

**Presbytery of Yellowstone  
Leadership Cabinet (LC) Meeting Minutes  
April 30, 2013  
1<sup>st</sup> Church, Bozeman, Montana**

Moderator Leon called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

**Present were:**

Rev. Leon Rathbun, Moderator  
Curt Kochner, C&Y  
Don Holland, Moderator  
Jim Tarr, Vocations  
Suzanne Bratsky, PW  
Bob Culbertson, HE  
Jed Cauffman, Vice Moderator  
Ted Williams, Nominations  
Debbie Blackburn, VSTF  
Merri Lee Hooks, PW

**Also Present:**

George Goodrich, Co-General Presbyter  
Kathy Goodrich, Co-General Presbyter  
Ron Hanson, Stated Clerk  
Ric Tieman, VSTF

1. **Opening Prayer** – The opening prayer was offered by Curt Kochner.
2. **Christ Candle** – Leon read the Litany of the Christ Candle and lit the Christ Candle.
3. **Introduction** – Suzanne introduced Merri Lee Hooks, the new Moderator of Presbyterian Women.
4. **Quorum** – The Clerk declared that a Quorum was present.
5. **Docket** – The docket was approved with the following additions: presbytery insurance coverage, Heidelberg Catechism and the approval of the Docket for the June presbytery meeting- not the February presbytery meeting.
6. **Dwelling in the Word** – George led this item. His selection of scripture was Jeremiah 32:1-15. Following the reading of portions by different members the group responded with what this selection meant to them. Following a series of prayers by those present George offered a closing prayer for this section.
7. **Structure Task Force Report** – George started the report and passed around a sheet and talked to the contents of that sheet which traced the history of the effort. Dan presented the financial situation. **”We will be out funds on October 20, 2016”**. Ric talked to some of the options, such as technology, that the VSTF has been looking into. He then talked to the make – up of the LC. Ron presented the proposed responsibilities/ membership of the LC. A wide ranging discussion followed. George summarized the main concerns as follows 1). The make-up of the LC, 2). The Funds for the Covent Orders, 3).

A unified budget and 4). Transitioning to a new structure.

8. **Election** – Dan Holland was elected to the B&F committee for the class of 2015 and as moderator of that group.
9. **Lunch** - Don offered the blessing for our lunch.
10. **Synod Consultation** – Rev. Scott Wipperman Led a discussion on 8 questions posed by the Synod Coordinating Council as they are looking at the future role of the Synod.
11. **Election of the 2013-2014 Synod Commissioners.** Jim Tarr, Neva Rathbun, Jed Cauffman and Don Holland along with Ron Hanson as an alternate were elected.
12. **Miles City Grant request** – The church has submitted a written request for a \$2,000 grant to purchase a new curriculum for Children’s Education called “Godly Play”. The Leadership Cabinet approved the request with the requirement that the program be reviewed by the church’s insurance carrier.
13. **Adjustments to the Leadership Cabinet write-up** - Jim moved that membership be changed by adding up to three At-Large members. The Leadership Cabinet voted to approve this motion. Don raised a concern on how this will be presented to Presbytery.
14. **Board of Pensions** – Jim presented a written report covering the Board of Pension’s (BOP) Regional gathering in Dallas, Texas. The Major Medical (MM) portion of the plan increased by .75% for 2013. The BOP is looking at three options for the MM portion dues for 2014 and 2015.
15. **Christus Collegium** – George presented a draft Repurchase Agreement. It was voted to sign the Agreement subject to it being reviewed by our attorney. The Agreement calls for ten annual payments of \$2,000 to the presbytery.
16. **Docket** – The Docket was extended for 15 minutes.
17. **Committee Reports:**
  - **Co-General Presbyters** – George presented their written report.
  - **Camping & Youth** – Curt presented a written report. He noted that a veteran Camp Staff will be available for the 2013 camps. He also noted that the 2013-2014 Prayer Chain will be finalized and sent out.
  - **Mission** – Jim reported that the donations received for the Zimbabwe project were sold for a total of \$1,600. This money will be forwarded to Zimbabwe.
  - **COM** - Neva had submitted a written report. She requested time on the presbytery Docket for the June meeting on Friday to grant Rev. Leon Rathbun Honorably Retired status and to present him with a gift. The Leadership Cabinet instructed Ron to place this item on the Docket.
  - **Vocations** – Jim presented the committee’s written report.
  - **HE** – Bob presented a written report. The main item was the planning for a series of gatherings to start the implementation of a state-wide UKirk program.
  - **PW** – Merri Lee presented a written report PW held its business meeting at the Spring Gathering on April 13-14, 2013. She offered to tell her story, at the presbytery meeting, of the death of her son-in-law, as a result of a drive by shooting. It was decided that her story might be best told at a workshop at the Convocation.
  - **Nominations** – Ted reported that a letter will be sent out asking for nominations for Ruling Elder and YAAD Commissioners to the 2014 General Assembly.
  - **Ordination Exam Readers** – The Leadership Cabinet elected Jim Tarr and Susan Thomas to be readers from Yellowstone Presbytery.

18. **Heidelberg Catechism** – The Leadership Cabinet suggested Jody or Kathy present this proposed amendment, for a vote, at the presbytery meeting. Ron will contact them.
19. **Docket Extension** – The Docket was extended for 15 minutes.
20. **Presbytery Meeting Docket** – Ron passed out a draft for the June meeting of presbytery. Following some discussion it was decided to have Ron finalize the Docket.
21. **Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m. George offered a closing prayer.