

Executive Board Report

June 1, 2023 – May 31, 2024

The Executive Board met on the following dates via Zoom:

June 17, 2023; July 24, 2023; September 30, 2023; November 16, 2023; January 20, 2024; March 14, 2024; May 4, 2024; May 22, 2024.

Executive Board members: Delon Martens (Moderator), Eric Buller (Moderator Elect), Lee Lever, Dave Wiebe, Willmar Harder, Aurora Parchmont, Ben Woodward-Breckbill, Berni Kaufman, Caleb Gingerich, Chris Becker, Wendy Funk Schrag (Secretary)

Highlights of these meetings include:

1. Completed the sale of the 2500 Main Place building.
2. Launched the WDC listening process and encouraged all WDC congregations to invite a listening team of three volunteers for a visit. To date, over 20 visits have been conducted or scheduled, with more being scheduled through the remainder of 2024.
3. Approved certification for Arca de Salvacion in Uspantan, Guatemala as a church plant.
4. Approved hiring Shari Scheffler as the WDC Business Manager.
5. Approved hiring Mike Lamb as the Fund Development Coordinator.
6. Appointed Ben Woodward-Breckbill and Jenna Ratzlaff to co-lead the Dismantling Racism Task Force. Ben and Jenna have secured several additional task force members and will be presenting a task force application to the Executive Board in the summer of 2024.
7. Approved an introductory statement on the MC USA 2022 resolution on repentance and transformation to accompany a statement by the Ministerial Leadership Commission.
8. Dissolved the Hope Fund Task Force but left in place a fund that could be applied for by congregations during times of crisis due to natural disasters. An application form was developed.
9. Approved the Farm Worker Health Task Force for another three years. The task force was formed as a private public partnership to help with interpreters for the low German population. The task force now also serves Spanish speaking farmers. WDC receives funds from the Kansas Department of Health & Environment to administer the program.
10. Approved a recommendation to the 2024 Delegate Assembly to change the bylaws to move the fiscal year to October 1 – September 30.
11. Approved a recommendation to the 2024 Delegate Assembly to accept Hesston Mennonite Church as a member congregation of Western District Conference.
12. Approved a recommendation to the 2024 Delegate Assembly to accept Crystal Springs Mennonite Church as a member congregation of Western District Conference.
13. Approved the following strategies for closing the deficit for the current budget and 2025 budget:

- a. WDC will begin collecting an annual administrative fee of 5% (paid on a quarterly basis) on the balances of the Revolving Fund and all restricted funds, except where prohibited by foundational documents of the donor-designated funds. This practice would be effective retroactively to begin 2/1/2024 at the start of our current fiscal year.
- b. Conduct fundraising to match or exceed the \$25,000 grant WDC has received for transitional ministry resourcing in Hispanic congregations with a goal of reaching \$35,000. Action will need to be taken in the future to approve the special fundraising if this is included in the final budget.
- c. Consolidate all accounts affiliated with Citizens Bank, Intrust Bank, and Union State Bank (USB) and move them into accounts with Everence Financial, except for the General Fund checking account at USB.

Report submitted by Wendy Funk Schrag, secretary