

**Penn West Conference United Church of Christ
Summary of Board Actions June 2020-April 2021**

Mr. Tom Croner, Moderator
Rev. June Boutwell, Assistant Moderator
Rev. Liddy Barlow, Secretary
Ms. Nancy Harclerode, Treasurer
Rev. David Ackerman, Conference Minister (ex officio)
Ms. Theresa Cook
Rev. John Emig
Rev. Barry Fillman
Ms. Carrie Goral

Rev. Dr. Deirdre King Hainsworth
Ms. Joy Johnson
Mr. Bob Krueel
Rev. Joseph Long
Rev. Ryan Lucas
Mr. Joel Pretz
Mr. Mike Silaggi
Rev. Dr. David Williams

June 13, 2020

Motion carried: That the Board make a \$250 donation to the Greensburg Volunteer Fire Department in recognition of the Rev. Dr. Bob McKie's friendship and his service to the Penn West Conference.

Motion carried: That Deborah Long and Karen Howsare be added as signatories on the Penn West Conference Citizens Bank account, pending their consent.

Motion carried: That the audit report for 2017-2018 be approved with one minor typographical correction.

Motion carried: That Soren Thomas be appointed as a delegate to General Synod 33.

Motion carried: That the Penn West Conference continue to affirm an amicus brief concerning the rights of LGBTQIA+ persons to adopt children, as the case is appealed to the Supreme Court.

August 1, 2020

Motion carried: That \$500 received from the national setting and designated for service to immigrants, migrants, and asylum seekers be sent to Community of Reconciliation, pending their affirmation that it can be used for this purpose.

Motion carried: That the Board authorize Rev. Ackerman to receive a nomination for a General Synod delegate from the Somerset Association, seeking to be in compliance with bylaw 195 if at all possible.

Motion carried: That the nominations process for General Synod Delegates in 2022 work proactively to identify a diverse delegation, so that the conference may be in full compliance with UCC bylaw 195.

Motion carried: That Penn West Conference sponsor Christian Associates of Southwest Pennsylvania's Jubilee Celebration at the \$250 level.

Motion carried: That the Conference not entertain any offers to purchase oil and gas rights at the Weber Memorial property at this time.

October 22, 2020

Motion carried: That the Board receive the report of the Personnel Committee on the Conference Minister's Performance Review.

Motion carried: That the Board designate \$34,272.00 of the Conference Minister's compensation package for housing allowance for 2021, and for future years unless altered by the Board.

Motion carried: That the Board support the "Abolishing Medical Debt" initiative to run from February 1, 2021 through April 30, 2021.

January 28, 2021

Motion carried: That the Board affirm the Annual Meeting Planning Team's recommendations on the dates/venue of the meeting and workshops.

Motion carried: That \$20 per person be set as the Annual Meeting registration fee, with an additional \$10 fee for printed materials if requested.

Motion carried: That the Board agrees to remove First Congregational Church, Etna from the Schedule II list in the UCC Yearbook.

Motion carried: That the Board authorize the monthly ACH transfer to the Pension Boards for appropriate charges for pension and health insurance.

Motion carried: That future amicus brief requests be handled in this way: the Conference Minister will consult with the Executive Committee; if they are in favor, a special meeting of the full Board will be called to review the request.

Motion carried: That at the upcoming Annual Meeting, the slate of nominees for the election of officers will include the Rev. June Boutwell for the office of Moderator and Mr. George Kepple for the office of Assistant Moderator.

Motion carried: That Dr. David Williams serve on the Weber Memorial Committee.

March 25, 2021

Motion carried: That the treasurer select and implement new bookkeeping software for the Conference.

Motion carried: that the Penn West Conference proceed with a quiet title action for the Weber Memorial property, as recommended by counsel.

Motion carried: That the Penn West Conference formulate a landlord-tenant agreement with the Weber Memorial caretaker.

Motion carried: That driveway repairs at the Weber Memorial property be tabled until a future time.

Motion carried: That the beneficiaries and trustees of the Whitehead Trust be invited to gather to discuss the possibility of dissolving the trust, and that the Endowment Committee and the Board take further action as needed.

Motion carried: That the Board approve the proposed Endowment Fund Policy and Investment Committee Policy, which replaces the Endowment Fund: Description & Objectives document; the Endowment Committee Position Description; and the Endowment Fund – Investment Policy.

Motion carried: That the Board spend \$1000 from the Killius Fund for a General Synod sponsorship.

Motion carried: That the Conference establish a Long-Range Planning Task Force.

Motion carried: That \$15,000 in surplus funds from 2020 be set aside to fund a sabbatical for the Conference Minister (\$10,000 for staff costs in Rev. Ackerman's absence and \$5000 for his continuing education and travel), and that the Personnel Committee work with Rev. Ackerman to plan a sabbatical in the next 24 months.

Motion carried: That the 2019 Review from the auditor be received.

Motion carried: That the Financial Stewards be authorized to proceed with making arrangements for an internal review of the 2020 financial records of the PWC.

Motion carried: that the Board to agree to pass the proposed 2022 Budget and Narrative Budget on to the Conference Annual Gathering & Meeting.