



Episcopal Diocese of
Eastern Oregon

Diocesan Council
Draft Minutes
September 4, 2024
Zoom

Present:

The Rt. Rev. Patrick Bell, Bishop

Class of 2024

The Rev. Aletha Bonebrake (SC)

The Rev. Ray Jeff Spreier

Betty Palmer

Angela Pursel

Joel Bigelow (SC)

Class of 2025

The Rev. Kelly Mahon (SC)

Cory Bradshaw

The Rev. Pam Miller

Ellen Nesbitt (SC)

Class of 2026

The Rev. Liz Cahill (SC)

Barbara Reynolds (SC)

Beth Spell

The Rev. Roy Green

Ex Officio

Patty Olson-Lindsey, Treasurer

Seat and Voice

Amy Jayne, Ascension Executive

Director

Lisa Boquist, Secretary to Council

Absent:

Holly Hendricks

The Rev. Charlotte Wells, Secretary of
Convention

Wednesday, September 4, 2024

Call to Order

Beth Spell called the meeting to order at 5:02pm and opened the meeting with prayer.
The agenda was accepted as presented.

Approval of minutes from June 6th and July 3rd, 2024

M/S/C *Motion to approve the minutes from June 6th and July 3rd, 2024. (Angela Pursel, Barbara Reynolds Mayo)*

Ascension School Update

Capital Campaign Update

Amy Jayne gave an update on the progress of the Capital Campaign. \$500,000 has already been raised for the endowment and \$142,000 has been raised for the pool. The Cove community contributed many small donations to the campaign during the Cherry Fair community launch. A core group of volunteers meets every week and the official launch for the Diocese is at Convention. Amy will be visiting parishes throughout the fall, winter, and spring with Bishop Pat to further promote the pool and endowment.

Post Camp Report

This year's camping program served 187 campers in total, 25 more than the last two years. The decision was made to add a 6th camp to next year's schedule since the numbers are increasing.

There were significant gifts sent in for the Ascension scholarship fund and over \$16,0000 was given out in scholarships. Local parishes sent 85 campers to Ascension this summer through their own scholarship programs. At least 75% of campers were scholarshipped at some level this summer which shows the needs and the demographics that we are serving.

The goal is to work on increasing volunteers at camp in the next few years. The young adults that work at camp each summer will benefit from having more volunteers to support them. Amy expressed her gratitude for the Chaplains who served over the summer.

Grants

The Grey Family Foundation awarded a grant to Ascension School that allowed AC to be installed in all the buildings that didn't currently have it. \$8000 was awarded through a Beloved Community grant to support the Caretakers of the Land Tule Camp. \$5000 from a Creation Care grant was awarded for a Land Tending week on the Trail Project, and a small grant was given by Grande Ronde Hospital to support the Senior Exercise program that meets in Coe Kerr.

Standing Committee Report

Kelly Mahon gave a brief report on St. Luke's in Lakeview.

Financial Report

Audit

Patty Olson Lindsey reported that the audit was completed in July and there were no major areas of concern. Council received a copy of the audit for their review prior to the meeting.

Rolling Average Approval

M/S/C *Motion to approve 5% of a 20 quarter rolling average from the EDEO General Endowment for the 2025 EDEO budget in the amount of \$37,775 (Angela Pursel, Betty Palmer)*

Recommendations from Finance Committee

M/S/C *Motion to approve the use of \$12,500 from the Redmond property fund to balance the deficit in the Bishop's Discretionary Fund based on the recommendation from Finance Committee (Roy Green, Pam Miller)*

M/S/C *Motion to approve the following proposed property funds policy recommended by Finance Committee. (Roy Green, Ray Jeff Spreier)*

Property Funds Policy

Theological Statement

As The Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Oregon and followers of Jesus we are working toward the practice of unconditional love through the values of Human Dignity, Creation Care, and Spiritual Formation. We establish this policy in recognition that all our real property comes from the generosity of those who have gone before us and in the hope that that generosity is reflected in the following allocation of resources from the proceeds of property sales in the Diocese of Eastern Oregon to further the mission of our diocese:

*50% Diocesan General Endowment Fund
30% Development and Emergency Fund
15% Indigenous Ministry Fund
5% Ascension School Endowment*

The current funds in the Redmond property sale fund will be distributed according to this policy after the funds for the Solicitation Phase for Ascension School's Capital Campaign are deducted. The exception will be that the 5% that would normally be allocated from these proceeds to the Ascension Endowment would go to the Bishop's Discretionary fund to balance that fund's deficit and build it up enough for continued Discretionary needs.

Burgess Gift

M/S/C

Motion to approve placing the \$25,000 gift from the estate of John and Susan Burgess into the EDEO General Endowment Fund. (Patty Olson-Lindsey, Angela Pursel)

Diocesan Convention Offering Designation

M/S/C

Motion to approve K House in La Grande, Oregon as the recipient of the 2024 Diocesan Convention offering. (Cory Bradshaw, Patty Olson Lindsey)

Bishop's Report

Pat reported that Amy will be joining him on most of his upcoming visitations to help get the word out about the Capital Campaign and to familiarize her with the congregations a little more. The two commissions – Truth and Conciliation and Faithful Innovation are both very active and are focusing on the future work of the diocese. At the November retreat he hopes that the council will focus on the job descriptions for the Assisting Bishop, Canon for Diocesan Vitality, as well as descriptions for Council, Standing Committee and Officers.

He commended Transition Officer Marilyn Roth for her hard work in successfully filing the open positions at Bend, Sunriver, and Heppner. The Rev. Elizabeth Wheatley-Jones is the new rector at Trinity in Bend, Presbyterian Pastor Kally Elliott will start at Sunriver Christian Fellowship on October 1st, and The Rev. Joann Dickson will serve Hopeful Saints in Heppner and will be ordained to the Priesthood on October 26th.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:08pm and Aletha offered a closing prayer.