

ROCKY MOUNTAIN CONFERENCE, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, June 20, 2024 – 4pm

Inspiring, Challenging, and Empowering UCC Ministries in Wyoming, Utah, and Colorado to embody God's love and justice.

Present: Adam McCoy, Personnel; Eleanor Downey, New Ministry Mentorship; Brent Gundlah, IMA; Peter Sawtell, MDA; Hunter Baker, Treas.; MaryEllen Beltracchi, VM; Sarah B. Linn, Mod; Erin Gilmore, TCM; Marta Fioriti, PVA; Karen Caton, WA

Absent: Allison Stauffer, CJL; Laura Gurney, LLL; Ian Wrisley, RJ; vacancy: SEA rep

4:06: Welcome / Declaration of a Quorum – Sarah

4:08: Centering Moment – Eleanor; “Sanctuary” – God dwells in the spaces among people.

4:15: **Motion:** Approve DRAFT May 16, 2024, Minutes & DRAFT June 6-8 Annual Celebration Minutes (provisionally). **Approved.**

4:20: Moderator/Vice Moderator Report – Sarah/MaryEllen

- Discussed feedback re: 2024 Annual Celebration
- Discussed idea of holding 2025 AC in two parts (virtual business meeting, in-person developmental meeting). Mixed responses.
- Update on Discussion re: establishing a Justice & Peace Response Team to coordinate response/legislative action and provide workshops to expand relational organizing capacity across RMC. Jenny Witcher will advertise in *Together* newsletter for a co-champion and team; consider joining and/or recruiting others.

4:45: TCM Report – Erin

- Following up with Quanita Robison, organizational consultant; possible leadership retreat (board, staff, committee members, etc) on Oct. 21-23 at La Foret.
- Following up with Vince Tango re: 6- to 7-month coaching program pilot project: 6 sessions – for new clergy with board support.
- Contracting Search & Call expert to workshop with conference, advise on innovative practices, train 4 or 5 RMC members to serve as occasional contract S&C consultants for churches in transition, accompanying clergy through credentialing/liaise with COM.

5:35: Treasurer / Finance Committee Report – Hunter

- General Updates
- May Financials
- Erin Gilmore pension payments adjustment pending
- Staff pay equity
- Balance sheet review
- Looking forward: income side strategies
- Adam – working on TCM call agreement.
- **Motion:** Authorizing the following individuals as signers on all Rocky Mountain Conference, UCC accounts at First Bank [in addition to Erin Gilmore who, as TCM is authorized by RMC By Laws 8.5 (c)]: Hunter Baker, MaryEllen Beltracchi, and Linda Trantow. **Approved.**

5:55: Association & Ministry Reports & Motions:

- **Motion:** Appoint Sarah Hulac as Youth Representative to the 2025 General Synod. **Approved.**
- **Motion:** Approve Emerson Hauber as Southeastern Association Rep to the RMC Board. **Approved by consensus.**
- Karen – WA – Craig: considering whether to close or stay open; Hayden called Jesse Ophoff, Sept. 22 installation. WA fall meeting: October 4-5 – Friday night: covenanting with Community Spirit.
- Peter – MDA would like more communication from COM re: MID's, churches in transition, etc. MEB: the lay rep on FAS and has a note to respond/fill that role.
- Brent – IMA - busy Pride month – first week in Aug. (9-10). Attempting to meet in Green River in person.
- Marta – PVA nothing formal to report, Marta had lunch with 3 pastors; might do that again.
- MEB – COM- Ordination (Sam Bronson) – Ecumenical Church (6/25/24). Lots of folks coming into the process. Josh Rumble did his EC – ready for ordination soon.

6:15: Final announcements

- July Board Meeting: July 18 at 4pm

6:16: Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Dr. Sarah B. Linn

Moderator