**Executive**

**Antler River Watershed Regional Council**

**of The United Church of Canada**

**MINUTES September 11,** **2024 10:00 AM**

**Roster:** \*Cheryl Bolton (President), \*Richard Auckland (President Elect), Linda Badke, Karlene Brown-Palmer, Doug Cameron (Treasurer), \*Eileen Antone, \*Louise Hall, \*Greg Simpson, \*Diane Skomash, \*Sandra Stock

**Staff Support: \***Mark Laird, Executive Minister

(\* indicates those in attendance)

**Regrets: Karlene Brown-Palmer, Doug Cameron, Linda Badke**

President Cheryl opened the meeting with the Land Acknowledgement and an Opening Prayer.

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

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 and the Zoom call.

**Opening Agreements**

**Consent Docket Acceptance Moved: Diane Skomash Seconded: Louise Hall Carried.**

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

A. Enabling Actions

1. That the proposed Agenda be approved as presented.

2. That the minutes of the June 13, 2024 and July 30, 2024 meetings be approved as distributed.

3. That motions be written and given to the Secretary.

B. Antler River Watershed Regional Council (7) Omnibus motion – September 11, 2024

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

1. Kenesserie Camp Incorporated

 ...based on the guidance received from General Council Staff, pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada approve BY-LAW # 1, as approved by the members on June 24, 2024 of the incorporated ministry known as Kenesserie Camp Incorporated

*This is based on the draft minutes of Special Meeting of the Corporation Members of June 24, 2024, and receipt of other required documentation per the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada.*

Mount Zion Early Learning Centre Inc.

…based on the guidance received from General Council Staff, pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada approve the request to incorporate and the Application to Incorporate effective August 16, 2024 of the incorporated ministry known as Mount Zion Learning Centre Inc.

*Required documentation per The United Church of Canada Incorporated Ministries Policy has been received. The Congregational Support Commission continues to work with the IM and Church to bring this project to fruition.*

1. United Church Council of Middlesex Presbytery operating as Hope Council of Antler River Watershed Region

   … pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada approve the United Church Council of Middlesex Presbytery 2024-2025 Board of Directors

Steven Michael Britton

Paul Mark Browning

Mary Catharine Dillon

Arthur Hiley

Robert Gregory Hockin

*This is based on the draft Minutes of 2023 Annual General Meeting of May 23, 2024, the 2024 board member approval form, contact list provided and receipt of other required documentation per the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada.*

*This Incorporated Ministry is operating as Hope Council of Antler River Watershed Region as it continues to work on its by-laws to ensure they meet ONCA requirements. Once all is approved by the Province the name change will take place.*

1. The United Church Downtown Mission of Windsor Inc.

    ...based on the guidance received from General Council Staff, pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada approve the BYLAWS, as approved by the members on April 24, 2024 of the incorporated ministry known as 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. 2024-2025 Board of Directors

Donald Atwell

Abram Banman

Dolph Barsanti

Burcu Bayraktar

Catherine Collins-Barker

Joe DeLuca

Tanya Kelly

Chris Knowles

Kristine McInnis

Brian Porter

Marvio Vinhaes

Amy Visser

*These are based on the draft minutes of the 41st Annual General Meeting of April 24, 2024, the 2024 board member approval form, contact list provided and receipt of other required documentation per the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada.*

# C. Business Arising

Commission Reports

1. Congregational Support – Greg Simpson - South Kent – hiring someone who will work alongside Eric Skillings in a shared ministry; Mount Zion – looking for funding to support construction of their Daycare; Manse Funds – how they are used – discussion – how can the funds be used to support churches?; Essex UC – final service October 20, church being assumed by the region – held in trust – mixed feelings on the region assuming responsibility for the building – Kindred Works will manage the property
2. Discipleship and Justice – no report
3. Human Resources - met Tuesday, September 10 – educational event for people entering interim ministry; budget discussions – Kevin Steeper provided a budget which is new rather than having him come to the Commission for each event; two new United in Learning Modules – book fo services for those entering new ministry
4. UCW – executive meeting on September 23; $36 000 raised for indigenous ministries healing

**D. New Business**

1. Category H GC45 Commissioners – President Cheryl gave background on raising diversity (e.g., youth, visible minority, diaconal ministry, culture, identity) at General Council through this nomination process; October 15 deadline for names to Cheryl-Ann Stedelbauer- Sampa; Names mentioned/discussed: Karleen Brown-Palmer, Miriam Spies (WOW), Eileen Antone (perhaps other names from the Indigenous Community); President Cheryl asked for names by October 9th; 2028 GC will be in Horseshoe Falls
2. Finances-looking at terms of funds/property - Executive Minister Mark spoke to this; **grants and terms – should be reviewed** – (e.g., some interest plus up to 15% of the capital to be given annually); funds are pooled so may not be able to segregate amounts – we should review the terms – if $100 000 invested initially perhaps give $15 000 annually with reviews every few years (one option); address at a future meeting

Property – how do we separate funds/properties? - how do we support Communities of Faith? (e.g., Therese Samuel’s salary in part funded through property income)

Decision around funds/property could go to the Regional Council (rather than the Executive alone) to decide how to proceed

Mark requested to have people join the conversation: Louise Hall offered, Greg Simpson will reach out to others, Richard Auckland

Also pointed out that we need to think succession planning regarding the Treasurer position (i.e., Doug Cameron)

Greg left the meeting at 11:15 a.m.

1. ARW Staff Support Position – Mark Laird spoke to this – for each commission – Bruce Cook and John Brown sit on the Staff Support Committee, John’s term ends in December and he would like to step back, Deborah McGill has moved from HF and is willing to step in for John, we could have her complete an Expression of Interest Form

**MOTION: to appoint Deborah McGill to the Staff Support Position.**

**MOVE: Louise Hall** **SECONDED: Diane Skomash**  **Carried.**

Reminder to have individuals complete Expression of Interest Forms; Max Watkinson will provide support for this group

Max Watkinson (they/them) has been hired as an Executive Assistant for the three regions.

1. Overview of Fall Meeting – Lambeth United Church will serve as the spot for the Celebration of Ministry; Stoneridge Inn will be the location for the leadership team; Friday, October 25 - 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.; Saturday, October 26 - 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Mark shared the tentative agenda.

No GC proposals received from ARW Communities of Faith at this time.

President Cheryl indicated that we are still looking for Equity Support and Ministerial Support.

Next Meeting(s): October 9, November 13, December 11 (All meetings are Wednesdays at 10 a.m. via Zoom unless otherwise indicated.); Regional Meeting – October 25 (6:30 – 8:30) & 26 (9 – 2)

**Adjournment: 11:50 a.m.**