

Midlands Mission Center
April 7, 2024 Conference Minutes
Held Via Zoom and in person
Mission Road Congregation at 3:00 p.m.

Call to Order

After the singing of hymn #70, *God is Here*, and an invocation by Dave Hall, the Midlands Mission Center Conference was called to order by mission center president team member, Allen Keehler. Sharon Robertson has agreed to serve as secretary. Minutes of the previous business meeting, October 15, 2023, are available on the MMC website and on page 6 of the conference bulletin. These minutes were approved by the Leadership Advisory Council.

Priesthood Call

Allen Keehler called for a motion to approve the call of Kerri Booth to serve in the office of High Priest. The motion was made by Jim Diddle and it was seconded. Kerri shared a brief testimony of acceptance of the call. Statements of support were given by Ramona Collins, Charlie Fillinger and Mindy Day. The vote was taken and the call of Kerri Booth to the office of High Priest was approved.

Business Session Suspended

Business Session Reconvened

After a worship service and break, President Team member Kat Hnatyshyn reconvened the business session to consider two HVAC resolutions and two resolutions to be considered for submission to World Conference 2025. She implemented standing rules that will allow 3 minutes for the mover of the motion, 3 minutes for the first opposition speaker and a 2-minute time frame for any subsequent comments. She requested that any amendments come in writing.

Steve Beckman moved that HVAC Resolution #1 be approved. (see attached resolution), The resolution received a second and was approved.

Steve Beckman moved that HVAC Resolution #2 be approved. (see attached resolution), The resolution received a second and was approved.

A question was asked by an online viewer about the balance of the reserve fund. It was answered that the reserve fund balance after the two gifts, provided in the resolutions, would be \$165,000.00.

Dave Hall made a motion to approve the resolution titled Bicentennial Doctrine and Covenants. The motion received a second. (see attached resolution)

A motion was made to amend the resolution by removing the word consider from the resolved statement. It received a second. A vote on the amendment was taken and it failed.

After some discussion the vote was taken on the original resolution and it passed.

Paul DeBarthe made the motion to approve the resolution titled "Divine Image Calling Us!" with the addition of the word "to" ("modern world "to" be prepared) which was inadvertently omitted. (see attached resolution)

There was second. After some discussion the vote was taken and the resolution passed.

Dave Hall asked and Kat clarified that these resolutions would be submitted to World Conference 2025 from the Midlands Mission Center.

Kat asked for new business and hearing none adjourned the conference with the hymn #636, *I Have Called You by Your Name* and a benediction by Stan Troeh.

Respectively Submitted,

Sharon Robertson

HVAC Resolution #1

Whereas Midlands Mission Center has an ownership stake in the Lake Doniphan Campgrounds, and

Whereas the existing HVAC system for the Lake Doniphan Main Lodge is approximately 50 years old and has reached the end of its serviceable life and needs to be replaced, and

Whereas the Lake Doniphan Campground Board voted to replace the existing HVAC system serving the Lake Doniphan Main Lodge and

Whereas the Midlands Mission Center Advisory Council has authorized gifting the outstanding balance of the pool loan of approximately \$10,000.00 and loaning \$15,000.00 at 0% to Lake Doniphan Campgrounds to cover part of the minimum down payment to secure funding from a World Church House of Worship Loan and

Whereas Midlands Mission Center has enough funds in reserve to pay for this amount without requiring repayment of the funds, therefore be it

Resolved, that the Midlands Mission Center will gift the \$15,000 amount to Lake Doniphan Campground instead of asking for the 0% loan to be repaid to the Midlands Mission Center.

HVAC Resolution #2

Whereas Midlands Mission Center has an ownership stake in the Chihowa Retreat Center and

Whereas the existing HVAC system for the Lake Lodge is approximately 30 years old and has reached the end of its serviceable life and needs to be replaced, and

Whereas the Chihowa Retreat Center Board voted to replace the existing HVAC system serving the Lake Lodge and

Whereas the Midlands Mission Center Advisory Council has authorized up to a \$30,000.00 0% loan to Chihowa Retreat Center to replace the needed HVA system and

Whereas Midlands Mission Center has enough funds in reserve to pay for this amount without requiring repayment of the funds, therefore be it

Resolved, that the Midlands Mission Center will gift up to the \$30,000.00 amount to Chihowa Retreat Center instead of asking for the 0% loan to be repaid to the Midlands Mission Center.

The Bicentennial Doctrine and Covenants

Whereas, the Community of Christ embraces their enduring principle of continuing revelation and

Whereas, Continuing revelations are compiled and published in the Doctrine and Covenants and

Whereas, Concerns expressed as in section 116 brought before the 2023 conference emphasize the need for clarification of historical and cultural context in which documents were received as scripture and

Whereas, The conference action removing some sections to an appendix and a later resolution 1215 removed the appendix leaving unexplained gaps in the book and related issues and

Whereas, A book can be expected to pay for its publication by its sales and

Whereas, The digital searchable edition of the Doctrine and Covenants provided in 2023 adds significantly to our scriptural repository and

Whereas, A new edition celebrating our bicentennial in 2030 would have a revitalizing effect, therefore be it

Resolved, That this conference request the First Presidency consider preparing a bicentennial edition of the Doctrine and Covenants to include; historical and cultural contexts of revelations to facilitate understanding, clarifying our appreciation of scripture, and celebrating our heritage, and be it further

Resolved, That the First Presidency consider making it available in multiple languages online at no cost, while at the same time being available bound for purchase.

Divine Insights Calling Us! (as amended by the mover)

Whereas, the Community of Christ offers scripture unique and instructive to the world and

Whereas, Section 163 invites us to become a prophetic people, sharing our sacred journey, and

Whereas, From the beginning, God has spoken to humanity through many sources including truth and knowledge, hymns, personal revelation, arts, and sciences in every culture representing divine insights and

Whereas, Great religions share commonalities with the gospel of Christ, therefore be it

Resolved, That the First Presidency Consider a compilation-abridgment of God's insights to the modern world to be prepared by qualified volunteers appointed to this mission by the First Presidency to highlight counsel, inspiration and support for the Enduring Principles, from the world's cultures and be it further

Resolved, That the first Presidency consider making this edition available in multiple languages online at no cost to the consumer. (However, it may also be bound and sold), and be it further

Resolved, That the First Presidency consider making a draft of this compilation-abridgement available in 2028 to the joint council and a refined copy be prepared for the bi-centennial celebration of the Book of Mormon and establishment of the Church in 2030.