

Board of Directors Special Meeting  
**MINUTES--DRAFT**  
**Zoom Conference Meeting**  
Friday, December 11, 2020 @4:00 P.M.

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Attending: Mark Erbelding, Chris Wicher, Carl Prostka, Carl Fretthold, Cyndi Alviani, John Pingel, Brian Smith, Susan Bell, Jon Allen, Garrett Nash, Jim Carr, Dan Hahn, Terry Miller, Fred Hoover, Melissa Fultz.  
(Guests: Nick Gatto, Dee Gryzb)

Meeting called to order at 4:01pm by Mark Erbelding.

Opening Prayer was offered by Chris Wicher.

Roll Call was conducted by Secretary Brian K. Smith (attendance noted above)

**Motion to approve the agenda by Susan Bell, second by Garret Nash. Motion carried.**

**After corrections, a motion to approve the October Minutes by Carl Prostka, second by Jim Carr. Motion carried.**

**After corrections, a motion was made to approved the November Minutes by Jim Carr, second by Susan Bell. Motion carried**

**Report on the proceedings on the sale of Pioneer Camp and Retreat Center:**  
Nick reported that the Board was reviewing a real estate contract and felt it appropriate to move the contract forward for presentation today.

**A motion was made by Dan Hahn to open an Executive Session of the Board retroactively by Dan Hahn, Second by Carl Prostka. Motion carried.**

**Motion to move out of executive session by Carl Fretthold, Second by Cyndi Alviani. Motion carried.**

**Vote to Extend the Convention Deadline:**

Chris Wicher shared that Synod notified congregations of a vote to extend all District Conventions to 2022 due to COVID-19 restrictions. All Congregations will receive a link at the beginning of the year and the voting process will close Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>. The Board will act upon the recommendations at that time. Jon asked about the implications for Chris' plans to retire in 2021. A letter from President Harrison requested that all District Boards remain in place until the next convention; as such, Chris will remain District President for this extraordinary time.

**Child Victims' Act:**

We've received a counter-suit from First Trinity (with 1 of 2 cases) Our attorney explained this a likely action when insurance companies are involved. If ruled in favor

of the plaintiff, the defendants the court would assign certain % of responsibility to each: (1) Man in question, (2) Church, (3) District, and (4) Synod.

This week, we received 2 more Child Victims Act lawsuits, bringing us to 6 in the Eastern District. One is a second against a teacher in the Lockport area, dating to 1968. The third suit is a new case in Rochester area against a Pastor in 1962. Chris has spoken with the current Pastor, President and Elder from that congregation.

**Motion to adjourn by Carl Fretthold, Second by Susan Bell. Motion carried**

NEXT MEETING, **Friday, January 22, 2021**

Closing prayer was offered by John Pingel.

Meeting adjourned at 5:25pm

**HAVE A BLESSED ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS**