

World Missions Board of Directors Meeting

2/27/2025

World Missions Board of Directors Meeting

February 27, 2025

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Meeting date and Location

Meeting at Rancho Mirage, California, February 27-28, 2025 - 9 am

Present

Pr. Earl Korhonen, Wanda Jacobson, Pr. Craig Johnson, Dr. Lyle Mattson, Ken Sletten, Pr. David Johnson, Pr. Jerry Nelson, Sam Quanbeck, Pr. Ray Ballmann.

Meeting Called to Order

Pr. Craig Johnson

Devotions

Pr. Earl led a song to begin. Sam Quanbeck shared devotions from Proverbs.

Agenda Approval

Earl added one item – 2pm Jose Flores meet and greet – potential missionary

202503 MSC JN/SQ to accept the agenda

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from December 6, 2024, reviewed

Pg.4 transferring money from Jores account after their retirement to Raans as the need may arise.

“Board” instead of “Boards”

Pg.12 meeting is Feb 27-28 at Rancho Mirage, CA

202504 MSC KS/LM to accept corrected minutes

Minutes from December 20, 2024, and January 3, 2025, reviewed

Motion made to call the Ritlands as lay-candidates on 12/20 and

as lay-missionaries on 1/3/25 by unanimous decision.

Motion made to close the meeting 1/3/25 – passed.

Next step changed to TEAMS Video

202505 MSC KS/LM to accept the minutes from 12/20 and 1/3

Director's Report

Pr. Earl shared a brief devotional from Isaiah 1:8

Pr. Earl reviewed his past ministry stops and defined his future appointments for the first half of the year.

Pr. Earl also listed the upcoming furlough dates and requests.

He requested the Board's approval of his attendance and costs of CEO Peer 2 Peer Retreat in April. This would also include a visit at the Missionary Training International (MTI).

202506 MSC LM/KS to approve Pr. Earl's attendance (and spouse) at the Peer 2 Peer retreat

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Pr. Earl reviewed the updates under administration

A possible date for the WM Corp informational meeting is set for Thurs, 3/13/25. Approved for 7 pm (Central). This would include the pending approval of Chile as a new field for mission work.

The Board discussed the various issues surrounding Uganda (i.e. Ambassador Free Living Church of Uganda's organizational celebration in October. The possibility was discussed that Pr. Earl and Joan could visit Switzerland on the way back from Uganda.

Personal Support

Wanda posted a review of the income posted to each field missionary for the year so far in 2025. The amounts were limited, obviously, but things looked healthy. The WMB discussed any potential needs that may impact the missionaries (i.e. John Lee, etc)

Risk Assessment

Pr. Earl reviewed the current and previous issues faced by several of our missionaries. This need is being reviewed, and specific actions will be enforced as identified.

Abuse Prevention

Pr. Earl and Pr. Jerry Nelson is working on finding a suitable ministry that can come alongside AFLC WM to help us train our missionaries and staff in abuse prevention. CSPN appears to be a good fit for us. The Board discussed several elements of the CSPN program. Mark (though not present) was affirmed as a potential spearhead for this contact. He has addressed this need and expressed a willingness to participate in it.

202507 MSC KS/LM to agree with the CSPN Statement of Faith

202508 MSC SQ/JN to apply for membership to CSPN

202509 MSC KS/SQ to appoint Mark as the WMB representative to CSPN

Budget

Pr. David Handsaker (WM Corp Treasurer) joined the meeting

The overall budget was discussed and reviewed. The discussion centered on whether we should request a 3, 4, or 5% increase over the previous three years' incomes. The WMB went line-by-line through the various elements of the administration and individual support of the AFLC World Mission ministry.

202510 MSC LM/SQ to propose a 4% increase for our subsidy, making the subsidy request \$519,532.

202511 MSC KS/SQ to propose a subsidy request of \$775,000 for personal support

Administration (continued)

Mexico

Josue Flores – interested in being an AFLC missionary to a Spanish-speaking country. The schools require a \$60,000 per year guarantee. The WMB bantered several thoughts about this expectation. It was agreed that Josue would be expected to sign a contract or agreement for future ministry, whether in the States or on the field. It was also determined that the \$60,000 wasn't an inflated cost for all life expenses, but it would be troubling to cover those expenses by the WM ministry at this point.

Josue joined the meeting online and entered a Q&A session. He shared his testimony and explained how God has refined his desire towards ministry. We discussed some of the various ways in which the future may unfold.

Pr.'s Craig and Earl will continue the line of communication between the Seminary and Josue. Jerry prayed for Josue as we closed our time with him.

Brazil

John and Hannah Lee joined the meeting via online. There was a time of updating and chitchat. The Lee's brought the Board up-to-date on some of the challenges and blessings since the accident. Healing is happening and wonderful answers to prayer are being seen. John shared some of his own experiences in healing and counseling...shame and frustration are being healed by our loving Heavenly Father. Hannah has also been a blessing in the process, as have many others surrounding them. They have had a wonderful counselor throughout the process. John explained some of the constructive ways he is dealing with his stress. He mentioned that Hannah may also begin seeing a counselor soon.

John relayed some of the ways the school is responding to their situation, as well as some of their input in other areas. He shared how the enrollment may increase slightly. He shared how things need to improve in the administration (a functioning school board to support Silvio) and the ongoing benefits that would come from that scenario. Silvio also needs to be willing to release some of the burden to others. He shared how the congregations need to truly own the ministry of the school/seminary. The staff also need to improve their communication and deepen relationships.

Ken prayed for John and Hannah as we signed off.

Director's Review

The WMB reviewed the various traits and accomplishments of the World Mission Director, Pr. Earl Korhonen. The Board evaluated Pr. Earl as we progressed line-by-line through his performance review. The WMB expressed how blessed we are to have Pr. Earl as our AFLC WM director. We also reviewed the goals established for the director position. These observations

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were reviewed with Pr. Earl. Time was also given for Pr. Korhonen to respond and reflect on his review.

Missionary Pipeline

Jon Nelson and Pr. Earl is developing a visual to assist in the recruitment of potential missionaries and supporters.

Missionary Videos

Andrew Abel is willing to do the filming and create 90-second clips to be used for the education and communication of various World Mission needs. Costs and materials to be evaluated.

Reserve Funds

Wanda reviewed the use of this fund. It currently stands at \$70,000. The discussion was to add more to the Reserve Fund (possibly another \$20,000) as is recommended in the Reserve Fund policy.

202512 MSC KS/SQ to transfer \$10,000 from interest earned and \$10,000 from legacies to the reserve fund.

WM Policy and Procedures Manual Proposed Change

Section 709 Medical Requirements language needs to be updated. Our medical terminology requirements should be updated to reflect the needed evaluation accurately. Suggestions were made, and the words “psychological” evaluation and “psychologist” were changed to “mental health” and “mental health provider.”

202513 MSC JN/KS to update the language.

Brazil extras

The WMB discussed the input and review of the current status of SETELL. There are definite issues revolving around the ministry of the school, and there may be actions that AFLC WM needs to take to stabilize the seminary. It was suggested that this may be a situation for an outside review. This would involve an impartial outsider to evaluate the concerns. A suggestion was made to schedule another audio/online meeting with the entire board of SETELL for March 11 at 4:30 p.m. (Central Time).

Meeting date and Location (Friday morning)

Meeting at Rancho Mirage California February 27-28, 2025 - 9am

Present

Pr. Earl Korhonen, Wanda Jacobson, Pr. Craig Johnson, Dr. Lyle Mattson, Ken Sletten, Pr. David Johnson, Pr. Jerry Nelson, Sam Quanbeck

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Devotions

Pr. Earl led a song to begin. Pr. Craig shared devotions from Exodus 18ff.

Meeting Called to Order

Pr. Craig Johnson

Phone meeting with the Ritlands

Zachariah and Carey brought us up to date on their travel plans and deputation efforts. They also spoke of their language training and some cultural prep work that they are pursuing as they prepare for Paraguay. There was a time of Q&A from both sides regarding Ritland's preparation for the field.

Lyle closed our call with the Ritlands.

Paraguay

No new issues to address – but a great appreciation was shared about their various social media.

Chile

There will be an article in the April issue of the Ambassador on the possible outreach in Chile. A trip is planned for May to investigate the ministry there more fully and explore the possible connection between us and them.

Michael Rokenbrodt

Pr. Earl updated the Board on the conversations he has had with the FLS. His educational schedule is slated to be:

2026 – January-May Final Semester of seminary

2026 – May-July Uganda

2026 – August-May 2027 Congregational internship

Eventually, he would transition out of Uganda and perhaps assist Josiah and Mandie Charon in Turkey.

(Call with Michael)

He reviewed a recent paper for his seminary class and also described an upcoming drama he is directing at the Bible College/Seminary. He brought the Board up to date on his coursework and Seminary experiences. He spoke of the commonalities and applications between the academic and the practical.

Michael updated the status of the church in Uganda. He said things were moving along but still needed a couple of documents for approval. They continue to move ahead in ministry as the process unfolds. The people remain strong, and the relationships are good. There is a hunger for more instruction and mentoring. The training was received with great enthusiasm by many. They don't have a clear model or plan for growth but are moving in that direction.

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Michael also discussed the possibility of moving into a second field. He mentioned that he really needs another person to work alongside. He is not the strongest as a singular missionary. He feels his strongest when working as an assistant alongside others. Several options were discussed. He mentioned that his schedule could be rearranged, allowing him to travel to other regions at different times of the year.

Jerry closed the call with Michael with prayer.

India

Several AFLC pastors have inquired about joining the team in India for teaching opportunities. However, some of them are difficult to work with, or not open to supporting the needs of the field. The board reinforced the role of Pr. Earl, Pr. Craig, or others, to vet those joining in these trips.

Vision and Goals

Administration

The board discussed the first “SMART” Goal sheet submitted by Ray Ballmann. Pr. Earl and Wanda will establish the process of determining goals and expectations for each mission position to start and then reviewed by the entire board. The goal on the sheet is at the close of each year. This process will continue throughout this coming year.

Phone meeting with Mark Sivertson (Vice-President of Development)

Mark shared a bit of his testimony with the Board. He has been at Abiding Savior in Sioux Falls for several decades. He explained that his involvement with the AFLC, specifically the Development Department, has been ongoing for many years. He has spent a significant amount of time meeting with the various department heads and their boards. Mark explained that this is much more than a simple vocational decision – it is a calling of the Lord. He answers to Pr. Micah and the Co-Coordinating Committee.

The Board then discussed how we can best utilize the services of Mark and the entire Development Department.

Vision and Goals Continued

Administration

The Board discussed the second of the two SMART goal suggestions by Ray Ballmann. There were several concerns over the specifics of the goal sheet vs. what was available at the time. There was benefit in being intentional about our future goals and needs. However, to some extent, the planning for expansion coordinates with God’s call of individuals. (i.e. Expansion in Turkey requires a person/couple feeling a call to minister in Turkey) There is also a practice in the AFLC

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to have approval from the Annual Conference to expand to various countries. There was also concern for the date on the sheet – July 31, 2025. It was felt that this date may be a bit aggressive. Ray Ballmann joined the meeting after our call with the SETELL board. We continued the discussion of Goals and Objectives

The board reviewed the success of our previous goals, and the actions taken to move forward with those concerns. Several of the evaluations have been completed, though a couple remain undone.

Time ran out, so the following will work on establishing vision and goals for the following regions to present at a video meeting May 8, 2025 - 7pm (central):

- David – India
- Jerry – Mexico
- Ken – Paraguay
- Sam/Craig – Brazil
- Lyle – Uganda
- Mark – Switzerland / Europe
- Earl/Jon – Journey Missions

SETELL - Video call

The call involved John Lee as translator, Silvio, Paulo, and Joel. The call was congenial and informative. They shared about the camp, which is just beginning (250 youth, 100 adults). Pr. Jonathan Unverzagt is the speaker. They also shared some of the various challenges facing the SETELL, including the difficult interactions within the Board of the Seminary.

The Board discussed some of the issues and concerns of those on the call. It was designed to be calming and good-natured, and it was that.

Next meeting

Scheduled for May 8, 2025, 7 pm via TEAM online.

The Annual Conference Meeting of the WMB will be on Wednesday, June 11, 2025, at 8 am, at the Mission House.

202514 MSC JN/KS to approve expenses for the Feb. 27-28 WMB retreat

Adjournment

202515 MSC JN/KS to adjourn

Respectfully Submitted,

David Johnson
Secretary