

**Yellowstone Presbytery Stated Meeting
February 21-22, 2014
1st Presbyterian Church
Billings, Montana**

14-001 – Call to Order – Moderator Don Holland called the meeting to order at 1:40 p.m. Jed offered the opening prayer.

14-002 – 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 Docket 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.

14-003 – Roll Call – The following people filled out registration sheets for the meeting.

Church	Minister	Commissioner	Others
Anaconda	Vacant	Linda Smith	
Big Hole	Vacant	Unexcused	
Billings, First	Dave Thompson	Sharon Brady	Bob Culbertson (HE) Jack Bell
Billings, St. Andrew	Susan Barnes	Grady Skaggs	Carol Mick Curt Kochner (C&Y) Ben Larson Sandy Welch Jim Tarr (Vocations)
Bozeman	Jody McDevitt Dan Krebill	Suzanne Bratsky	Chuck Beck
Butte	Harlan L. Rounds	John Clark	Ron Hanson (Stated Clerk)
Colstrip	Unexcused	Unexcused	
Deer Lodge	Teresa Kendall	Unexcused	
Dillon	David Andrew	Unexcused	Merry Lee Hooks (PW)
Ennis	Excused	Unexcused	
Forsyth	Cathy McLean	Gayle Holland	Don Holland (LC Mod.)
Geyser	Excused	Unexcused	
Harlowton	Unexcused	Unexcused	

Hysham	Paul Cannon	Unexcused	0559
Jordan	Unexcused	Claudia Stanton	Tom Stanton
Lewistown	Jed Cauffman	Dave Byerly	Donna Byerly Charles Brown Nancy Osburn-Cauffman Debbie Blackburn (V. Mod.)
Manhattan	Debbie Funke	Marie Westphal	
Miles City	Brandon Willett		
	Kristin Willett	Sharla Helland	
Phillipsburg	Unexcused	Unexcused	
Poplar	Susan Ennis	Unexcused	
Roy	Unexcused	Unexcused	
Stanford	Excused	Unexcused	
Terry	Excused	Gary Pfieffe	
White Sulphur			
Springs	Excused	Excused	
Wolf Point	Unexcused	Unexcused	

Also Present:

TE George Goodrich, Co-General Presbyter

TE Kathy Goodrich, Co-General Presbyter

TE Susan Thomas

TE Neva Rathbun

TE Leon Rathbun

TE Doug Johnson

TE John Dyce

TE Kimberly Woeste

TE Jim Bell

TE Priscilla Bell

14-004 – Introductions – New Teaching Elders, Commissioners and visitors were introduced.

14-005 - Docket - The Docket was approved.

14-006 - Welcome – Dave Thompson, Host Pastor, welcomed all and spoke on the facilities of the church.

14-007–Installation of the Moderator and Vice-Moderator – Don Holland presided over the installation of Jed Cauffman (Moderator of Presbytery) and Debbie Blackburn (Vice-Moderator of Presbytery).

14-008 –Worship/Dwelling in the Word – This section began with hymn singing with Paul Canon beautifully playing the piano. Then George Goodrich led Dwelling in the Word which centered on Colossians 1:3-14. After everyone had a time to reflect on questions, there was a time of sharing with the entire group.

14-009 – Resourcing the Presbytery – George introduced this section. Charlie Brown (Lewistown) and Nancy Cauffman (Lewistown) shared how prayer has impacted their lives. Kathy followed with information on the practice of listening prayer. All

were given time to participate in silent, listening prayer.

14-010 - VSTF Update – Ron Hanson reported the process used by the VSTF since the last Presbytery Meeting. The VSTF received only one comment about the proposed structure.

14-011 – 2nd Reading and Vote on the Proposed Changes to the Standing Rules – Dan Krebill reviewed the one change to the Standing Rules as proposed in November, 2013.

√ Presbytery voted to approve the proposed changes to the Standing Rules ([See Attachment A](#)).

14-012 Presentation and Vote on the new Presbytery Structure – Debbie Blackburn reviewed the documents describing the various Ministry Teams that will be part of the new structure. Neva Rathbun brought from COM a couple of suggested changes to the page for the Pastoral Ministry Team.

√ Presbytery voted to approve the new Presbytery Structure, as presented, with the addition of the changes brought by COM to the page for the Pastoral Ministry Team ([See Attachment B](#)).

14-013 – Dismissal of the Vision Structure Task Force

√ Presbytery voted to dismiss, with thanks, the Vision Structure Task Force.

14-014 – Presentation of the Ballot from the Representation/Nomination Ministry Team

Gayle Holland presented the ballot of nominations which will be voted on Saturday morning.

14-015 – Bozeman Campus Foundation Fund – Don Holland brought a recommended motion from the Leadership Cabinet to change the restriction on the Bozeman Campus Foundation Fund. Dan Krebill gave some history of the fund.

√ Presbytery voted to approve the process outlined for the Bozeman Campus Foundation Fund ([See attachment C](#)). The Leadership Cabinet will finalize the grant application process.

14-016 – 2014 Budget Proposal – George Goodrich presented a ten year history on the Mission Partnership Funds (from Synod) and the Goodrich Fundraising Funds. He then reviewed what churches get in return for Per Capita paid to the Presbytery and how Mission pledges are used by the Presbytery. Debbie Blackburn (filling in for Budget and Finance Moderator Dan Holland) introduced the 2014 Budget proposal. It was decided to continue the budget discussion on Saturday.

14-017 – Recess for Dinner – A blessing was given for the evening meal. The business meeting was then recessed until 8:30 a.m. Saturday morning.

14-018 – Evening Worship – Worship opened at 7:00 pm. Moderator Jed Cauffman delivered the message centering on Exodus 16. Dave Thompson presided over Communion and Linda Smith gave the Necrology Report ([see Stated Clerk's Report – Attachment I](#)). Paul Canon played the piano for this service.

Saturday, February 21, 2014

14-019 – Opening Worship -Following a continental breakfast provided by members of Billings First Church, Worship/Dwelling in the Word convened at 8:30 a.m. Curt Kochner led dwelling in the Word using James 5 as his Scriptural reference.

14-020 – Hearing what the Holy Spirit is doing in Poplar, Deer Lodge, and St Andrew Church of Billings – Members and pastors from the three churches shared what is happening in their churches.

14-021 - Election of Ministry Team Moderators and Members – Gayle Holland reported that Jody McDevitt has agreed to be moderator of the Leadership Cabinet for one year.

Ö Presbytery voted to close the nominations and cast a unanimous vote for the nominees listed on the ballot ([See Attachment D](#)) with the addition of Jody McDevitt as moderator of the Leadership Cabinet.

14-022 – Synod Report – It was announced that Synod will meet August 1st and 2nd. Yellowstone Presbytery will have four representatives attending.

14-023 – Co-General Presbyters Report – George and Kathy presented their written report ([See Attachment E](#)).

14-024 – Leadership Cabinet Report – Don Holland indicated that two recommendations are coming from the Leadership Cabinet. These will be presented in the Budget and Finance Report.

14-025 – Budget and Finance Report – Debbie Blackburn reviewed the motion on restricted/designated funds.

√ Presbytery voted to approve adoption of a policy that allows the Leadership Cabinet to authorize without Presbytery approval the transfer of up to \$5,000 from designated or restricted funds. Presbytery also voted to approve which units have responsibility over various funds. St Timothy's Group will continue to be responsible for any funds associated with St Timothy's. The Pastoral Ministry Team will be responsible for the following funds: Clergy Emergency Fund, Linda Hofer Fund, Partnership Available, and Transformation. The Leadership Cabinet will be responsible for all other funds.

Debbie reviewed the proposed Administrative and Program Budgets for 2014 including the various income streams ([See Attachment F – Attachment G contains the final 2013 Treasurers Report](#)).

√ Presbytery voted to approve the 2014 Budgets as presented.

14-026 Committee on Ministry – Neva Rathbun introduced Jack Bell to be examined by the Presbytery. Jack has been under care of Vocations Committee during his CRE training and has now been approved to COM. There was a time of questions for Jack Bell. It was mentioned that Dave Thompson would serve as mentor for Jack. It was also noted that Jack would like to be invited to visit congregations to share with them his experience of becoming a CRE.

√ Presbytery voted to approve the commissioning of Jack Bell as a CRE to First Presbyterian Church of Billings for ministry at West Park Village and other ministries at the discretion of the session. This would include presiding over sacraments.

√ Presbytery voted to approve Melanie Martin-Dent to be a temporary member (with voting privileges) of Yellowstone Presbytery, concurrent with her contract at the Terry church.

14-027 – Vocations Committee – Jim Tarr reviewed changes that have taken place in the exam reading process. Also he indicated that Veva Larson hopes to complete her CRE training in May of this year.

14-028 – Camping and Youth - Curt announced that youth retreats have been very well attended.

14-029 – Higher Education – Dan Krebill reported on activities of Presby Cats Ministry.

14-030 – Mission Committee – Paul Canon encouraged people to bring ideas for missions to Presbytery meetings since there will not be a mission committee with the new structure.

14-031 – Presbytery Women – Mary Lee Hooks mentioned some activities of PW.

14-032 – St Timothy's – Ron Hanson referred to the written report. There is one action item requested of Presbytery by the Management Group of St Timothy's.

√ Presbytery approved the Budget for 2014 for St Timothy's ([See Attachment H](#)).

14-033 – Committee Written Reports – Presbytery voted to receive all committee written reports.

14-034 – Stated Clerk’s Report – Ron reported that last night’s offering (for the Clergy Emergency Fund) was \$466. The written report includes the TE/RE Balance Report (See Attachment I).

√ Presbytery voted to approve the minutes from the November 8, 2013 Presbytery meeting.

14-035 – Commissioning of representatives to General Assembly – Prayer was offered for TE Lanny Rounds, RE Jim Tarr, and YAAD commissioner Martha Krebill for the 2014 General Assembly meeting.

14-036 – Announcements – Cathy McLean thanked the Presbytery for her gift of a pottery set.

14-037 – Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned, until the next Stated Meeting of the Presbytery scheduled for June 28-29, 2014 in Butte, with prayer by Jed Cauffman.

Stated Clerk
Ron Hanson

----- end of page -----