COUNCIL MEMBERS (Quorum 1/3 plus moderator)

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| ***By Virtue of Chairing Committees:***Owen Derrick – Program & GrantsP-Charity Potter – Commission on MinistryP-Carl Eskridge – Administration & FinanceE-Joyce Douglas – Administration & FinanceTeresa Bartlett – NominatingP-Jane Holtzclaw – Preparation for MinistryE-Chris Peters – Disaster Response TeamVACANT – New Worshiping & Church Vitality***At Large:***P-Joan Berglund (Class of 2023)P-Teri Wendel (Class of 2024)P-Steve Pointon (Class of 2025) | ***By Virtue of Office:***P-Joan Berglund (PW)P-Steve Earl (Interim Executive Presbyter)P-Erica Nelson (Interim Stated Clerk)P-Ed McClymont (Treasurer)P-Terri Sherman (Council Moderator)P-Brian Johnson (Presbytery & Council Vice Moderator)P-Steve Piper (Presbytery Moderator)***Guest***  P-Sheryl Wieneke – Presbytery Administrative Assistant |
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**Call to Order** Terri Sherman

The meeting was called to order at 3:08 pm, and opened with prayer by moderator Terri Sherman. A quorum was established. Terri also provided opening devotions.

**Check in** – Everyone provided an update and celebrations.

**Council Responsibilities**

With the start of the new year, the moderator reminded the council of their responsibilities, according to our bylaws.

**Consideration and Adoption of the Agenda –** the agenda was approved, with one amendment; that Steve Pointon’s class is class of 2025, not 2022.

**Approval of Minutes**

1. Council Minutes – October 18, 2022
2. Presbytery Minutes – November 17, 2022
3. Called Council Minutes – December 15, 2022

All sets of minutes were approved as presented.

**Discussion Topics**

1. Strategy Team – Final Reading at Feb Presbytery meeting. Their final meeting as next month and they will be handing things off to the implementation team. They will talk about how they came up with what they came up with, how they think it will work, and tips for the implementation team. There will also be an engagement guide going out tomorrow, developed by Kris Adler-Brammer, on how to engage with the new presbytery strategy. They will present a shortened version at presbytery and give a chance to ask questions before the vote. They will also present the implementation team at presbytery. There will likely be a motion to dissolve the Strategy team.
2. Do we want to have Zoom be an option for the Feb 17 presbytery meeting like the last time? We did not do a zoom option last time and we currently don’t have the technology
3. Dates for 2023 council and presbytery meetings. The following dates were approved. Need to approve locations
**Council (Westminster?) Presbytery**January 17 February 18 – Fremont
April 18 May 18 – Beatrice
July 18 August 12 – Camp held with MRV
October 17 November 16

We will check in with Camp Calvin Crest to make sure they can host us on August 12th. The suggestion was made to have the November meeting at Eastridge church in Lincoln. We will check in with them about it.

1. Elect chair for Nominating Committee – even as we are transitioning to a new system, we want to have someone keeping an eye on things and paying attention to nominating details. Terri will check in with the members of the committee and see if they are willing to take on that role.

**Staff, Officer & Commissioner Reports**

1. Presbytery Moderator Steve Piper

No report.

1. Council Moderator Terri Sherman

Terri met with presbyter, stated clerk, and the presbytery moderator to discuss how things will progress once the presbyter is gone.

1. Synod Commissioner Duane Westing & Maggie Horak

Duane’s term has expired and we need to elect him for another term. He will be elected at the February meeting and serve a term of 2023-2025.

1. Treasurer Ed McClymont

The treasurer provided a report of per capita payments. There will be a full report provided to presbytery, the synod has not completed it yet.

1. Interim Stated Clerk Erica Nelson

A written report was provided. The clerk highlighted the work that will be done for the Book of Order amendments. Preparatory information will be provided at the February meeting, and information session will be held in April, and the amendments will be voted on in May.

1. Interim Executive Presbyter Stephen Earl

The presbyter reported. The presbyter has started conversations with the stated clerks of the presbyteries around us (Missouri River Valley and Central Nebraska) to begin discussions around the future of our presbyteries together and how we share in ministry as neighbors and partners in Nebraska. Reports have gone out and they should be back by January 31st, and an initial meeting will be set up after that.

**Committee & Organization Reports**

1. Administration & Finance Carl Eskridge/Joyce Douglas

They have been in conversation with Melodie Pointon-Jones about a proposal to consider per capita as a percentage of the church’s general income, rather than a “tax” on each individual member. The committee is exploring options on how that would work.

The two moderators and the presbyter met with Craig Johnson on the issue of the Camp and they believe they have come to a conclusion in their discussions. The next step is to draw up legal papers to present to both presbytery and the camp. This would have a first reading at the May presbytery meeting and then be voted on at the August meeting. There will be a report at the February meeting.

There are four motions from Admin and Finance:

* 1. The Committee recommends to Council that Homestead Presbytery develop a formal relationship and agreement with Mr. Trev Peterson to serve as Legal Counsel, as necessary to assist the Presbytery on legal matters. The motion carried with no opposition.
	2. The Committee recommends to Council the appointment of a “Leadership Team” to serve in the temporary handling of the regular business of the Presbytery after March 1, 2023. The Leadership Team will report to Council and would include the following persons: Presbytery Moderator, Council Moderator, One At-Large member of Council, Moderator of COM, Moderators of Administration and Finance, Stated Clerk, and Treasurer. This motion we will present to presbytery with council’s approval.
	3. The Committee recommends to Council the appointment of three individuals to engage in conversation with Missouri River Valley Presbytery and Central Nebraska Presbytery to evaluate areas of common interest to serve the needs of Nebraska congregations. Council elects Carl Eskridge, Erica Nelson, and Wendy Wait, pending her approval. This motion was approved.
	4. The Committee recommends to Council that Homestead Presbytery develop an agreement with the Session of First Presbyterian Church of Wahoo concerning the service of Administrative Assistant to Sheryl Wieneke to Homestead Presbytery and Wahoo/First. This is an action item and needs no approval.
1. Commission on Ministry Charity Potter

COM meets on Thursday, most likely by zoom.

1. Committee on Preparation for Ministry Jane Holtzclaw

CPM has one person in the CP track, and could potentially finish that up by the Fall, and one person in the Inquiry track. She’s in seminary in Richmond and in the process of discerning her call. Jane and Charity have started conversation on looking at the CP track. There is not a lot of guidance and some issues came up this last year, which revealed the need to have some things more well defined. We may also need to look outside the box at what CP actually means and how that track can meet the needs of our churches.

1. Disaster Preparation Response Team Chris Peters

No report.

1. New Worshipping Communities & Church Vitality Development Vacant
2. Nominating Vacant

There is a motion for two nominations to the Calvin Crest Board. This will go forward to presbytery.

1. Presbyterian Women Joan Berglund
2. Programs & Grants Owen Derrick

P&G has about $10,000 budgeted annually and they ended the year with about $1400. We would like to hear from the recipients of the grants as to what they did with the money and how things are going.

1. Strategy Team Terri Sherman

They will be ending their work and passing it off to the implementation team at the presbytery meeting.

**February 18 Presbytery Meeting:**

1. At Fremont, training for new commissioners at 9:30 am, call to order 10 am
2. Designate Recipient of Offering – PDA for Ukrainian relief
3. Worship – Stephen, Steve, Terri and Erica will preside over communion. We will determine how to give out the elements later.
4. Education – we are giving some of the education time to Elona Street-Stewart (5-10 minutes).
5. Agenda – Time needs of committees, commissions, and others (**including Audrey Richert, Nebraska Presbyterian Foundation**)

**New Business**

1. TBD

**Adjournment with Closing Prayer**

The meeting was adjourned and closed with prayer by Terri at 4:53 pm.