

THE EASTERN DISTRICT LCMS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES-**APPROVED**  
ZOOM Conference Meeting  
Thursday, April 9, 2020 @ 2:00 P.M.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER [Carr] 2:40pm

OPENING PRAYER [Wicher]

ROLL CALL [Smith] Jim Carr (Acting Chair) Chris Wicher, Terry Miller, Carl Prostka, Carl Frethold, Cyndi Alviani, John Pingel, Brian Smith, Susan Bell, Jon Allen, Garrett Nash, Dan Hahn, and Fred Hoover (Guest: Barb Sigafos). *Excused: Mark Erbedling, Melissa Fultz*

EXPLANATION OF PPP [Paycheck Protection Program] In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Federal Gov't enacted the CARES Act, along with the PPP to help small business keep up with payroll, which has been extended to churches & not-for-profits. This resolution needs be approved by the BOD as a (forgivable) loan, which includes payroll, retirement and health benefits. President Wicher reviewed the proposed resolution. Clarification was made that these funds would be used only for payroll, not utilities. The government is not seeking to influence or support religious principles or values; rather, its interest is in supporting the workforce.

Motion to approve the Resolution by Carl Frethhold, Second by Jon Allen.  
Motion carried by the majority: 9 Yea, 1 Nay, 2 abstentions

OTHER BUSINESS FOR THE SAKE OF THE CHURCH [Carr]

- 1. LCEF RICK PORTER, RESOLUTION** Rick shared this in order for congregations to apply for loans through our Regional Vice President (Rick Porter). LCEF is requesting that loans up to \$100,000 be fast-tracked with a decision made by the Regional Vice President (apart from his committee) President Wicher reviewed the motion.

Motion to approve the resolution as submitted by Susan Bell, Second by Terry Miller. Motion carried. The committee meeting will be scheduled for an evening in the week of April 12.

- 2. RESOLUTION FROM PIONEER BOARD.** President Wicher noted that we accepted Nick Gatto's perception that much was to be done in anticipation of the summer schedule. A resolution was passed by the Board, requesting 4 Eastern District BOD representatives to meet with 4 Pioneer Board of Directors representatives to discuss recommendations and opportunities for the future. Tim Kurth (LCEF) will facilitate the discussion. There appears to be an Ohio group interested in purchasing Camp Pioneer, which was recently assessed at an approximate value of \$2.3million. The hope among this group is to renew

interest in Pioneer and continue to further its ministry into the future. A reinvention of camp would require new relationships. The Members of Pioneer, Inc., for example, could potentially dissolve after 2 new entities are created: (1) A Foundation to invest proceeds of the sale of the property for use in ongoing ministries under the umbrella of the Eastern District. (2) A [new] Members Board created by the new owners.

Dan Hahn moved that The Members of Pioneer, Inc. send a group of representatives (President Wicher, Jim Carr, Dan Hahn, Jon Allen, Cyndi Alviani) to meet with the Pioneer Board of Directors-as requested-to discuss the future of Pioneer Camp & Retreat Center. Second by Susan Bell. Motion carried.

CLOSING PRAYER [John Pingel]

MEETING ADJOURNED 2:51pm

### **ADDENDUM**

In a special communication via email on April 16, 2020, President Wicher shared a report from Barb Sigafos (Eastern District Finance Office). The actual payroll numbers from St. Louis necessitate an amendment to the Board's Payroll Protection Program Resolution, updating the amount to \$90,955.00 from \$86,705.00 - the original amount.

The amended motion was submitted to the District Board of Directors for an electronic vote of consent. The motion carried to amend the original resolution as noted; the resolution will be updated and re-submitted by the District Secretary.