

**Minutes of Meeting of the  
COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES  
OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF KANSAS, INC.**

**June 21, 2005**

The Council of Trustees of the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas, Inc., met on June 21, 2005, at Camp Wood in Elmdale, Kansas. The Right Reverend Dean E. Wolfe, Bishop and Chairman, called the meeting to order at 10:45 a.m. after opening worship with Diocesan youth campers at Camp Wood.

Members of the Council of Trustees present were:

Bishop Wolfe  
Mr. Mike Morrow, President  
The Very Rev. Jerry D. Adinolfi, Jr.  
The Rev. Barbara K. Bloxsom  
The Rev. James P. Haney  
The Very Rev. R. Steve Lipscomb  
The Very Rev. Michael G. Munro  
Mr. Michael W. Murphy  
Mr. Richard Norman  
Ms. Rogene Schille  
Ms. Wendy Sheedy  
Mr. Robert Skaggs

Members of the Council of Trustees absent were:

Mrs. Linda Bemis  
The Rev. William J. Wood

Advisors to the Council of Trustees present were:

Mr. L. Franklin Taylor, Chancellor and Secretary  
Mr. Richard V. Foote, Vice Chancellor  
Mr. Douglas K. Anning, Treasurer

Also present were Mr. C. Jay Currie, Diocesan Comptroller; Mrs. Dorothy Emory, Diocesan Administrator; and Mrs. Melodie Woerman, Diocesan Communications Director.

On motion by Mr. Morrow, seconded by Mr. Skaggs, the minutes of May 17, 2005, were approved as corrected.

Bishop Wolfe introduced the Rev. James B. Cook elected as a member of the Council of Trustees by the Board of the Northeast Convocation to fill the unexpired term of the Rev. Denis

B. Ford, who resigned prior to his pending marriage to the Rev. Canon Jo Ann T. Smith. The members of the Council of Trustees present unanimously affirmed Fr. Cook's appointment. Mr. Skaggs noted that Fr. Cook has also been selected by the Northeast Convocation Board to fill a full three-year term commencing after the 146th Diocesan Convention.

Bishop Wolfe reported that he has been participating in camp activities. He noted that the campers are having a great time and they are learning about issues of religion and spirituality. He also noted that leaders and counselors are engaged in significant formation activities.

The Bishop reported on interviews for a Diocesan Campus Missioner. The Young Adult and Higher Education Committee identified several candidates (who were not necessarily looking for new positions) by the skills required for the position. Four candidates visited the Diocese and participated in interviews, after which the committee was virtually unanimous in its ranking of the candidates. The Bishop expects an announcement with respect to the position as early as Wednesday. Fr. Haney noted that committee chair Deacon Monte Giddings met with the Rev. Jonathon Jensen and the Rev. Darrel Proffitt of Trinity Parish and St. Margaret's Parish, respectively, in Lawrence with good results in terms of their participation in the campus ministry program. Mr. Murphy commented on the sound community infrastructure for campus ministry in Manhattan.

Mr. Morrow reported for the Adult Formation Committee. The committee met on June 11. It conducted EFM Mentor training on June 16-18. He noted that the committee has over a thousand dollars in scholarships available for EFM participants through the Rev. Canon Sam Criss. The committee has delegated some of its work to subcommittees and is in the process of receiving and evaluating parish surveys.

Ms. Schille reported for the Committee on Aging. The committee met on June 16 and talked about compiling resources and making information available on line on the Diocesan website. The committee would like to add information on legal advance directives. The committee will next meet on August 18.

Mr. Skaggs reported that the Finance Committee would like to defer the treasurer's report and the draft 2006 Diocesan budget to later in the meeting. He reported on two items for the committee:

1. Trinity Parish, Lawrence, submitted a request via the Northeast Convocation to encumber its property in an amount not to exceed \$200,000.00 for the purpose of repairing its heating and air conditioning systems. He noted that this would be an interest only commercial loan pending the completion of a capital campaign for major construction. The parish's property is presently not encumbered. The committee recommends approval of the request and its recommendation was seconded by Mr. Morrow. The Council of Trustees, acting as the Standing Committee of the Diocese, voted unanimously to approve the request of Trinity Parish, Lawrence, to encumber its property to secure an interest only loan in an amount not to exceed \$200,000.00.

2. St. Luke's Parish, Shawnee, requested a Church Extension Fund loan in the amount of \$30,000.00 for capital improvements to its parking lot and security lighting for the parking lot. The committee recommends that the loan be approved pursuant to Council of

Trustees policy setting the interest rate on the loan at 2% below the applicable prime rate, to be amortized over a period of five years. Mtr. Bloxsom seconded the recommendation, which was approved unanimously.

Mtr. Bloxsom reported on the stewardship event conducted on June 4, 2005, at St. Thomas Parish, Overland Park. Thirty-four members of 11 parishes participated in a very successful event. After an extended discussion about the event which centered on an informative and entertaining presentation by a National Church officer, it was agreed that consideration should be given to rescheduling the event next year.

Mrs. Woerman reported that the Communications Committee will sponsor a workshop entitled "From Word to Web" on church communications at Grace Cathedral on July 23, 2005. She provided a brochure describing the event and asked that parishes be encouraged to send participants.

Mtr. Bloxsom reported that the Liturgy, Arts and Music Committee met on June 3, 2005, with a focus on worship at the 146th Convention. The committee is also working on providing Liturgy, Arts and Music resources on line.

Dean Lipscomb reported that the Congregational Development Committee met and recommended attaining demographic studies of the Olathe area with the intent of determining the best location in Johnson County for a new church start. The committee also discussed recommending that the Diocese share the cost of a master plan for the Bethany Place and Cathedral property with the Cathedral Congregation. The study would focus specifically on additional parking and other master plan provisions to maximize the usefulness of the Bethany Place/Cathedral complex.

The Council of Trustees recessed briefly at 11:25 a.m. and reconvened at 11:30 a.m. Bishop Wolfe noted that philosophically, he expects to cast the lot of the Diocesan Office with the Cathedral in an effort to maximize the use and effectiveness of the Cathedral campus for both the Cathedral Parish and the Diocese. The Bishop recommended allocating up to \$10,000.00 in Diocesan funds to match a similar contribution from the Cathedral to pay for a master plan and feasibility study for the Bethany Place/Cathedral campus. Mr. Norman, as Vice Chair of the Finance Committee, noted that based on current financial performance, funds for this project could be expected to be available from year end budget variance. Fr. Munro seconded the recommendation, which was approved unanimously.

Bishop Wolfe noted that the Canon to the Ordinary is absent from the meeting in preparation for her pending wedding and reported on deployment issues:

1. St. Thomas Parish, Overland Park, is working on its Parish profile.
2. St. Stephen's Parish, Wichita, is receiving candidate names.
3. A service of new ministry for the Rev. Kelley Lackey will be conducted at St. Andrew's Parish, Emporia, on June 22, 2005, at 7:00 p.m.

4. Pastor Colin Ward has resigned as Rector of St. Peter's Parish, Pittsburg, effective June 5, 2005. There was an extended discussion of ministry in Pittsburg and similar rural communities and the related challenges.

The Council of Trustees recessed for lunch at noon and reconvened at 12:25 p.m. for an entertaining demonstration of camp mealtime activities by Bishop Wolfe and a camp counselor.

At 12:30 p.m. Bishop Wolfe introduced Deacon William Wolff, who has served as a Deacon at Grace Cathedral and has recently completed a year of Anglican studies at Virginia Theological Seminary. After brief comments, Deacon Wolff left the meeting. Mr. Morrow noted that the Ecclesiastical Relations Committee was recommending that Deacon Wolff be approved for ordination to the priesthood. After extended discussion of Deacon Wolff's qualifications and employment plans, Mr. Morrow moved, seconded by Mtr. Bloxsom, that the Council of Trustees, acting as Standing Committee of the Diocese, approve Deacon William Wolff for ordination to the priesthood subject to certification by the Diocesan Examining Chaplains and subject to his meeting all other requirements for ordination. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Anning presented the Treasurer's report. The income statement reflects a deficit as of May 31, 2005, of \$77,442.72 (which projects to less than the deficit of \$250,000.00 budgeted for the year). As has been discussed at prior meetings, the deficit is, in effect, the National Church assessment, which will be paid for 2005 from the Diocesan Operating Reserve.

Mr. Anning presented the 2006 budget. He noted that apportionments will be reduced by about \$200,000.00 due to the severance of Christ Church from the Diocese. The proposed budget cuts approximately \$100,000.00 in expenses and increases apportionment approximately \$100,000.00. By reorganizing the budget, the committee is able to include provision for a Campus Missioner, a Planned Giving Officer and later in 2006, a Congregational Development Officer. The committee concluded that in the process of cutting programs and making adjustments to meet budget requirements, it will be necessary to make some cut to the General Convention assessment, although the committee made an effort to cut the smallest amount possible from that assessment. By increasing the effective apportionment rate from 16.51% to 17.5%, the budget can be balanced with a cut of about \$11,000.00 from the General Convention assessment. To eliminate this cut altogether, it would require an increase in the effective apportionment rate to 17.69%.

There followed an extended discussion of the budget, including a discussion of whether the General Convention assessment should be reduced at all below the asking for 2006. It was ultimately agreed that while this is not a cut that should be taken lightly, some cut is mandated by the overall condition of the Diocese, with the expectation that new budget priorities will result in this being a temporary solution.

Mr. Norman moved, seconded by Ms. Schille, to recommend the proposed budget for adoption to the 146th Convention. The motion carried unanimously.

The Bishop reported on a number of items:

1. He noted with regret the resignation of Mr. Frank Connizzo as the Diocesan Planned Giving Officer and discussed plans for the appointment of a missionary for Stewardship and Planned Giving.

2. He also reported on Rick and Maria Hoecker, including Rick's health condition, plans to ordain them as deacons at the University of the South and Maria Hoecker's placement in the Diocese of Western North Carolina.

3. He reported on the ordination of vocational and transitional deacons at Grace Cathedral earlier in the month.

The Bishop presented the pending resolution on the Big Tent Coalition. It was agreed that there is no urgency on resolution of this matter, and due to the lateness in the day, on motion by Mr. Murphy, seconded by Ms. Schille, the resolution was tabled to the August Council of Trustees meeting.

The Bishop presented and noted for the record the report on Jubilee Ministries and the report on his Episcopal Actions since the last Council of Trustees meeting.

Mrs. Emory noted that seven parish corporations are not in good standing with the Kansas Secretary of State for failure to file annual reports due June 15, 2005. The Chancellor noted that all parishes, missions and Diocesan institutions are required to be separately incorporated to protect Diocesan assets from vicarious liability for incidents beyond the control of Diocesan officers, staff or the Council of Trustees. He noted that incorporation also protects members and officers of parishes and Diocesan institutions from liability for activities conducted on behalf of the corporation. Canon II.3, requiring each parish to submit a certificate of good standing prior to each Diocesan Convention as a condition for seating lay delegates, could be amended simply to require each parish to be in good standing as a prerequisite to seating delegates, since the Diocesan Administrator is now able to check that status on line.

Fr. Munro inquired about any planned response to the announcement that Bishop William Jackson Cox, formerly Suffragan Bishop of Maryland and currently canonically resident in Oklahoma, would conduct ordinations on behalf of Bishop Henry Orombi of Uganda at Christ Church, Overland Park on June 29. Bishop Wolfe has been in contact with the Bishop of Oklahoma concerning this matter and will send a letter to the Presiding Bishop objecting to this activity.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, it was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

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L. Franklin Taylor, Clerk