



Diocesan Council Meeting June 20, 2025 - Jamestown Minutes

Present, Friday night:

The Rt. Rev. Brian Thom, The Rev. Dn. Elsie Magnus, John Baird, The Rev. Dn. Beth Lipp, Jason Thoms, The Rev. John Floberg, Tyrrell DeCoteau, The Rev. Dn. John Anderson, Donna Pettit, Susan Lisok, The Rev. Robert Hoekstra, Jael Mogga, Raphael DeCoteau, Rachel Schmidt, Leo Wilking, Ashley Hubbard

Excused, Friday night:

Elaine McLaughlin, George Abdilnour, Karilee Lieberman, Amy Phillips

Absent, Friday night:

The Rev. Lindsey Dwarf

Red items are included in / referencing the June Council Packet (page #s are in parentheses)

Assignments/action items highlighted in yellow. Motions highlighted in blue.

Friday, June 20th 7:10-8:25pm

I. Welcome and Opening Prayers (Bishop Brian)

II. Land Acknowledgment and Respectful Communication Guidelines (pp. 4-5)

III. Business Session

A. Review Action Items from previous meeting(s)

1. Finance Committee to review Trust & Endowment Funds: too restrictive or should be spent/repurposed. Include the Q1 T&E numbers in the June packet.
2. First Tuesday Leadership Zoom meetings are intended for all parish and diocesan leaders

3. Council/diocese awareness of all dates related to bishop selection process. The Standing Committee will begin preparations for a Transition Committee
 4. Ashley Hubbard will take minutes at the June Council meeting since Amy Phillips is unavailable.
 5. WoDakota report made available when funds have been received.
 6. Finance Committee will need to look at ways to sustain a priest at St. John the Divine, Moorhead
 7. Sabbatical policy approved, as amended by Council
 8. Diocesan leadership invited to May 16th meeting with Texas delegation
 9. Bishop will contact Fr. Bart Davis about experience with mineral rights
 10. Amy Phillips will write an article about Public Advocacy Policy (amended) for the *Prairie*
 11. Proceed with sale of All Saints, Valley City
- B. **Approval of April 2025 Council Minutes (pp. 6-12)** - Beth Lipp moved to approve, Robert Hoekstra seconded, motion passed.
- C. **Finance Report YTD 05-31-2025 (pp. 13-28)** - Finance Committee met on June 17, 2025 - Bishop reviewed the Report.
1. Discussion surrounding Diocesan Stewardship Share and Diocesan Stewardship Share Previous Year (Lines 1010 & 1020).
 2. Discussion surrounding specific expense line items.
 3. Discussion surrounding Rolette County Taxes.
 4. Discussion surrounding Designated & Donor Restricted Fund - Camp Gabriel: Timing issue, not a budget issue.
 5. Robert Hoekstra moved to approve financial reports, seconded by John Floberg, motion passed.
 6. Discussion surrounding balance of the **Designated & Donor Restricted Funds (pg. 20-27)** - \$6,000 Covid Relief Grant
 - a) John Floberg moved to move the remaining Covid Relief Grant money to the 2025 WoDakota Annual Appeal, seconded by Leo Wilking, motion passed.

Break for Inclement Weather, Meeting into Recess at 7:53pm.

Meeting resumed at 8:13pm.

- D. Diocesan Treasurer
1. Discussion, goal to have treasurer in place by March 14, 2026.
 2. Susan Lisok (St. John the Divine, Moorhead) offered to be Diocesan Treasurer.
- E. St. John the Divine, Moorhead - Sewer System
1. Discovered that the city never reconnected the city sewer system back to the church.
 2. The Diocese has paid one bill to the plumber.

3. Leo Wilking stated that if more people are involved, could become a class action lawsuit.

F. 2026 Annual Convention

1. In April 2024 at Diocesan Council, it was decided that 2025 would be held at Prairie Knights Casino on Standing Rock, and 2026 would be held in Minot, ND.
2. Robert Hoekstra moved that the 2026 Annual Diocesan Convention be held in Minot, ND, Leo Wilking seconded, motion passed.

G. General Convention Deputies (82nd General Convention - Summer of 2027)

1. Question as to when we elect deputies.
2. Publicize and elect at Diocesan Convention 2025.

Tyrrell DeCoteau made a motion to adjourn, John Baird seconded, motion passed. ***Night prayers and recess.***

*Due to inclement weather and no power, the Saturday session of council was cancelled.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ashley Hubbard, Diocesan Missioner