

**Episcopal Diocese of Montana  
Minutes of Diocesan Council Meeting  
June 27, 2009  
St. Peter's Cathedral, Helena**

Attendance. Council members present: Bishop C. Franklin Brookhart, Jr., Donna Gleaves, Jean Collins, Marva Hoard, Ed Myers, Jerry Asleson, Jane Schmoetzer and Britton Gray. Also present at the meeting were Barb Hagen, Canon for Finance; Beth Baker, Diocesan Treasurer; and Gayle Gallik Archey, Diocesan Secretary. Absent from the meeting were Council members Clark Sherman (on sabbatical), Elton Smith, Linda McCloud, Cindy Perry and Karen Hall.

Call to Order and Adoption of Agenda. Bishop Brookhart called the meeting to order at 10:20 a.m. With a quorum present, Bishop Brookhart opened the meeting with prayer. The meeting agenda was adopted as presented.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Minutes of April 18, 2009 Diocesan Council Meeting. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Minutes of the April 18, 2009 Diocesan Council meeting were approved as amended.

Financial Statements. Canon for Finance, Barb Hagen; and Diocesan Treasurer, Beth Baker presented the financial statements for the months of April and May, 2009. Barb stated most parishes are sending their assessments on a regular basis, with the exception of Great Falls, Laurel and Virginia City. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the financial reports for the months of April and May, 2009 were unanimously approved as printed.

Renovation Update - Diocesan House. It was reported the electrical and insulation work at Diocesan House is now complete. The painting continues; it is taking longer than anticipated, however, the painters are doing a very good job. Diocesan staff anxiously awaits the completion of the renovation project.

Annual Parish Audit Reports. Barb Hagen reported all parishes have submitted their 2007 Annual Parish Audit Reports, with the exception of Glendive and Miles City. Additionally, Diocesan Office has already received four or five Audit Reports for 2008.

Acceptance of Finance Department Minutes. Upon motion duly made and seconded, Council members acknowledged receipt of the Minutes of the May 2009 Finance Department meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS**

2008 Diocesan Audit. Barb Hagen announced the 2008 Diocesan Audit has been completed by the accounting firm of Galusha, Higgins and Galusha. Copies of the final Diocesan Audit Report were distributed to all Council members. Upon motion duly made and seconded, members of Diocesan Council unanimously approved the acceptance of the 2008 Diocesan Audit.

Finance Department Manuals and Forms. Barb Hagen stated the Finance Department continues to make revisions to various Diocesan financial manuals and forms in an effort to make them more user-

friendly. Council members are agreeable to said revisions and acknowledge receipt of all revised manuals and forms.

St. Matthew's - Glendive / Emmanuel Church - Miles City. It was noted the church building - St. Matthew's in Glendive, is in need of major repairs. St. Matthews currently has only two active members. A suggestion was made to sell the church building, with the proceeds from the sale be used to assist Emmanuel Church in Miles City. Emmanuel Church is currently without a priest, however, Linda McCloud conducts services there on a limited basis - once or twice a month.

2010 Diocesan Budget. On behalf of the Finance Department, Beth Baker and Barb Hagen presented the proposed 2010 Diocesan Operating Budget which is compiled by the Finance Department. Copies of funding requests from all Diocesan committees were also presented. The 2010 Diocesan Budget now consists of three parts: Administration, Program and Camp Marshall. The 2010 budget no longer contains a portion for Assisted Congregations as in prior years, because the "Five Year Plan for Assisted Congregations" expires at the end of 2009. Beth stated most funding requests were granted, with the assessment percentage remaining at 18.5%. Additionally, the proposed 2010 Budget is much smaller than prior years, and there will be no draw from the Diocesan Investment Accounts. The 2010 Budget includes a 3% raise for Diocesan staff members, and the assessment to the National Church will increase from 2% in 2009 to 10% in 2010.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was agreed to revise the proposed 2010 Diocesan Budget by adding \$3,000.00 to Line 32: "Workshops", and by adding \$3,000.00 to Line 52: "Administrative Staff Travel." To off-set these additional expenses, \$6,000.00 will be added to Line 20: "Interest and Dividends."

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the 2010 Diocesan Operating Budget was unanimously approved as amended.

Faber Fund Grant / Loan Application. Upon motion duly made and seconded, Council members agreed with the recommendation of the Finance Department and unanimously agreed to approve the Faber Fund Application of St. Paul's Church in Hamilton. St. Paul's requested a grant in the amount of \$10,000.00, and a \$40,000.00 loan to be repaid over seven years, quarterly payments, no interest. The money will be used to repair/re-side the exterior walls, lead containment and repaint the exterior siding of the 112 year old Church. Jean Collins abstained from voting on this motion.

VIM-MO Grant Application. Council considered a Venture In Mission - Mission Opportunity (VIM-MO) Grant Application submitted by The Rev. Jane Shipp, Rector of Saint James Church in Dillon. Saint James' Wood Bank Ministry provides firewood to area people in need. The Wood Bank's leader, Harry Neeley, requests \$4,000.00 for supplemental funding to repair a pickup truck and purchase a chain saw. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously agreed to approve the \$4,000.00 Grant Application.

Diocesan Native American Ministry Fund. Council next considered a request from Canon Joe Scheeler, who is working to explore the possibility of combining Native American Ministry and worship in an Episcopal context at Camp Marshall this summer. Joe requests \$6,500.00 from the Native American Ministry Fund to purchase a Ceremonial Lodge (Tipi) which will be erected at Camp Marshall. The requested funds will also be used to purchase other liturgical supplies (i.e., Pow-wow drum and hand drums) in order to have Togendowagan Services at Camp Marshall.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, Canon Scheeler's request for \$6,500.00 was approved by a majority vote of Council members.

Thanks to Outgoing Council Members. Bishop Brookhart announced in September, Elton Smith, Donna Gleaves, Jean Collins and Jerry Asleson will complete their terms on Diocesan Council. Bishop Brookhart thanked Elton, Donna, Jean and Jerry for their work during the past three years and their commitment to the Diocese.

Upcoming Diocesan Council Meeting. Saturday, November 14, 2009 was selected for the date of the next Diocesan Council meeting. The meeting will be held at St. Peter's Cathedral in Helena, commencing at 10 a.m. and concluding at 3 p.m. Jane Schmoetzer will preach at the Eucharist service which will follow the meeting.

Adjournment. There being no further business to come before Council, on motion duly made, seconded and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m. Holy Eucharist followed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gayle Gallik Archey,  
Diocesan Secretary