

Minutes from April 2024

Cedar Valley-Nauvoo Mission Center Special Conference

Opening Hymn: 385

Benediction: Brad Bengé

Kent LeVan, Co-Mission Center President, assumed the chair and called the conference to order. Lois DiPrima was designated to record the minutes.

LeVan read the two proposed resolutions presented by Robert Cook, MC Financial Officer. Fred Elliot moved to approve the resolutions as presented. Second by Deb Luce.

Robert Cook assumed the chair and offered a history surrounding the proposed resolutions and clarified that the intent of the resolutions is to revert the financial control over church properties/assets back to the local congregations. Cook clarified that the resolutions could be approved as presented, rewritten entirely, or just tweaked a bit based on what today's body approves.

Discussion on Resolution #1:

- If proposed resolutions are revised, is another meeting required for final approval. Answer: yes.
- Can the resolutions be combined with other mission centers/congregations that have the same request for presentation to World Conference? Answer: No, mutual/combined resolutions are not considered.
- Does final approval go to the World Conference body or a review committee? Answer: World Conference resolutions are voted on by the body.
- Are these resolutions our only resource? Answer: This process is the only formal recourse the mission center has at this time.
- When did the Church's financial shift happen? Answer: In 2017 and again during the need to cover Bridge of Hope funding.
- Some comments were shared opposing the resolutions due to their divisiveness that could hurt the relationship with World Church, other congregations, national congregations, etc. We are a world-wide church; not just a local mission center.
- Can resolutions be presented from the floor during World Conference? No.
- Several comments were shared on the lack of transparency on this process.

Deb Batey called the motion. Second by Dawn Durgin. Vote taken. Motion carried. (21 in favor and 3 opposed)

Discussion on Resolution #2:

- Are accounts given to the congregations? Answer: AIP accounts will return to prior practice. A review of the history of the AIP accounts was shared.
- If contributing to World Church, don't know if they go to escrow. We now have AIP available. AIP fund withdrawals have to be approved.

- Was AIP to be in the investment pool and can the congregations approve to invest? Answer: The Presiding Bishopric makes the financial decisions.
- What is the basis for assumption of AIP forms? What is the proof or information? Answer: Investment A was cleared. Can be used. Robert Cook read the policy regarding Investment Pool Terms of Service of Local Investments.
- CofC is a world church, congregations are branches of this world church, there is no "they". World Church invests our monies. We need to show how to meet obligations.

Deb Batey called the motion. Second by Julie Bengé. Vote taken. Motion carried.
(17 in favor and 8 opposed)

The two resolutions will be submitted to World Conference for consideration.

Kent LeVan assumed the chair and thanked all those who attended.

Closing Hymn: *640, Here Am I, Lord*

Benediction: Dawn Durgin

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lois DiPrima

Proposed Resolutions from Robert Cook, Cedar Valley-Nauvoo Mission Center Treasurer

Respectfully submitted for consideration by the mission center during the April 21, 2024, Special Conference to be held at Camp Nauvoo beginning at 2:30 PM.

RESOLUTION #1

WHEREAS, World Church has declared that they have the unilateral authority to take and/or to sell any property held in the name of Community of Christ at any level of administration of the church, and

WHEREAS, this has not been the historical practice of the church, and

BE IT RESOLVED, that World Church, in their role as trustee of the entire church, will give priority in property decisions to the interests of the primary stewards, those responsible for the preservation and protection of church property. This includes not selling property without the consent of the primary stewards or in the case where the primary stewards are unable to act, then the consent goes to the next higher administrative level of stewards, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the net proceeds of any sale of property should stay with the current primary steward or if that current steward no longer exists or is unable to act, then the net proceeds will go to the next higher steward in the administration.

RESOLUTION #2

WHEREAS, World Church has frozen field assets in the AIP system and indicated that they would borrow, at 0% for an indefinite time, any funds they need to satisfy their retirement obligations, and

WHEREAS, this has made field stewards reluctant to put more funds in the AIP accounts and those stewards have been thereby damaged by not having available an option to invest wisely, and

WHEREAS, in the past World Church promised that funds deposited in the AIP pool would always be available to the depositors, and

BE IT RESOLVED, that World Church will operate the financial pool known as the AIP system, to invest funds wisely from various field organizations and to provide that those funds will always be available to the field organizations that deposited them, or if the depositor organization cannot act or no longer exists, then the funds will be at the disposal of the next higher administrative organization.