

**AGASSIZ PRESBYTERY EXECUTIVE MEETING MINUTES  
November 1, 2016**

**Attendance**

Chair	Lynne Sanderson
Past Chair	Ken Thomas
Vice Chair	Sarah Bruer
Conference Minister	Joan Jarvis
Education & Students	
Life Committee	Sandra Rex
Music United	Carol Zacharias
Nominations	
Pastoral Relations	Julie Baker
Pastoral Oversight	Heather Lea
Property	
Stewardship & Mission	
Treasurer	Lloyd Baker
Secretary & UCW North	Claire Ommerli
Member at Large	Marian Reykdal

Regrets: Peggy Reid, Chuck Ross, Margaret Scott

The meeting began at 12:50 and quorum was noted.

**OPENING :**

Chair, Lynne Sanderson, opened the meeting in the name of Jesus Christ, the only head of the church and by the power vested in me by Agassiz Presbytery I declare at 1:00 pm this meeting of the Executive of Agassiz Presbytery open for worship, study, companionship and such business as shall properly come before it.

As we gather to share the work that rightly comes before this court, let us acknowledge that we are meeting on Treaty One land, in the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe, Cree, Oji-Cree, and Dakota peoples and in the heart of the Metis Nation. As Treaty people, we seek to live with respect on this land, and live in peace and friendship with its people.

**WORSHIP:**

Lynne Sanderson led us in a meditation based on Reformation Sunday which is October 31 each year. Next year will mark the 500th anniversary of the date Martin Luther nailed a document containing 95 theses, or proposition to the church door in Wittenburg, Germany and the start of the reformation.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

It was agreed that the agenda be approved as presented.

It was noted that there will no reports from Education & Students, Nominations, Property and UCW.

**RECEIVING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**MOTION # 915:** C.Ommerli/Heather Lea that the minutes of Agassiz Presbytery Executive meeting held on September 6, 2016, Pages 609 to 612, be approved as presented. **CARRIED**

There was some discussion about the minutes of the full court meeting held on September 22 & 23, 2016. At the next Presbytery meeting to be held on November 12 these errors will be corrected. It was suggested that the minutes of Presbytery meetings be brought to executive meetings and received for information so that discussion could be held at that time and clarification, if needed, could be discussed.

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- A list of correspondence from September 3 to October 28 was circulated to all executive members prior to this meeting.
- There was one addition to this list of correspondence: Remit # 8 was mailed to G.C.O. on October 10.
- Letter from Neita Avery on behalf of Rock Lake Camp asking that the Chair of Agassiz Presbytery, or designate) be present at their annual meeting to be held on Wednesday, December 7. Lynne Sanderson and Sarah Bruer indicated that they would be able to attend on behalf of our presbytery
- A letter has been received from Linda Sharpe on behalf of Rock Lake Camp that there is an urgent need for members to serve on the camp board. Heather Lea is to ask Shannon McCarthy for a copy of the Camp By-Laws. It was also suggested that Winnipeg Presbytery and Assiniboine Presbyters be asked to appoint members to the Camp Board of Directors as both presbyteries have young people attending Rock Lake Camp.

**CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE:** Lynne Sanderson

There was nothing to report as the Conference Executive meets next week.

**CONFERENCE STAFF REPORT:** Joan Jarvis

1. Shannon McCarthy (Conference of MNWO) and Bill Doyle (Saskatchewan Conference met with the Executive of Alberta Northwest Conference in early October. A covenanting service was held as they are now sharing the Executive Secretary position with Alberta NW Conference 1/3 time each. Things are going well and with the use of technology, communication helps with this new transition.
2. Following Agassiz Presbytery's full court meeting in September where a motion came before the court regarding financial limits congregations may spend before needing to seek Presbytery approval; Shannon McCarthy indicated that a common standard today is \$50,000.00. This, of course, assumes that the money is in place and that a further mortgage or secured loan is not required.

3. A documentary 'On the Side of the Road' will be screened at St. Paul's, Morden on Thursday, November 10, 7:00 p. m. Former West Bank Settler Lia Tarachansky looks at Israelis' collective amnesia of the fateful events of 1948 when the State of Israel was born and most of the Palestinians became refugees. Director Lia Tarachansky will be present for a discussion following the screening.

**AFFIRMING TASK GROUP:** Sarah Bruer

The was no report but Sarah Bruer indicated that a motion will be brought to the next full court meeting on November 12 for Agassiz Presbytery to become an Affirming Presbytery.

**REMITTS:** Ken Thomas

It was noted that there is one Remit left on which to vote, that being Remit # 6 One Order of Ministry. There was a lot of discussion on how to present this information to the full court as there is a lot of controversy surrounding this remit. At the next Presbytery meeting on November 12 Ken Thomas will the facilitate discussion.

**EDUCATION AND STUDENTS:** Margaret Scott

No Report

**LIFE:** Sandra Rex

Registration for the next presbytery meeting will be out shortly and Sandra Rex was asked to clarify what is intended to happen regarding the lunch.

**MUSIC UNITED:** Carol Zacharias

The process of promoting communication between musicians and worship leaders continues. Also, promotion communication amongst musicians. Carol is working on a new approach.

**NOMINATIONS REPORT:** Peggy Reid

In Peggy's absence Sandra Rex reported that Peggy is diligently recruiting a lay representative to the Settlement Commission, so far without success.

**PASTORAL OVERSIGHT:** Heather Lea

**MOTION # 916:** H.Lea/J.Baker that Agassiz Presbytery write to Kelwood United Church asking for a block of time on the agenda of the Annual Congregational Meeting for discussion and decisions regarding whether the congregation will continue their association with the United Church or move to discontinue the relationship. **CARRIED**

**PASTORAL RELATIONS:** Julie Baker

Covenanting Services have been held in Glenboro and Rock Lake Pastoral Charge. Morris Ecumenical Shared Ministry (ESM), will hold a service Sunday November 6 at 5:00 pm at Morris United Church, to covenant with Rev. Leslie Poulin, ELCIC. While it will be a Lutheran induction service, Lynne will also officiate a United Church covenanting section.

Search committees are in process at Meridian, McKenzie, Cartwright and Miami Pastoral Charges. We will need to name pastoral charge supervisors for McKenzie and Miami in case they do not fill their vacancies by January 1.

Letters to all pastoral charges in the presbytery have been prepared, and will be sent out as soon as possible, informing them of the increased 2017 pulpit supply rate, and Agassiz Presbytery's decision for commended pastoral charges to pay the same rate to lay worship leaders. Presbytery reps will receive electronic copies, and a hard copy will go in the mail with a request for it to be forwarded to the relevant parties. For those pastoral charges who have not yet transitioned to the new salary schedule, there is an extra note included, as well as a copy of the transition work sheet that needs to be completed.

Conference Executive may be making a decision to transfer responsibilities for JNACS to the Conference Settlement Commission. Julie shared some of the background and reasons for the proposal, as well as some of the concerns and questions of the pastoral relations committee. If the decision is made to shift some more presbytery responsibility to the commission, would the presbytery also be willing to shift people or financial resources?

**PROPERTY:** Chuck Ross

No Report

**STEWARDSHIP AND MISSION:**

No Report

**TREASURER:** Lloyd Baker

The following reports were presented:

- Presbytery Allocations - 2 pages
- Profit & Loss - 1 January through 28 October 2016
- Balance Sheet - As of 28 October 2016
- 2016 Budget
- Jubilee Fund Account Listing - 28 October 2016

**MOTION # 917:** L.Baker/K.Thomas that the financial reports be accepted as presented. **CARRIED**

UCW - Claire Ommerli

No Report

**NEW BUSINESS:** There was no new business

**MOTION # 918:** L.Baker/H.Lea that we adjourn at 4:17. **CARRIED**

**Attached is the Settlement Commission Report dated October 11, 2016**

**The next Presbytery Meeting will be held on November 12, 2016 at Neepawa United Church.**

**The next Presbytery Executive meeting will be held on January 24, 2017, in Trinity United Church, Portage la Prairie**

**Blessing**

Chair: : Lynne Sanderson\_\_\_\_\_

Secretary: Claire Ommerli\_\_\_\_\_

**Agassiz Presbytery Report from the Settlement Commission of the Conference of Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario  
for October 11, 2016**

**TO:** Claire Ommerli, Secretary of Agassiz Presbytery

**CC:** Julie Baker, Pastoral Relations Convener of Agassiz Presbytery; Cathie Waldie and Laurel Buschau, Settlement Commission Representatives for Agassiz Presbytery; Heather Robbins, Chair of the Settlement Commission; Judy Hare, Conference Personnel Minister; Cherry Abad, Conference Administrative Assistant

**FROM:** Elsie Douglas, Secretary of the Settlement Commission of the Conference of Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario

Please attach this report to your circulated minutes as an appendix.

At the meeting of the Settlement Commission of the Conference of Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario on October 11, 2016, no action was taken on behalf of Agassiz Presbytery.

SETTLEMENT COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVES giving support to Pastoral Relations processes on behalf of Agassiz Presbytery:

Meridian – Laurel Buschau

Cartwright – Harold Kenyon

Miami – Cathie Waldie

McKenzie (Portage) – Mark Hammond

**The next meeting of the Settlement Commission will be on Tuesday, November 8, 2016 – Central Standard Time. All paperwork related to motions should be received at the Conference office by noon on Friday, November 4.**