

**Penn West Conference United Church of Christ
Summary of Board Actions June 2021-May 2022**

Rev. June Boutwell, Moderator (June-Nov)	Rev. Barry Fillman
Mr. George Kepple, Moderator (Feb-May) and Assistant Moderator (June-Feb)	Rev. Dr. Leanna Fuller
Rev. David Mears, Assistant Moderator (Feb-May)	Ms. Carrie Goral
Rev. Liddy Barlow, Secretary	Rev. Joseph Long
Ms. Nancy Harclerode, Treasurer	Mr. Terry Luteri
Rev. Dr. David Williams, Assistant Treasurer (Nov-May)	Rev. Ryan Lucas (June-April)
Rev. David Ackerman, Conference Minister (ex officio)	Mr. Joel Pretz
Ms. Theresa Cook	Mr. Mike Silaggi
Rev. John Emig	Rev. Dr. Ericjon Thomas
	Rev. Don Watkins

June 6, 2021

(note that this meeting took place prior to the installation of the above-listed 2021-2022 board members, but was not included in the Board Actions report at the 2021 Annual Meeting)

Motion carried: that the legal fees being incurred for Weber Memorial be paid from the tree fund and that fees for the Whitehead Estate be paid out of the Whitehead account.

Motion carried: That the Board approve Penn West Conference's participation in the Still Speaking Partners program.

June 12, 2021

Motion carried: That Dr. Deirdre Hainsworth be paid as invoiced for the technology assistance she provided for the AGM.

Motion carried: That Mr. Tom Croner be sent a \$100 gift card to thank him for his service to the Board, and that \$250 be donated to a UCC fund of Dr. Dorhauer's choice in gratitude for his presence at the AGM.

September 25, 2021

Motion carried: That the updated fiscal policies be approved.

Motion carried: That the updated description of the Financial Stewards role be approved.

Motion carried: That the lease agreement for the Weber Memorial caretakers' house be accepted and presented to the current custodian of the property.

Motion carried: that Joel Miller-Pretz be appointed the board representative to the Weber Memorial Committee.

Motion carried: that David Williams continue on the Weber Memorial Committee.

Motion carried: The Board accepts the Personnel Committee's proposed Sabbatical Conference Minister Employment Agreement.

Motion carried: That Melissa McLean's letter of resignation from the Associate for Youth Ministry position be accepted.

Motion carried: That the performance review report for Diane Fox be received.

Motion carried: The Board agrees to the proposed changes and affirms the new Employee Handbook.

Motion carried: The Board authorizes the naming of an Assistant Treasurer and further authorizes the Nominating Committee to seek one or more nominees for that position.

Motion carried: That the Board refer open positions to the Conference Nominating Committee, who will make recommendations for future Board action.

November 30, 2021

Motion carried: That the Conference office send a letter to individuals and churches who donated to the "Forgiving Medical Debt" campaign indicating that our neighbors have already had their needs met by others. Donors can choose to have their funds used to forgive debt those beyond our region, or to have their donations returned. The letter will include a deadline for requesting refunds. Funds will not be returned after that date.

Motion carried: That the Board accept the recommendation of the Nominating Committee and appoint the Rev. Dr. David Williams as Assistant Treasurer.

Motion carried: That we authorize our attorneys to proceed with the Whitehead Estate trust dissolution upon receipt of the favorable opinion of the Attorney General.

Motion carried: That the Damascus Christian Church be removed from the Schedule I list and that the Spring Creek Congregational Church, Laurel Ridge Christian Church, and Sideling Hill Christian Church be removed from the Schedule II list.

Motion carried: that a letter be sent from the Conference office to the proponents of the \$0 Donation Plan saying Rev. Ackerman consulted with the Board and they have decided not to proceed with the proposal.

Motion carried: That the Board designate \$34,272.00 of the Conference Minister's compensation package for housing allowance for 2022, and future years unless altered by the Board.

Motion carried: That, given the resignation of Rev. June Boutwell, who is retiring and relocating outside the Conference, we receive Mr. George Kepple as our new Moderator.

Motion carried: That the selection of the Assistant Moderator be turned to the Nominating Committee for the identification of a candidate.

February 8, 2022

Motion carried: The Board accepts the recommendation of the Personnel Committee that the Rev. Rich Pleva, retired Conference Minister of the Iowa Conference and former Chairperson of the Council of Conference Ministers, be named as Sabbatical Coverage Conference Minister according to the terms of the Sabbatical Coverage Conference Minister Agreement accepted by the Board at its 11.30.21 meeting. It further authorizes Board officers to make any needed adjustments to the agreement with Rev. Pleva if such adjustments prove to be necessary.

Motion carried: After February 15, 2022, the Board authorizes the Conference Minister to request refunds from the national setting for those who requested them from the Abolishing Medical Debt Campaign. It further authorizes him, as per his December 6, 2021 letter, to ask the national setting to direct the remaining funds to RIP to forgive debt "for people beyond the boundaries of our Conference" (unless, of course, buyable debt has now become available according to RIP's criteria within the boundaries of our Conference). It further authorizes the Conference Minister to refund the amount received from the national setting to the churches and/or individuals who requested refunds.

Motion carried: The Board names the Rev. David Mears as Assistant Moderator of Penn West Conference. His term is to begin immediately following this meeting and to end at the Annual Gathering & Meeting in 2023.

Motion carried: That the nominating committee identify a parliamentarian by the April 2 board meeting.

Motion carried: That, with regret, the process for removing Rev. Ryan Lucas from the Board be begun, as described in Bylaw 3.9.

Motion carried: That the Board agrees to set our Annual Gathering & Meeting as a deadline for new and returning Board members to have Statements of Disclosure completed. If

the Board has not received a member's form for that year by the time of the Annual Gathering & Meeting, that person will not be permitted to meet with the Board until they have submitted it.

Motion carried: That \$13,000 of the legacy gift from Birmingham UCC be deposited into our current discernment endowment fund, and the balance put into savings until a use is decided.

Motion carried: That online event registrations in the future incorporate a fee to cover the cost of online transaction fees.

April 2, 2022

Motion carried: That the Board designate the compensation of the Rev. Rich Pleva as Sabbatical Coverage Conference Minister as housing allowance for him.

Motion carried: That, as recommended by the Nominating Committee, the Board appoints the Rev. Stephen Fair as our Annual Gathering & Meeting Parliamentarian, the Rev. Glenn Sadler as a representative from Penn West Conference to the Board of St. Paul's Senior Living Community, and the Rev. Judith Tobias to the Theology & Education Committee of Christian Associates of Southwest Pennsylvania.

Motion carried: That the Board accepts the resignation of the Rev. Ryan Lucas from the Board of Directors, with regret.

Motion carried: That the Board agrees to send the proposed 2023 Budget to the Annual Gathering & Meeting for its consideration.