06) and to recommend annually to the presbytery a mission program and budget (S5.04.01) and to recommend annually an administrative budget to the presbytery along with the requisite costs to be assessed each church (S5.04.04). Except for the election of officers of the presbytery and the per Capita amount for 2014 these rules should be set aside until the Annual Meeting when a new structure might be adopted. The plan is to vote on a new structure at the February 2014 Presbytery meeting.

√ Presbytery voted (unanimous) to approve this request.

13-070 – Nominations for a new Representation/Nominating Ministry Team – Don Holland read the nominations for a new Representation/Nominating Ministry Team. This team will have the responsibility of making nominations for the new Presbytery structure (if approved).

Ted Williams (one year term)

Lanny Rounds (two year term)

Debbie Funke (three year term)

Gayle Holland (three year term and Moderator)

13-071 – Nominations for Moderator and Vice-Moderator of Presbytery for 2014 – The following nominations were made.

TE Jed Cauffman – Moderator of Presbytery

RE Debbie Blackburn – Vice-Moderator of Presbytery

13-072 – Synod Report – David Ezekiel indicated that many changes are taking place at the Synod level. It is likely that Synods may be reduced to minimal responsibilities for PJC cases and administrative oversight. The Synod Coordinating Council has set aside \$150,000 to be used for funding of WNL T for five years. David also reported on what is happening in several other Presbyteries in the Rocky Mountain Synod. There was a time of prayer following this report.

13-073 – Budget and Finance Committee – Dan Holland brought a request to approve the Per Capita Rate for 2014. The Leadership Cabinet previously approved this request. The request is to approve a total rate of \$45.00 for 2014. This total amount is made up of \$7.02 for the General Assembly, \$5.75 for the Synod of the Rocky Mountains, and \$32.23 for Yellowstone Presbytery.

√ Presbytery voted to approve the Per Capita rate of \$45.00 for 2014.

(See attachment B for the Financial Report).

13-074 – Committee on Ministry – Neva presented the recommendation on the Minimum Salary for Pastors for 2014 (Attachment C). Neva also stated that COM has approved the re-commissioning of CRE Editha McKay on November 24, 2013. The administrative commission for Editha’s re-commissioning includes the following people:

- TE George Goodrich
- TE Kathy Goodrich
- TE Jed Cauffman (Lewistown)
- RE Jody Licht (Stanford)
- RE Keri Olson (Geyser)
- RE Ron Hanson (Butte)
- RE Ted Olson (Lewistown)

√ Presbytery voted to approve the recommended Minimum Salary for Pastors for 2014.

√ Presbytery voted to approve the administrative commission for re-commission of CRE Editha McKay.

13-075 – Committee Written Reports -

√ Presbytery voted to receive all written committee reports.

13-076 – Report from Churches on the Work of the Holy Spirit – Brandon and Kristen Willett talked about various happenings at Miles City. They practice dwelling in the word at session meetings and have changed to the Godly Play curriculum for children. A day care at the church has been in operation for about six months. Jed Cauffman reported that the Lewistown church wants to do a workshop on prayer. They are also interested in multi-generational activities. David Andrew offered prayer for these two congregations.

13-077 – Recess for Dinner

13-078 – Reconvening - Moderator Don Holland reconvened the meeting at 7:08 pm.

13-079 – Election of Moderator & Vice Moderator of Presbyter for 2014

√ Presbytery voted to elect the following persons:

2014 Presbyter Moderator - TE Jed Cauffman

2014 Presbytery Vice Moderator – RE Debbie Blackburn

13-080 – Election of new Representation/Nominations Ministry Team

√ Presbytery voted to elect the following persons:

RE Ted Williams (class of 2014)

TE Lanny Rounds (class of 2015)

TE Debbie Funke (class of 2016)

RE Gayle Holland (class of 2016 and Moderator)

13-081 Presbytery Dates and Locations for 2014 Meetings – The February 21-22, 2014 meeting is proposed to take place at First Presbyterian Church Billings. The summer meeting is proposed to take place in Butte. The Leadership Cabinet will work with Butte on setting a date in May or June. The convocation will be on November 6-7, 2014 at First Presbyterian Church Bozeman with the Presbytery meeting proposed for November 7-8, 2014 at First Presbyterian Church in Bozeman.

√ Presbytery voted to approve these dates and/or locations.

13-082 – Stated Clerk’s Report – Ron called attention to his written report (Attachment D) and requested approval of the minutes of the June 14-15, 2013 Stated Meeting and the minutes of the Special Meeting on September 18, 2013 and the Special Meeting on October 4, 2013.

√ Presbytery voted to approve the presbytery meeting minutes for all three meetings.

13-083- Announcements – The following announcements were made:

- Freeman and Dan have been working on a Pastors' Retreat. The Glacier Camp is available the week before Thanksgiving. Pastors should let Dan or Freeman know what they think about this week.
- Jody McDivett reminded everyone of the process for nominations for YAAD and RE Commissioner for the 2014 General Assembly. Nominations are needed for both of these positions. Election will take place at the presbytery meeting in February.
- The Hysham Church now has daycare one day a week on Fridays.
- Jerry Swanson handed out information on evangelism on the internet.

13-084 - Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned, until the next Stated Meeting scheduled for February 21-22, 2014, with prayer by Jed Cauffman at 7:40 p.m.

Stated Clerk
Ron Hanson