

Hood River Alliance Church – Governing Board Meeting Minutes June 15, 2022

Nancy Rinella, Joe Rinella, Pastor Steve Miller, Marty Miller Bob Spotts and Jim Pennington were present.

Pastor Steve opened the meeting with prayer, for the church and for several who were not present due to general health and sickness and other needs for physical healing.

Minutes: The minutes from the meeting on May 18, 2022 were reviewed. Pastor Steve moved to accept them, Nancy gave a second to the motion and they were approved.

Treasurer's Report: It was noted the general fund balance was down in May by just over \$4,000. A drop in giving for the month of May was noted, both compared to May giving in 2021 and from the budgeted amount in current year. Giving was down by about \$8,000 compared to budgeted, but expenses in May were also down by about \$4,000, which tracked with the reduction in the general fund balance. It was discussed and agreed we should include a summary of budget and giving in the weekly bulletin. Marty moved to accept the report, Jim provided a second to the motion and it was approved.

Transition Team Report: Steve reported the team is working thru the struggles of individual schedule conflicts and meeting times. Even so, the Vision team is prepared and will move ahead with the all-church summit II on Sunday June 19th. The reconciliation forum took a lot of time, effort and energy. Diligent prayer is still needed for a few to bring about more complete reconciliation. Steve has responded back to a member from the church body who had emailed to express their continued concerns about not being able to lead worship for Sunday services and instead has been recommended to take a brief break to allow healing to further develop. There is need to continue to pray for the transition team in their unity while working thru the reconciliation and governance pieces of the transition.

Elder Report: Joe reported the elders have met with a member from the church body to address their concerns, and responded back to them as noted above in the Transition Team report. He also mentioned the elders are continuing to study church governance, in consideration of HRAC, the greater community of Christian Missionary Alliance and with respect to biblical governance principals.

Deacon Report: Steve reported on behalf of Eric Bokovoy, who was not present, but had sent his report to Steve – the gym floor will be refinished in mid-August. Also note John McCarty continues to perform well and has paid off his time owed and now working 5 hours a week with pay. The northwest exterior side of the sanctuary and the west sides of Mods 2 and 3 are being prepped for paint. Eric has completed the landscaping project and the repair/bark project for the ark. In particular, it is noted the concrete steps outside the east entrance exit of the children's wing of the building are chipped, hazardous and need to be repaired very soon.

Deaconess Report: - Nancy reported simply the only update is they have scheduled a deaconess meeting on June 18th to discuss/formalize plans and she will report back on the results of the meeting.

Updates on the nominating committee – we want to continue with the same committee voted on in 2021, even though the nominating process for 2022 has been delayed.

Youth Pastor Search: we currently have one resume received for the open position. Steve mentioned the several places we have put out notices of the open position. Among these places, several CMA churches within our district have generated YP's in the past. The search team is undergoing a book study of "Before you Hire a Youth Pastor" by Jeff Dunn-Rankin and Mark DeVries which helps identify key criteria in the hiring process. It is noted we are in a very tough environment for hiring, both within churches and within the greater business community – lots of positions are open and there are few takers.

New Business: New business consisted entirely of discussion of church policy and governance. Brian Prange and Bruce Brown joined the Governing Board meeting and were present for this New Business item. It was mentioned at the fore, district leader Monty Wright fully wants to meet and participate in governance discussion but has significant scheduling challenges.

Steve proceeded with a video from key staff at Vital Church to preface a detailed presentation he provided on Governing Authority. Purpose of it should be for provision of role clarity among staff, provision of high freedom with high accountability with promotes unity. Often confused as duty instead of being God-honoring spiritual formulation within the church. The Biblical context for our work as leaders is noted in Romans 12:6-8, also Philippians 1:27-28 and Philippians 2:1-4. Governance is how a group organizes itself to conduct business. A Governing Authority, inclusive of elders can have various structure – consisting only of elders or consisting of elders and other spiritually mature members of the church body, to provide oversight, direction and leadership for the church body. Major thrust of the presentation would be a Governing Authority that has one "facilitator" who would preferably not be the lead pastor. Current elders of a serving Governing Authority would have a specific role of pastoral care and spiritual guidance. Much discussion on this with a schedule to be arranged to hear from Andrew Wilson of Crosspoint Alliance Church in Lewiston ID about their Governing Authority structure.