

# Presbytery of Yellowstone

## Stated Meeting of November 11-12, 2011

### Sunrise Presbyterian Church –Great Falls, Montana

#### MINUTES

##### Friday November 11, 2011

**11-073 – Call to Order** – Following worship services and a series of workshops at the Glacier/Yellowstone Presbyteries Convocation, the meeting was called to order by Moderator, Editha McKay at 5:00 p.m.

**11-074 – Procedural Motion** – Presbytery voted to approve 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 Presbytery authorize the Moderator to grant privilege of the floor to persons for the purpose of reporting to this meeting.
4. 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.

**11-075 – Introductions** – For the benefit of the newest member of Yellowstone Presbytery, Rev. Jim Kidd, members of the various churches introduced their members and told what role the member served in their local church and in presbytery. Corresponding members were also introduced..

**11-076 – Meeting Attendance** – The following table contains the names of those who registered for the meeting.

Church	Minister Member	Elder Commissioner	Others Present
Anconda	Mary Davis	Linda Smith	
Big Hole	Dick Davis		
Billings, First	David Thompson`	Bill Lorentz	
Billings, St. Andrew	Vacant	Dave Kimball	Gail Kimball Susan Dickson
Bozeman	Jody Mc Devitt Dan Krebill	Chuck Beck	Donna Beck Suzanne Bratsky (PW) Ric Tieman (Vision Team) Susan Gibb Suzanne Bratsky (PW) Dan Holland (B&F)
Butte	Harlan Rounds	John Clark	Ron Hanson (Stated Clerk)

Colstrip	Excused	Excused	
Deer Lodge	Donna Maddux	Unexcused	
Dillon	Unexcused	Unexcused	
Ennis	Unexcused	Unexcused	
Forsyth	Unexcused	Unexcused	
Geyser	Editha McKay	Fern Kaiser	
Harlowton	Unexcused	Unexcused	
Hysham	Unexcused	Unexcused	
Jordan	Unexcused	Unexcused	
Lewistown	Excused	Unexcused	
		Debbie	
Manhattan	Debbie Funke	Blackburn	
Miles City	David Schneider	Caroline Fleming	
Phillipsburg	Jim Christensen	Jan Christensen	
Poplar	Vacant	Dona Gudgell	Donald Gudgell
Roy	Unexcused	Unexcused	
Stanford	Editha McKay	Dixie Youderian	Jodi Licht
			Bonnie Soulsby
Terry	Leon Rathbun	Unexcused	
West Yellowstone	Vacant	Joanna Welter	
White Sulphur			
Springs	Jim Kidd	Pam Jackson	
Wolf Point	Vacant	Unexcused	

**Other Members Present:**

Freeman Mc Call  
Neva Rathbun  
George Goodrich (Co-General Presbyter)  
Kathy Goodrich (Co-General Presbyter)

**Corresponding Members Present:**

Ray Jones (Cherokee Presbytery)  
Steve Shive (Wyoming Presbytery)  
Debbie Cato (Wyoming Presbytery)  
Lynn Smit (Plains and Peaks Presbytery)  
Jerry Swanson (Dakota Presbytery)

**Visitors:**

Barbara Swanson  
Rachel Carol Rivas (Montana Abolition Coalition)

Denver Henderson (Montana Abolition Coalition)

Steve Dogiakos (Montana Abolition Coalition)

**11-077 – Nominating Committee** – Suzanne Bratsky passed out copies of the Ballot that the Nominating Committee had developed. Voting on the people listed on the Ballot will take place tomorrow morning.

**11-078 – Personnel** – Rev. Debbie Funke reported that the Personnel Committee had completed its work on a revision of the presbytery's Personnel Policy. The policy will be posted on the presbytery's web site next Tuesday.

- ✓ Presbytery voted to accept Debbie's presentation as the first reading of the Personnel Policy.

**11-079 – Montana Association of Churches (MAC)** – Dan Krebill reported that he is finishing his term as President of MAC. He will serve the next year as Past President on the Board of Directors. Dan noted that MAC has joined with the Montana Abolition Coalition to lobby for the abolition of the death penalty in Montana. Steve Dogiakos stated that there are Fact Sheets, a list of Action Items and post cards available on the MAC resource table for those interested in the issue. Denver Henderson explained that MAC only takes positions on issues when its members unanimously agree. Dan concluded this section by saying that MAC's Lay Ministry Institute has been discontinued since MAC felt the needs addressed by the Institute had been met. A question was raised about how MAC delegates are selected. The answer is that delegates are nominated by the presbytery's Nominating Committee and elected by the presbytery.

- ✓ Presbytery voted to express their appreciation to Rev. Krebill for his service as President Elect, President and his upcoming term as Past President.

**11-080 – Form of Government Task Force** – Rev. Dan Krebill reported on behalf of the Task Force. This was the first reading of the proposed changes to the Standing Rules of Yellowstone Presbytery (Attachment A). Dan mentioned that the proposed changes are editorial in nature and bring the Standing Rules into conformance with the language of the new Form of Government.

- ✓ Presbytery voted to accept Dan's presentation as the first reading of the Standing Rules as per **S7.0 Amendments and Suspension** of the Standing Rules.

**11-081 – Committee on Ministry** – Neva presented a written report (Attachment B). In addition to listing actions of the committee it included the following attachments.

- Recommended Minimum Salaries for Pastors and Commissioned Ruling Elders.
- Terms of Call for Susan Ennis at the 1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Church of Poplar.
- Installation Commission membership and Terms of Call for Rev. James L. Kidd at the Yoked Parish of First Presbyterian and American Lutheran Churches of White Sulphur Springs, Montana.

- Contract between Cathy McClean (CREPS) and the Federated Church of Forsyth, Montana.
- Covenant Agreement and Terms of Call for Rev. David Schneider at the 1<sup>st</sup>. Presbyterian Church of Miles City, Montana.
- Ordination Commission membership and Terms of Call for Jessica Crane-Munoz to the 1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Church of Cut Bank, Montana.
- Terms of Dissolution Agreement between the Rev. Brentley Long and St. Andrew Presbyterian Church of Billings, Montana.
- ✓ Presbytery voted to approve the recommended Minimum Salary Schedule for 2012 (Attachment C).

**11-082 – Recess** – Rev. Freeman McCall offered a closing prayer and a blessing for the evening meal. Following the evening meal Members of Yellowstone Presbytery and Glacier Presbytery gathered for worship and Communion with Rev. Ray Jones preaching.

### **Saturday, November 12, 2011**

**11-083 – Opening Worship** - Members of Glacier and Yellowstone Presbyteries gathered in the Sanctuary for a joint worship service at 8:30 a.m. The service included a scripture Echo Reading of Luke 12:22-34 by Marsha Anson, Dave Anson and Jody McDevitt. Also included was a section of Dwelling in the Word on the same Scripture. Following worship the presbyteries convened separately for their own business meetings.

**11-084 – Opening Prayer** – Editha opened the business portion of the meeting with a short prayer at 9:05 a.m.

**11-085 – White Sulphur Springs Ministry** – Rev. Jim Kidd and Elder Pam Jackson shared the ministry that is underway at the White Sulphur Springs Yoked Parish.

**11-085 – Budget and Finance** – Committee Moderator, Dan Holland, presented the committee's report (Attachment D). He stated that there is a deficit in both the Administrative and Program Budgets. The deficits will be covered by funds in the reserve accounts. A question was raised about the Springhill Church's payments covered by the Dissolution Agreement. Dan replied that two payments of \$15,000 each had been received and that 3 annual payments of \$15,000 each are still forthcoming.

- ✓ Presbytery voted to approve both the Administrative and the Program Budgets.
- ✓ Presbytery voted to approve the Per Capita recommendation of \$43.13 for 2012. This total amount is made up of \$6.63 for the General Assembly; \$6.45 for the Synod of the Rocky Mountains and \$30.05 for Yellowstone Presbytery.

**11-086 – Camping and Youth** – Co-Moderator Curt Kochner presented the committee's written report (Attachment E). Curt expressed the committee's sincere appreciation for the assistance

of George Goodrich, David Andrew, Cynthia Kessler and Chuck Beck for their efforts in making the camping program a success.

**11-087 – Co-General Presbyters** – George and Kathy presented their written report (Attachment F). Kathy read the presbytery's Vision Statement. George commented on the 10 Points of Emphasis for the coming year and highlighted the area of Discipleship. Kathy noted that their work is grounded in the four strands defined for fulfilling the Vision OF Yellowstone Presbytery.

**11-088 – Synod Executive** – Rev. David Ezekiel, Interim Synod Executive presented a written report (Attachment G). He made a strong pitch for people to take an on line survey on identifying future WNLT workshops.

**11-089 – Mission** – George reported on behalf of the Mission Committee. The Annual meeting will be oriented toward Mission. Paul Neshangwe of Denver Presbytery has been invited as the guest speaker. Mission will be pivotal during the next few years. He stated that assistance for Poplar is something we need to look into.

**11-090 – Council** – Leon noted that two reports were available (Attachment H&I). Council has requested \$500 from the Synod to help cover the costs of bringing Paul Neshangwe to Yellowstone Presbytery.

**11-091 – PW** – Suzanne presented a short oral report and noted that PW will be studying the Beatitudes during the next year.

**11-092 – Break**

**11-093 – Nominating Committee** – Suzanne referred the members to the written Ballot that was passed out yesterday and noted several corrections. The Ballot now list the following nominees for the open positions:

**Presbytery-**

**Moderator (2012)** – TE Jody McDevitt

**Vice Moderator (2012)** – RE Don Holland

**Committee Moderators of Presbytery Committees-**

**Camping and Youth** – TE Susan Thomas & RE Curt Kochner (Co-Moderators)

**Higher Education** – RE Robert Culbertson

**Ministry** – TE Neva Rathbun

**Mission** – RE Robert Shy

**Nominations** – RE Ted Williams

**Representation** – RE Claudia Stanton

**St. Timothy's Chapel** – RE Ron Hanson

**Vocations** – RE Jim Tarr

**Committee Moderators of Council Committees (these are elected by Council)-**

**Budget and Finance** – RE Dan Holland

**Personnel – Vacant**

**Note – The above listed Moderators are members of the Leadership Cabinet**

**Committee Members-**

**Camping an Youth-**

**Class of 2014** – TE David Andrew  
RE Carol Berg  
RE Heather McLean

**Higher Education-**

**Class of 2014** - TE John Dyce (Presbytery Representative)  
Cindy Leggett (RMC lay Representative)

**Ministry-**

**Class of 2013** – TE David Thompson  
**Class of 2014** – RE John Clark  
TE Jim Kidd  
RE Linda Smith  
RE Doris Baucus

**Mission-**

**Class of 2012** - Vacant  
**Class of 2013** – TE Mary Davis  
**Class of 2014** – RE Lucy Ann Ennis  
TE Doug Johnson  
RE Sue Bentley  
RE Robert Shy

**Nominations-**

**Class of 2014** – RE Suzanne Bratsky  
RE Ted Williams

**Representation-**

**Class of 2014** – TE Rusty Craig

**St. Timothy's Chapel**

**Class of 2014** – RE Jim Christensen

**Vocations**

**Class of 2014** – RE Jim Tarr

**Commissioner to 2012 General Assembly**

TE – Jody McDevitt  
RE – To be nominated

YAD – To be nominated

**Commissioners to the Synod of the Rocky Mountains**

**Class of 2013** – TE Priscilla Bell

RE Mike Gapay

RE Cathy McLean

TE Lanny Rounds

**Synod Nominating Committee**

TE Dan Krebill

**Stated Clerk of Yellowstone Presbytery**

RE Ron Hanson (3 year term)

- ✓ After three calls for nominations from the floor, presbytery voted to elect those nominated.

**11-094 – Higher Education** – Dave Kimball presented the committees written report (Attachment J).

**11-095 – Announcements -**

- Dixie Youderian encouraged all those present to utilize the Mission Year Book of Prayer in their daily devotions.
- The offering for the Intermountain Children’s Home at last evenings worship service totaled \$1,000.
- Those present were reminded to fill out the Evaluation Sheets for the Convocation.

**11-096 – Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 11:17 a.m. David Thompson offered a closing prayer.

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Ron Hanson, Stated Clerk