

**PRESBYTERY OF ALASKA - GENERAL COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
AUGUST 14, 2010**

The General Council of the Presbytery of Alaska met by teleconference on August 14, 2010. The meeting began at 10:02 AM with a reading given by the acting Council Coordinator, the Rev. Dr. John Zimmerman. The reading began with Acts 20:28. Following the reading, Rev. Zimmerman opened the meeting with prayer.

**ROLL CALL**

In addition to Rev. Zimmerman the following voting members of the Council participated: The Rev. Ron Horn, Member-at-Large; The Rev. Linda Wescott, Personnel Representative; Elder Sheryl Dennis, Finance Representative; Elder Gail O'Dell, Committee on Ministry Coordinator; Elder Fred Baxter, Property Representative and Elder Barbara Searls, Presbytery Moderator-Elect. Also participating in the meeting were: Elder Guy Warren, Presbytery Stated Clerk and The Rev. George Pasley, Stated Clerk-Elect.

No representative was present from the Native American Consulting Committee as no report has been received as to who they have selected as coordinator for 2010. Elder Cindy Whittington, who had been a Council Member-at-Large, has moved from the area and has resigned from the Council.

With the first matter of business directly involving the Moderator of the Council, the Rev. Dr. David Dobler, he was not included in the teleconference until later in the meeting.

The presence of a quorum was noted.

**PASTOR TO THE PRESBYTERY ACTION**

Per the request of the General Council at its July 17, 2010 executive session, the Rev. Linda Wescott reported that she had worked with the Rev. Dr. David Dobler to negotiate a contract to change his position to a full time position beginning September 1, 2010 and running for a period of 18 months. She had been unable to get a full quorum of the Personnel Committee to process this matter, so she had setup an ad hoc committee consisting of other members of the Council. The Committee had reached an agreement. The agreement was presented to Council. Following discussion, the Council voted to accept the agreement. It was agreed that this action will be submitted to the Presbytery at the October 2010 meeting to permit them to confirm the action. *The text of the agreement will be included in the minutes of the October 2010 Presbytery meeting.*

The Council also voted to request that while this portion of the meeting could be considered an executive session, that the record of it be published in the minutes of this meeting for open distribution.

Following this action, Rev. Zimmerman contacted Rev. Dobler and invited him to lead the remainder of the meeting.

## **GENERAL COUNCIL MINUTES – AUGUST 14, 2010**

### **COUNCIL TERMS**

Per a recommendation from the Stated Clerk, which was based upon the requests of the members of the Council, the Council voted to set the following terms for its members. (*All terms expire in December 31 of the year indicated.*)

Vacant Position, Member-at-Large expiring 2010  
The Rev. Ron Horn, Member-at-Large expiring 2011  
Elder Fred Baxter, Property Representative expiring 2012  
Elder Sheryl Dennis, Finance Representative expiring 2011  
The Rev. Linda Wescott, Personnel Representative expiring 2012.

Elder Warren reported on the status of the Presbytery Nominations Committee and the positions that needed to be filled at the Fall 2010 Presbytery meeting. The Council is responsible for finding nominees for that Committee, which per the Book of Order cannot find their own nominees. It was agreed that the members of the Council would study this issue and that nominees would be found.

Elder Warren produced a listing of proposed changes to Presbytery's Manual of Administrative Operations. These changes are mostly to bring the document up-to-date with actions taken by the Presbytery in the Presbytery's By-Laws. Following discussion and amendment from the floor, the Council voted to recommend a set of revisions to the Manual to the Presbytery for their consideration at the Fall 2010 meeting. *The full text of the proposed changes will be included as an appendix to the Fall 2010 Presbytery Minutes.*

### **PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

The Council voted to approve as distributed the minutes of the September 2, 2009 Council meeting.

The Council voted to approve the minutes of the February 3, 2010 Council meeting with the following correction: On Page 1, Roll Call, add Elder Fred Baxter, Property Representative to those attending the meeting.

The Council voted to approve as distributed the minutes of the regular July 17, 2010 Council meeting.

The Council voted to approve the minutes of the July 17, 2010 Council Executive Session with the following correction: Change the date in the Section entitled "Rev. Dobler Contract" to read September 1, 2010 instead of July 1, 2010. The Council also voted to permit the Stated Clerk to openly publish this document as regular meeting minutes.

### **PRESBYTERY MEETING PLANNING**

The Council discussed the docket for the Fall 2010 Presbytery Meeting. Moderator Zimmerman presented a rough plan for the events to be included in the meeting. This will include the Worship Workshop planned by the Leadership Equipping Center, a presentation on Hunter Badgley's trip to Kenya, Peg & Guy Warren's trip to Haiti and brief Elder's reports from the churches.

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The Council also agreed that if it were possible that Presbytery consideration of action items presented by the 2010 General Assembly should be taken up at this meeting.

Final creation of the draft docket complete with the other business items to be taken up at this meeting will be done by the Moderator and Stated Clerk. Moderator Zimmerman will work on selecting an ad-hoc committee to prepare recommendations for the Presbytery concerning the General Assembly Actions. Stated Clerk Warren will work to get the materials distributed to the churches as soon as possible. If possible, the materials will be transmitted in an electronic form.

### **FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT & PRESBYTERY BUDGET**

Elder Sheryl Dennis, Finance Subcommittee Coordinator, reported that the Finance Subcommittee has received and reviewed the report of the Presbytery's 2009 Financial Review. The report from Altman, Rogers and Company found the Presbytery's financial statements in order with no needed modifications. The Subcommittee concluded that it was a good review.

Elder Dennis then presented a draft 2010 budget for the Council's consideration. Several corrections to the printed document were noted. The Council voted to recommend the corrected budget to the Presbytery for their approval.

As part of her presentation, Elder Dennis urged that the presentation "How we got here" that Rev. Zimmerman presented at the February 2010 Council meeting be recorded in some fashion as to permit its distribution to the entire Presbytery.

### **OFFICE MANAGER CYNDI GLEASON**

The Stated Clerk reported that Cyndi Gleason's father had just died and that Gleason was South with her family. A sympathy card was signed by the Council.

### **PASTOR TO THE PRESBYTERY REPORT**

Rev. Dobler spoke on the recent move of the Presbytery to its new location at the Chapel. The new space is smaller, which has required Cyndi to work on reducing the amount of paper kept by the Presbytery. A considerable amount of now unneeded items had been discarded.

He also spoke on our transition to a new Treasurer and other office matters.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The Council voted to adjourn the meeting at 11:14 PM. The meeting was closed with prayer led by the Rev. Ron Horn.

Guy Warren  
Stated Clerk