**Executive**

**Antler River Watershed Regional Council**

**of The United Church of Canada**

**Minutes**

**October 11, 2023, 9 AM**

**Roster:** Cheryl Bolton (President), Jane Van Patter (Past President), Richard Auckland, Karlene Brown-Palmer, Doug Cameron (Treasurer), Richard Dalton, Louise Hall, Greg Simpson, Diane Skomash, Sandra Stock

**Staff Support:** Mark Laird, Acting Executive Minister, Sue Duliban, Executive Assistant

**Present:** Cheryl Bolton, Jane Van Patter, Richard Auckland, Karlene Brown-Palmer, Doug Cameron, Louise Hall, Greg Simpson

**Regrets:** Diane Skomash, Sandra Stock, Richard Dalton

**Welcome/Constitute Meeting/Acknowledging the Land:** President Cheryl

I constitute this meeting in the name of Jesus Christ, the one true head of the Church and by the authority vested in me by Antler River Watershed Regional Council for whatever business may properly come before it. The bounds of this meeting will be the Lambton Centre and the Zoom call.

**Opening Agreements**

Consent Docket

**MOTION:** Louise Hall / Greg Simpson

Acceptance of the Consent Docket.

Any of the following matters that require discussion can be lifted from the consent docket and voted upon separately:

1. **Enabling Actions**
2. That the proposed Agenda be approved as presented.
3. That the minutes of the September 13, 2023 meeting be approved as distributed.
4. That motions be written and given to the Secretary.
5. **Correspondence Received**
6. Resignation from Executive: email received from Brenda MacMain. Antler River Watershed Regional Council Executive accepts the resignation of Brenda MacMain from the Executive, effective October, 2, 2023.
7. Antler River Watershed Regional Council (7) Omnibus motion – October 11, 2023

That the Antler River Watershed Regional Council (7) Executive take the following action:

1. Pearce Williams United Church Christian Centre

  …pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada approve the Pearce Williams United Church Christian Centre 2023-2024 Board of Directors

Lynn Bisschop

Mark Emery

Christine Freeman

Brad Graham

Alexandra (Lexi) Morrison

Laura Penner

*This is based on the draft Annual General Meeting minutes of April 26, 2023, the 2023 board member approval form, contact list provided and receipt of other required documentation per the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada.*

1. The United Church Downtown Mission of Windsor Inc.

   ...pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada approve The United Church Downtown Mission of Windsor Inc. 2023-2024 Board of Directors

Donald Atwell

Abram Banman

Dolph Barsanti

Burcu Bayraktar

Catherine Collins-Barker

Joe DeLuca

Kenneth Gray Jr.

Sandor Kapasi

Tanya Kelly

Kristine McInnis

Keith Rivard

Amy Visser

*This is based on the draft minutes of the 40th Annual Meeting of April 26, 2023, the 2023 board member approval form, contact list provided and receipt of other required documentation per the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada.* **CARRIED**

# Business Arising

1. Volunteer Recruitment Team
2. Mandate: Acting Executive Minister Mark Laird asked for clarification regarding the mandate for the recruitment team. It was clarified that the mandate needs to be developed prior to asking for people to serve on the team; so that the work of the team is clearly defined.

Karlene Brown-Palmer offered to review and work through the draft document updated slightly at the previous executive meeting, and bring it back to the executive for the next meeting on November 8.

After some discussion, the executive agreed that including the preparation of a GC45 commissioners slate, should not be included in the work of the volunteer recruitment team; but should be the work of the executive. To be discussed further at the next executive meeting.

1. Expressions of Interest received

**MOTION:** Louise Hall / Jane Van Patter

That Antler River Watershed Regional Council appoint Melodee Lovering to the Human Resources Commission, effective January 1, 2024.  **CARRIED**

Other expressions of interest received:

Josh Macdougall – President Cheryl will reply to him and learn where his interests lie.

Rob Apgar Taylor - Greg Simpson spoke with Rob in the spring, will reach back out to him.

**New Business**

1. Proposal 1: Funding for Ontario-Quebec Native People’s Retreat at Five Oaks

**MOTION:** Karlene Brown-Palmer / Louise Hall CARRIED

That the Executive of Antler River Watershed Regional Council agrees to:

A. Provide $732.58 to Five Oaks toward the costs of the 2023 Native People’s Retreat

B. Set aside $2000 to support the Native People’s Retreat in 2024, and to give time for Nations Uniting to fully explore the current and emerging possible sources for funding.

C. Be willing to consider engaging in future discussions with Nations Uniting and Ontario Quebec circle about Native People’s Retreat, and if no further funding is to be provided for this to give notice to Nations Uniting. **CARRIED**

1. Proposal 2: GC 45 Election of Commissioners in 2024 proposal: for endorsement by Executive.

**MOTION**: Greg Simpson / Jane Van Patter

That the Antler River Watershed Regional Council Executive agrees to put the GC45 Election of Commissioners proposal forward at the ARWRC fall meeting in October 2023. **CARRIED**

Note: point b to read “to direct the Executive to review the nominations with a view to”.

1. Regional Council Meeting Planning Guidelines

**MOTION:** Jane Van Patter / Louise Hall

That the Antler River Watershed Regional Council Executive direct the planning team to pay out regional council meeting honorariums in accordance with the RC Meeting Planning Guidelines. **CARRIED**

1. 2024 Budget Principles

Mark Laird spoke to the budget principles. Noted the reason for #2 is the grant the regional council gets from GCO has been cut by 25% (60,000), but the regional council is going to try to find the money elsewhere. Question asked how tied is the Discipleship and Justice Committee to the ARWRC priorities when determining Mission Support grants. Is there flexibility if there is a valid ministry that could be supported.

As the wording is to use the priorities as a guideline, Mark Laird said it would be fair to say the commission could use their discernment.

**MOTION:** Richard Auckland / Greg Simpson

That the ARWRC Executive recommend to the fall meeting of the regional council that the following principles be endorsed:

1. Operating expenses increased by 4.5% for inflation and as the basis for investment income.

2. Prioritize Mission & Service grants.

3. Appoint KPMG LLP as auditors. **CARRIED**

1. Possible future email vote naming Doug Cameron, Cheryl Bolton, Mark Laird as trustees for cemetery in Lambton County.

Meeting Adjourned.