# World Missions Board of Directors Meeting

12/1/2023

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# Meeting date and Location

World Mission Board meeting at the AFLC Headquarters, December 1, 2023 at 8am

# Present

Pastor Earl Korhonen, Wanda Jacobson, Pastor Craig Johnson, Dr. Lyle Mattson, Ken Sletten, Pastor David Johnson and Pastor Jerry Nelson.

# **Meeting Called to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Craig Johnson.

### Devotions

Revelation 2:1-7 (Why is the church in Ephesus scolded – complacency, apathy, ease – like us) – Ken Sletten

# Agenda Approval

202335 MSC LM/JN to accept the Agenda for the meeting

# **Approval of Minutes**

Approval of minutes – page 4 – (Iline) one L Page 6 – Jon's Seminary Update: "goals" should be "goal" Page 8 – Nate and Rhoda Jore - "finish the final book" should be "finish teaching the final book" Page 11 – "Setell" should be "SETELL" (all caps)

202336 MSC KS/JN to accept corrected minutes

# **Director's Report**

Began with a brief devotional discussing Acts 14:16-17 Discussed his upcoming travel and teaching commitments Presented the coming furlough schedules for several missionaries

# Administration

### Updates from previous meeting:

Brief discussion on items discussed at the previous meeting in October. No new information. Discussion of the Raans Visa situation stemmed from Brent's recent emails. Uganda seems to be reviewing both the Visa and the AFLC Ambassador Institute NGO.

### Personal Support Update

The Board reviewed the balances for each missionary personal support accounts. There are still one or two which appear lower than desired, but most are doing well. Several of those reviewed are solid in their financial support accounts.

### **Budget Review**

Paul Handsaker (Mission Corp treasurer) joined the WMB as the 2024 budget was analyzed and evaluated. Expense line items were reviewed and increases/decreases were suggested in the process. Various departments saw slight increases due to costs and expected ministry opportunities. Paul Handsaker left the meeting at the completion of the financial discussion.

202337 MSC JN/LM to accept the adjusted 2024 Budget

### **Potential Journey Missions Policy Update**

Code of conduct – (Presented by Pr. Jerry) for completion by each Missionary Assistant. The WMB discussed the need for possible clarification of the application language. Conversation ensued about both handbook and Code of Conduct statements concerning behaviors and Mental Health experiences. It was suggested that both use the same language for the sake of uniformity and clarity.

### Policy Manual Changes: Retirement and social security benefits

WMB has been advised that our policy for continuation of service beyond Social Security Eligibility must comply with MN Law. We must be careful about anti-discrimination laws. Specific action (if necessary) will be forthcoming.

### Children's Education Policy Clarification

It was affirmed that extracurricular activities are considered a family expense. These expenses are to be covered by the parents and not reimbursable as children's education costs. Mileage expenses involving children's education are reviewed, case by case, on the basis of need and the unique requirements for each child.

202338 MSC LM/KS to adopt policy update for Policy and Procedure Manual.

### Additional Brazil Special Projects

\$50 <i>,</i> 000
\$6 <i>,</i> 000
\$10,500
\$12,500

202339 MSC DJ/LM to approve 1, 2, and 4. #3 is declined.

# **Clergy housing Allowance**

#### Pastor Earl Korhonen

Whereas ministers who own or rent their home do not pay federal income taxes on the amount of their compensation that their employing church designates in advance as a housing allowance, to the extent that the allowance represents compensation for ministerial services, is used to pay housing expenses, and does not exceed the fair rental value of the home (furnished, plus utilities); and

Whereas **Pastor Earl Korhonen** is compensated by AFLC World Missions exclusively for services as a minister of the gospel and

Whereas AFLC World Missions does not provide **Pastor Earl Korhonen** with a parsonage; therefore,

It is hereby resolved, that for **Pastor Earl Korhonen** for calendar year 2024, and **\$50,000** is hereby designated to be a housing allowance.

and it is further resolved that the designation of **\$50,000** as a housing allowance shall apply to calendar year 2023 and all future years unless otherwise provided.

#### Pastor Paul Abel

Whereas ministers who own or rent their home do not pay federal income taxes on the amount of their compensation that their employing church designates in advance as a housing allowance, to the extent that the allowance represents compensation for ministerial services, is used to pay housing expenses, and does not exceed the fair rental value of the home (furnished, plus utilities); and

Whereas **Pastor Paul Abel** is compensated by AFLC World Missions exclusively for services as a minister of the gospel and

Whereas AFLC World Missions does not provide Pastor Paul Abel with a parsonage; therefore,

It is hereby resolved, that for **Pastor Paul Abel** for calendar year 2024, and **\$5,250** is hereby designated to be a housing allowance.

and it is further resolved that the designation of **\$5,250** as a housing allowance shall apply to calendar year 2023 and all future years unless otherwise provided.

#### Pastor Jonathan Abel

Whereas ministers who own or rent their home do not pay federal income taxes on the amount of their compensation that their employing church designates in advance as a housing allowance, to the extent that the allowance represents compensation for ministerial services, is used to pay housing expenses, and does not exceed the fair rental value of the home (furnished, plus utilities); and

Whereas **Pastor Jonathan Abel** is compensated by AFLC World Missions exclusively for services as a minister of the gospel; and

Whereas AFLC World Missions does not provide **Pastor Jonathan Abel** with a parsonage; therefore,

It is hereby resolved, that for **Pastor Jonathan Abel** for calendar year 2023, and **\$12,000** is hereby designated to be a housing allowance.

and it is further resolved that the designation of **\$12,000** as a housing allowance shall apply to calendar year 2024 and all future years unless otherwise provided.

#### Pastor Matthew Abel

Whereas ministers who own or rent their home do not pay federal income taxes on the amount of their compensation that their employing church designates in advance as a housing allowance, to the extent that the allowance represents compensation for ministerial services, is used to pay housing expenses, and does not exceed the fair rental value of the home (furnished, plus utilities); and

Whereas **Pastor Matthew Abel** is compensated by AFLC World Missions exclusively for services as a minister of the gospel; and

Whereas AFLC World Missions does not provide **Pastor Matthew Abel** with a parsonage; therefore,

It is hereby resolved, that for **Pastor Matthew Abel** for calendar year 2024, and **\$9,000** is hereby designated to be a housing allowance.

and it is further resolved that the designation of **\$9,900** as a housing allowance shall apply to calendar year 2023 and all future years unless otherwise provided.

#### Pastor Nathan Jore

Whereas ministers who own or rent their home do not pay federal income taxes on the amount of their compensation that their employing church designates in advance as a housing allowance, to the extent that the allowance represents compensation for ministerial services, is used to pay housing expenses, and does not exceed the fair rental value of the home (furnished, plus utilities); and

Whereas **Pastor Nathan Jore** is compensated by AFLC World Missions exclusively for services as a minister of the gospel; and

Whereas AFLC World Missions does not provide Pastor Nathan Jore with a parsonage; therefore,

It is hereby resolved, that for **Pastor Nathan Jore** for calendar year 2024, and **\$12,000** is hereby designated to be a housing allowance.

and it is further resolved that the designation of **\$12,000** as a housing allowance shall apply to calendar year 2023 and all future years unless otherwise provided.

#### Pastor John Lee

Whereas ministers who own or rent their home do not pay federal income taxes on the amount of their compensation that their employing church designates in advance as a housing allowance, to the extent that the allowance represents compensation for ministerial services, is used to pay housing expenses, and does not exceed the fair rental value of the home (furnished, plus utilities); and

Whereas **Pastor John Lee** is compensated by AFLC World Missions exclusively for services as a minister of the gospel; and

Whereas AFLC World Missions does not provide Pastor John Lee with a parsonage; therefore,

It is hereby resolved, that for **Pastor John Lee** for calendar year 2024, and **\$15,000** is hereby designated to be a housing allowance.

and it is further resolved that the designation of **\$15,000** as a housing allowance shall apply to calendar year 2023 and all future years unless otherwise provided.

Jonathon Nelson was added to the list of pastors receiving clergy housing allowances at \$38,000. Matthew Abel's housing allowance was changed to \$9,000.

202340 MSC KS/JN to approve the nine housing allowance resolutions listed above

### Salary Adjustments for 2024

Last year, the World Mission Board approved a 4% raise and a \$500 Christmas Bonus for all World Mission employees.

202341 MSC JN/KS to give \$500 Christmas bonus to all WM employees.

202342 MSC LM/DJ to increase salaries by %3 (cost of living increase)

### Jon Nelson – Journey Missions

Jon Nelson brought the board up to date on his schedule, studies, and travel itinerary.

### Nate and Rhoda Jore

Nate and Rhoda Jore presented their current opportunities as disciple-makers and church planters. Since returning to America, they have had several encounters with people from other nations coming to them...especially Ethiopians. They have prayed through these open-doors and have felt that God is maybe closing the door on permanent work in Uganda. On the other hand, there is still a need to return to Uganda for the purpose of saying good-byes and detailing their ongoing involvement in the ministry there. The WMB will continue to keep the lines of communication open with the Jores, while also praying that God would clarify their future plans and options in Minneapolis, Alaska, and around the US.

## John and Hannah Lee

John and Hannah Lee presented the highs and lows of ministry in Brazil. They spoke of the blessings of service at the school, and the need for workers in Brazil. They also shared some challenges ... administratively, and involving the house (contaminated water). They spoke of the benefits of continued oversight by the WMB on the ministry in Brazil, while also encouraging the unique tasks facing each.

# Michael Rokenbrodt

Michael Rokenbrodt joined the Board for a short presentation of his studies and goals for ministry. There was a review of Michael's schedule and plans for his return to Uganda. He also spoke of a unique ministry opportunity in Edinburgh, ND to train some of their members. The hope is that they would then be able to take some of the preaching/teaching responsibilities on themselves. Michael spoke of the possible use of his Ambassador/Orality experience in the training of the laity of the AFLC in general. Not sure how that may look in the future.

# Matthew Abel

Matthew and Ednay (Only Mafu was able to attend) presented to the WMB about ministry in Paraguay. Mafu said his personal health is doing much better as the virus has subsided. The symptoms have diminished greatly. Ednay's pregnancy is progressing well. The family is doing well, including making snowmen. The ministry in Paraguay continues. Turnout remains small, but consistent. The pavilion project remains exciting for the group. A member of Good Shepherd in Brainerd is a strong supporter of the project. Matthew shared about the two gentlemen who contacted him from Chile and Argentina. The one from Chile is still in contact, but has also contacted the FLBC. The Abels are preparing to return in January, but they have been on the road a lot recently. They still have responsibilities at several churches before Christmas. There is a constant need for workers in the harvest. MORE MISSIONARIES!!!

# **Brazil President**

President Iran and Janisley Goes are coming April 15-29 and staying with Connely Dyrud.

# **Travel Updates**

Pastor Earl Korhonen shared about his upcoming trip to India in January 2024.

Pastor Jerry Nelson shared about his trip to Mexico. It was a good trip, and he spoke highly about their experiences there. There was some discussion about the best route for Jose Flores as he considers his options. Pr. Earl elaborated on the status and health of the Flores family. Todd and Barb shared about the ministry in the area. They only heard gunfire one night.

## Puerto Rico and Switzerland Update

Pastor Earl Korhonen shared about the possibility to act as a mentor (5x per year) for Pastor Hector in Puerto Rico. He is in favor of this option, as required by the coordinating committee for his licensed-lay Pastor Certificate.

There was also discussion of the ministry and needs of the work in Switzerland. Augusto and Deise Fiuri are hoping to be at the 2024 AFLC Conference.

#### 202343 MSC LM/KS to approve expenses

### **Next Meeting**

Next Meeting planned for February 22-24 in California during the World Mission Board planning and vision meeting.

### Adjournment

#### 202344 MSC JN/KS to adjourn

Respectfully Submitted,

David Johnson Secretary