

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

MINUTES

STATED MEETING OF THE SYNOD

April 10, 2012

VOLUME XXXIX

Number 3

ATTEST: Muriel C. Brown, Acting Stated Clerk

Meeting as delegated Synod by Telephone Conference Call

Published by the Synod of Alaska-Northwest under the direction of Muriel C. Brown, Acting Stated Clerk

These minutes were approved by the Synod May 9, 2012

Synod of Alaska-Northwest

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Stated Meeting
Via Conference Telephone Call
April 10, 2012

Opening Prayer

The Moderator, Teaching Elder Leisa Carrick, called this Stated Meeting of the Synod of Alaska-Northwest to order at 4:05 p.m. Pacific Daylight Time.

Attendance Roll

Acting Stated Clerk Muriel C. Brown called the roll which was established as follows:

COMMISSIONERS Presbytery Class Name Present **Absent** Alaska 13 Paul Wescott (RE) X 14 Ron Horn (TE) X **Central Washington** 12 Jim Irwin (RE) X 13 Bill Zeiger (TE) X **Inland NW** 12 Gary Bowker (TE) X 14 Kathy Sandusky (RE) X **North Puget Sound** 12 Eric Chavis (TE) X 13 Sarah Beard (RE) X **Olympia** 13 Ruth Moore (RE) X 14 Patrick Wrisley (TE) X Seattle 12 Richard Erickson (TE) X 14 Karen Cunningham (RE) X

Yukon

11 Tom Letts (TE) x 12 Robert Graham (RE) x

Ex-Officio Members	Present	Absent
Leisa Carrick (TE)	X	
Moderator		
Joyce Emery (TE)	X	
Presbyter to Synod		
Muriel C. Brown (TE)	X	
Acting Synod Stated Clerk		
Synod Staff		
Sarah Peniston (RE), Synod Director of Communications		X
Martha Hubbard, Synod Treasurer		X
Brandon Jelinek, Synod Director of Technical Ministry		X
Eunjoo Lee, Synod Project Assistant		X

Seating of Corresponding Members

The Synod enrolled the following as corresponding members and granted them the privileges of the floor:

	Present	Absent
Dottie Villesvik (RE)		X
Moderator Presbyterian Women of the Synod		
G. David Lambertson (TE)		X
Central Washington Presbytery Executive Presbyter		
Sheryl Kinder-Pyle (TE)	X	
Inland Northwest Transitional Executive Presbyter		
Corey Schlosser-Hall (RE)	X	
North Puget Sound Presbytery Executive		
Lynn Longfield (TE)		X
Olympia Presbytery General Presbyter		
Scott Lumsden (TE)		X
Seattle Presbytery Executive Presbyter		
Curtis Karns (TE)	X	
Yukon Presbytery Executive Presbyter		
David Dobler (TE)	X	
Pastor to the Presbytery of Alaska		
Rob McClure (TE), Seattle Presbytery,		X
Mission Development Certificate Loan Program		

Dean Mielke	X
MDC Executive Director	
Jim Irwin (RE)	X
Immediate Past Moderator of the Synod	
Steve Aeschbacker (RE)	X
Synod Representative to the General Assembly Council	
Clarence Antioquia (RE)	X
Synod Representative to the General Assembly Council	
Alan Villesvik (RE)	X
Synod Nominating Committee Moderator	

Declaration of Quorum

Acting Stated Clerk Muriel C. Brown declared a quorum present in accordance with Book of Order G-3.0405 and the Synod of Alaska-Northwest's requirement for four ruling elders and four teaching elders representing at least three presbyteries to constitute a quorum.

Opening Prayer and Devotions

The Moderator opened the meeting with prayer and read a "blessing for wisdom" from an ancient book of blessings used by the Dominican Sisters of Peace in Kentucky.

Docket

The Synod **VOTED** to amend the proposed docket which was distributed with the call of the meeting by adding a report from the Personnel Committee following item number 8. The Synod **VOTED** to approve the amended docket as follows:

Docket

Tuesday, April 10, 2012 Synod Mid-Council Meeting 4:00 p.m. Phone

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Roll Call Establishment of Quorum
- 3. Opening Prayer & Devotions
- 4. Adoption of Docket
- 5. Correspondence
 - a. Accept Letter of Resignation from Sandra Wagenius, Chair of Committee on Representation

New Business

- 6. Approve "corrected" revisions of Corporate Bylaws
- 7. Finance Committee Report (See Action Sheet)
- 8. Document listing Comprehensive Overview of Synod Ministries and Covenant Partnerships
- 9. Personnel Committee Report
- 10. Motion to close the meeting
- 11. Closing Prayer

Correspondence

The Synod **VOTED** to accept the resignation of Commissioned Ruling Elder Sandra Wagenius as Moderator of the Synod's Committee on Representation as requested in her letter of March 19, 2012.

New Business

In the matter of revisions to the Corporation Bylaws, former Stated Clerk Richard E. Melin had reported to the Presbyter to Synod and the Acting Stated Clerk that the Synod had somehow missed final approval in 2011 of some revisions proposed to make them consistent with the new synod organization, structure and staffing. However, after further review, Acting Stated Clerk Muriel C. Brown reported that the amended revisions had in fact been approved at the Synod meeting on March 31, 2011. Since that time, a new Form of Government has been adopted by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) thus necessitating further review of synod documents to be certain that language and other provisions are consistent with the new Form of Government. The Acting Stated Clerk will undertake that review and bring any recommended changes to the May synod Mid-Council meeting.

Ruling Elder Sarah Beard, Moderator, presented the report of the Finance Committee, recommending some beneficial account consolidations.

The Synod **VOTED** to approve transferring the \$5,292.87 in accounts 2200-13 and 2200-14 to account 2200-18 (CMHE) and then retiring accounts 2200-13 and 2200-14. Research on these accounts implied an intended use for higher education purposes.

The Synod **VOTED** to approve transferring the \$68.18 in account 2200-16 (Higher Education-Interns) to account 2200-18 (CMHE) and then retiring account 2200-16.

The Synod **VOTED** to approve transferring the \$6,717.80 in account 2200-22 (Staff Continuing Education) to Unrestricted Reserve account 2400-40 and then retiring account 2200-22. These funds were unused continuing education funds set aside over the years for previous staff members no longer employed by the Synod.

In response to the assignment from the March 13, 2012 Mid-Council meeting, the Finance Committee presented a list of assets, showing as completely as possible the origin and purpose of each. **APPENDIX A**

In response to an inquiry/request from the Rev. Terry McGonigal, Whitworth chaplain and director of the Whitworth Institute of Ministry, the Synod **VOTED** to make available from unrestricted reserves \$10,000 for scholarships for families from the synod to attend the Whitworth Institute of Ministry this summer.

Moderator Leisa Carrick raised the issue of how requests for funding (like the WIM request) that don't go through the Grants Task Force come before the Synod. Do we need to put some process in place? The Finance Committee was asked to let the synod assembly know how much money might be available on a yearly basis for a "spending pool" for responding to such requests. The Grants Task Force was asked to bring a recommendation on possible criteria and ideas on how a request would move to the Mid-Council meeting for action.

The need to have our buildings appraised was noted. We need to identify possible appraisers and get quotes. The Rev. Joyce Emery, with help from Ruling Elder Sarah Beard, will seek an appraiser for the Synod office building in Seattle. The Rev. Sheryl Kinder-Pyle will find someone in the Pullman area for the campus ministry building Interfaith House.

A comprehensive overview of the ministries and covenant partnerships of the Synod was included in the portfolio for the meeting. **APPENDIX B** After a bit of clean-up of the copy and development of a few questions (by the Rev. Joyce Emery and the Rev. Dick Erickson) it will be ready to send out to the presbytery councils for consideration at their next meeting and for their response and feedback by September 30, 2012 as to which ministries/partnerships they would be interested in undertaking. Synod Commissioners are expected to interpret the document and be involved in the discussion at their own presbytery council.

Attention was called to the draft position description for the Stated Clerk. The Personnel Committee will be meeting on April 11 to finalize the position description. The Nominating Committee is working on a slate of nominees to serve on a Stated Clerk Nominating Committee. This committee will be elected at the May 8 Mid-Council meeting.

Commissioners were reminded of the farewell luncheon on April 17 for Rick Melin. Notes of appreciation for his years of service as Synod Stated Clerk can be sent on-line through the Synod's website.

The next Mid-Council meeting will be at 4:00 p.m. on May 8, 2012, by telephone conference call.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m. Pacific Daylight Time. The Vice-Moderator Rev. Eric Chavis offered the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Muriel C. Brown, Acting Stated Clerk

APPENDIX A

ASSET ACCOUNTS: ORIGINS AND PURPOSES

Asset accounts in the 2200-00 Restricted – Budgeted Funds

2200-10 Leadership Development - \$501.68 – For leadership initiatives like Whitworth Institute of Ministry and sabbatical grants.

2200-11 BOP Spiritual Leadership - \$19,508.28 – From BOP grant for use by Seattle, NPS and Olympia Presbyteries only.

2200-12 Housing Ministry Fund - \$2,507.46 – From manse expenses for pastors' housing. FC will move this account to the 2200-50 series.

Research implies use for higher education purposes for the following two accounts (2200-13 and 2200-14). For these FC recommends transferring \$5,292.87 to account 2200-18 (CMHE) then retiring these two accounts.

2200-13 Racial & Ethnic Development - \$335.19 History unknown and unknowable.

2200-14 Self-Development of People - \$4,957.68 This was a pass-thru account – no recent use.

2200-15 NACC Leadership Development - \$0 Retire this unused account

2200-16 Higher Education-Interns - \$68.18 Was for pastoral intern program at colleges. **FC recommends transferring \$68.18 to 2200-18 then retiring this account.**

2200-17 GA Heiserman Fund - \$32,000

2200-18 C.M.H.E. - \$50,230.20 Based on audit reports, these funds left over from Westminster Foundation activity on behalf of higher education programs. FC recommends retaining with balances from #s 13, 14, 16.

2200-19 Palestinian Mission to Synod - \$0 Retire this unused account

2200-20 Earth Keepers - \$0 Retire this unused account

2200-21 Communication - \$7,070.26 From GA grants. FC recommends moving \$ to 2200-50 series (Grants Task Force).

2200-22 Staff Continuing Education - \$6,717.80 - represents accrual of unused continuing education funds set aside by previous staff members over the years.

Recommend transfer of \$6,717.80 to Unrestricted Reserve 2400-40 and Retire this account

2200-23 NMPF Grants - \$12,720.82 – Funds given to Synod by General Assembly to help raise unified mission giving at the presbytery and congregational levels.

2200-24 Higher Education – Shalom - \$2,817.64 - Funds are for ecumenical campus ministries and most likely left over from Synod's Westminster Foundation.

2200-30 INW Loan Interest - \$25,948.08 - Funds from INW Loan Interest – and have been unrestricted.

Accounts in the 2200-50 series are within the Restricted Donor group, and will be addressed in the near future by verifying designations, and recommending work on changing any designations that are found to be obsolete via contact with donor, or if that contact is not possible, FC recommending changes for MC action.

Accounts in the 2300-00 group: FC recommends changing the title of this group from "Board Designated Gain on Sale" to "Board Designated Real Estate Reserve".

2300-20 UW Real Estate Sale \$301,110.45 - refers to sale of Covenant House, which was purchased using \$ from the sale of Westminster House (both on UW campus). This balance shows original sale amount and will be reflected differently on the balance sheet to account for the effect of the "Note receivable – UW" (account 1200-20) balance being reduced by payments received.

2300-30 WWU – Shalom Center \$114,814 Gained from sale of the Shalom Center in Bellingham.

2400-50 Emergency Grants \$59,103.59. Presbyter to Synod Joyce Emery's research indicates that these are no longer required by G.A. and don't need a separate account.

APPENDIX B

COMPREHENSIVE OVERVIEW OF SYNOD MINISTRIES AND COVENANT PARTNERSHIPS

Memo to: Synod Commissioners, Corresponding Members, Presbytery Councils, etc.

From: The Synod Mid Council

Date: Spring 2012

Re: Comprehensive Overview of Synod Ministries and Partnerships, 2012

Currently, presbyteries in the Synod of Alaska Northwest are voting on a reduced function proposal. If passed, the Synod will perform administrative overview, PJC oversight as required and budget preparation lead by 7 ruling elders and 7 teaching elders who will also be active members of the seven presbytery councils and by an elected Stated Clerk. Existing Synod ministries and partnerships will be referred to presbyteries in the hopes that a presbytery or a group of presbyteries will be taking on one or more of the ministries or covenant relationships. If no presbytery steps up, the ministry or partnership will cease. In the event "reduced function" does not pass, we still need to review the ministries of the Synod in order to move faithfully into the future. To assist in this process we are providing a list of existing ministry/partnerships together with a brief description of the ministry/partnership where needed, the names and email of contact persons, and the amount/source of funds allocated to them this past year, if any. We are asking Presbytery Councils to officially respond to this list of existing ministries/partnerships by September 30, 2012. Please make your response to the Stated Clerk of the Synod: stated.clerk@synodnw.org. Presbytery councils are asked to choose which ministries or partnerships they wish to support. Since the reduced function proposal includes an option to join with other presbyteries in support, presbyteries are asked to communicate among themselves to identify which ministries and partnerships are of mutual interest. The Synod staff is eager to answer any questions you might have as we proceed. Until the vote on the reduced function is complete this fall, we would ask that outside ministries not be contacted.

This document is intended to be opened at a computer when the user is connected to the internet. All of the links are live and will provide the reader the chance to learn more about each of the covenants and ministries named.

An Example:

1. Covenants.

Is your Presbytery called to pursue a covenant with any or all of these entities? We assume that each Presbytery will decide. Where there is no interest the Synod leaders will move to end the covenant in a formal and dignified process. Presbytery councils are asked to identify who (Council, task force, individuals, etc.) will be responsible for coordinating the work on their behalf.

Ministry/Partnership	Brief Description and Contacts	\$/Source	Notes
Covenant Partners	See Synod Website for copies of covenants		
Whitworth University	Whitworth began in Sumner in the 1800's. The Synod has been the keeper of the denominational link with the PCUSA with a Covenant. We promise to advertise events, send students, create a climate of support. Whitworth makes promises as well. President Beck Taylor btaylor@whitworth.edu Chaplain Terry McGonigal tmcgonigal@whitworth.edu View Covenant	No Budget Commitment Webster Scholarship (two \$15,000 MDC's – interest goes for scholarship for Natives) Whitworth Institute of Ministry scholarships (\$10,000 from unrestricted funds in 2011 and 2012)	
School of Theology and Ministry Seattle University	This Jesuit University seeks to foster an ecumenical spirit. Strong efforts are made to provide a denominational coordinator (The Rev. Dennie Carcelli) and create a denominational overlay to support Presbyterian students on their road to ordination. We have a Presbyterian (USA) Outreach Team led by Joan Merritt. Dean Mark Makuly markulym@seattleu.edu Assistant Dean Michael Trice tricem@seattleu.edu Elder Joan Merritt joanmerritt@comcast.net	\$10,000 (Budget 2012)	
Presbyterian	Began in Spokane. Once a subsidiary of the	No financial	
Retirement Communities	Synod, now a completely independent Corporation. The Synod Covenant has been a	commitments. The Presbyterian	

Northwest	way to keep the Corporation connected to their Presbyterian roots and Christian core values. Three properties in Seattle. The Seattle Presbytery and Synod offices were once housed at Exeter House. Has been an active partner to support aging ministries and a culture of retirement in the Presbyterian tradition. Rev. Kay Broweleit mkbroweleit@gmail.com serves on the board at the request of Joyce Emery. President and CEO Tameryn Campbell 206-515-2010, ext. 108	Foundation has a strong link with this ministry.	
Mission Development Certificate Program	Started by the Synod in the 1950's. A strong partner providing financial services and consultation for building feasibility, vehicles for investments and loans. Became an independent 501(c)3 in 2008. Board nominations endorsed by the Synod Mid Council. President Rev. Rob McClure wordsower@comcast.net Program Executive Director Dean Mielke dmielke@synodmdc.org Visit website: www.synodmdc.org	Since 2010 MDC pays the Synod \$10,000 rent (2012 Budget income). Shares the office space. \$1,117,103.69 held with MDC. A mix of restricted and unrestricted funds. Approximately \$550,000 unrestricted.	
Cooperating Ministries in Higher	The coordinating board for ecumenical ministries in Higher Education in Washington State since	\$80,000 (Budget 2012)	

Education	the 1970's. Supports the ministries on five campuses (Evergreen, Western, Eastern, WSU, and UW – which closed in June of 2011) and the boards and chaplains. Divides up the funds from the Synod according to a formula and annual review of ministry. Moderator Rev. Paul Rodkey prodkey@centurytel.net View Covenant A long standing ecumenical partner, now a new	\$5,000 (Budget 2012)	
Association of Churches/Faith Advocacy Network	organization with the Lutheran Public Policy Offices in Washington State. Seeks to serve across the State. Advocating congregations a program to network congregations seeking to connect with issues in their communities. FAN took on the Synod's emphasis on ministries with Veterans and developed an educational strategy and partners. Our Rep: Rev. Ron Pfieffer wheresron16@gmail.com View Covenant		
Leadership			
Self-Development of People Committee	A representative committee that receives, reviews and coaches groups to pursue self-developing projects. Where the owners make the decisions and profit from their decisions. We have to get certified every three years. Moderator the Rev. Lawrence Low Lawrence.Low@hotmail.com	\$53-57,000 pass through of grants per year from GA,OGHS funds	

	Visit webpage: http://www.synodnw.org/VirtualOffice/RelatedEnt-titles/SDOP.aspx		
Peacemaking Committee	A network of peacemakers within our presbyteries. Support, prayer and review of grants and awards. Helen Hamilton Award Moderator Rev. Melody Young pastormelody@gmail.com Visit webpage: http://www.synodnw.org/VirtualOffice/RelatedEnt ities/Peacemaking.aspx	\$14,000 a year from Peacemaking Offering. Restricted funds.	
Transitional Ministry Education	One of eleven education sites in the Interim Ministry Consortium. 15- 20 participants each year. Moving from Palisades in Federal Way to Whitworth University in 2012. Faculty Team Leader: The Rev. Elaine Swigart ejswigart@comcast.net Visit webpage: http://www.synodnw.org/ResourcesforChurches/TransitionalMinistryEducation.aspx	\$7,000 spent by Synod Budget in 2011 over and above registrations	
PJC Training for Presbyteries and Synod PJC	General Assembly staff come and spend a day training and updating our members so that they are prepared. Visit webpage: http://synodnw.org/VirtualOffice/Committees/PJC.aspx	\$3,000 (Budget 2012) Presbytery PJC members have to pay their own way.	

COM/CPM Training	Residual line item from the 1970's when the Synod oversaw all COM and ministerial relations work. Now a grant for a joint retreat of Sea/Oly/NPS. Visit webpage: www.seattlepresbytery.org/main/2012/15/candid ates-and-inquirers-retreat.html	\$1,000 (Budget 2012)
Native American Consulting Committee	Network of Native leaders from each of our presbyteries. Meet face-to-face once a year. (Costs \$3-4,000 to meet.) Support each other through-out the year. Gave out \$6,000 worth of grants to support Native work. Moderator Elder Corbett Wheeler Corbettwheeler1942@yahoo.com Visit webpage: http://www.synodnw.org/VirtualOffice/RelatedEntities/NACC.aspx	\$10,250 (Budget 2012)
Synod Owned Property		
Interfaith/Koinonia House – WSU campus	The Synod owns this property and is responsible for property maintenance, insurance, leases and taxes. The Synod leadership works closely with the Interfaith Board and bills them for insurance and taxes. A Verizon lease for a cell tower provides a monthly pass through amount. http://interfaith-house.com/	\$1,600 monthly pass through for Verizon lease. Three years ago Synod replaced the boiler for \$30,000

	http://interfaith-house.com/about/history/		
Office building	The Synod office building was purchased and placed on Seattle Presbytery ground 12 years ago.	\$17,424 (2012 Budget) for land lease	
	http://www.synodnw.org/VirtualOffice/Committees/TheSynodBuilding.aspx		
Communication			
Loaves and Fishes newsletter. The last printed edition will go out in the Spring of 2012. An online edition could continue.	This has been a key method of communication over the years with our constituency. This newsletter costs us \$8,000 per issue. Our current mailing list has 15,000 active users. We have 550 on our email list for a digital copy. It takes the Synod staff two weeks to produce Loaves and Fishes.		
	Visit webpage: http://www.synodnw.org/ResourcesforChurches/Publications/LoavesandFishes.aspx		
SNAPS	Weekly e-news – 550 self-subscribers and growing. Visit webpage: http://www.synodnw.org/ResourcesforChurches/Publications/SynodSnaps.aspx		
Presbyterian Technology Ministries.	A full set of services and discounts for local congregations and presbyteries. Hosting and creation of websites, data bases, discounts for licensed products. The ministry is preparing to launch as a 501 ©3	\$45,000 from the Heiserman grant to be used over three years. \$3,000 (Budget 2012) 2012 Dedicated staff:	

Miniotry	Corporation in 2013. Currently we service over 55 partners. www.presbytech.org	Dir of Technology ½ Director of Communication ½ Project Assistant (\$147,526 2012 Budget)
Ministry Board of Pensions	Pagianal gathering appropried by the Pagianal	No Cost
regional gathering	Regional gathering sponsored by the Regional Representative.	No Cost
Committee on Representation	Administrative oversight. Review annually the COR reports of each presbytery.	\$750 (Budget 2012)
MissionInsite	A contract for demographic information across the Synod. Make a request for a report through the Synod website. http://www.synodnw.org/ResourcesforChurches/MissionInsite.aspx	\$3,250 (Budget 2012)
Ministry Partners		
Restricted GA Grants	Annual application process that is vetted at the Synod level. One application per fund from within the Synod.	\$1600 – 5,000 per year pass through
Regional Disaster Response	WAVOAD and Idaho and Alaska VOAD WIDRO – Pierce County, WA Keep Presbyterians on the ecumenical boards and connected to efforts on the ground as we constantly prepare for disaster.	\$200 per year for dues (Budget 2012)
Administrative Review	Sexual Misconduct Prevention Training Watching to make sure that Presbyteries are providing training. If not, sponsor at Synod level and train presbyteries to lead, a cyclical and	No cost in 2012

	ongoing process.	
Presbyterian Hunger Fund	Read National grants for relevance, connections and approval. Rev. Dick Gibson rkgibson@juno.com http://gamc.pcusa.org/ministries/hunger/grants/	Amount of GA grants vary.
Mission Program Grants	Partner with General Assembly and Presbyteries to provide grants for new churches, redevelopment and multicultural ministries http://gamc.pcusa.org/ministries/hunger/grants/	\$20,000 (Budget 2012) NPS \$16,500 (Budget 2012) Seattle
Theological Education Fund	Advocates in each of our seven presbyteries. Synod coordinator: The Rev. Chuck Jenner charlesrjenner@hotmail.com	\$5,000 (Budget 2012)
Task Forces		
Higher Education Task Force	A group that worked for two years to develop a higher education strategy to address the decreases in National Mission Partnership Funding. http://www.synodnw.org/ResourcesforChurches/HigherEducation.aspx	\$3,000 (Budget 2012)
Grants Task Force	Designated endowments for ministry across the Synod. Currently the Synod Mid Council appoints members. http://www.synodnw.org/VirtualOffice/GrantsTaskForce.aspx http://www.synodnw.org/ResourcesforChurches/GrantsandScholarships.aspx	Restricted funds and interest from endowments.

Rural Remote	Heiserman grant. Strategy to support rural and remote leaders in cooperation with the Synod of Rocky Mountains.	\$15,000 dedicated to this effort from Heiserman.	
Odds and Ends			
Montreat Board of Directors, North Carolina	We appoint a person to serve on their Board for a three-year term. This is a part of their by-laws. http://www.montreat.org/	none	
Presbyterian Network to End Homelessness	Functions independently. Spun off by the Synod to the passionate within presbyteries. http://seattle.synodnw.org/Committees/EnableDialogueWitnessandMission/NetworktoEndHomelessness.aspx http://www.npspresbyterians.com/Connect/CommitteesandTaskForces/NetworktoEndHomelessness	none	