

# LLB Meeting Minutes: July 29, 2024 (As approved 8-26-2024)

**Subject/Purpose:** Regular monthly meeting

**Date:** Monday, July 29, 2024  
**Time:** 5:30 PM

**Location:** Meeting Space 3, Christ Lincoln Sumner  
**Online:** NA

## Participants:

**LLB Members:**  indicates in attendance  absent Name (LLB term) Office held if any

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jud Jesske (1 <sup>st</sup> 2024) Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kristy Plander (2 <sup>nd</sup> 2026) Personnel Committee Chair
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David Mueller (1 <sup>st</sup> 2026) Vice-Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shayla Reed (1 <sup>st</sup> 2024) Policy Committee Chair
<input type="checkbox"/> Rick Stowell (2 <sup>nd</sup> 2025) Secretary	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ron Bender (1 <sup>st</sup> 2026) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Todd Loseke (1 <sup>st</sup> 2026)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lori Johnson (1 <sup>st</sup> 2025) <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant (2025)

**CL staff:** Michael Eckelkamp (Senior Executive Director of Ministry)  
Kyle Kaldahl (Treasurer)

## Desired Outcomes of the meeting:

- Leaders have feedback and direction desired to advance highlighted ministry items.

## Agenda items

**Call to order / Opening prayer:** Jud opened the meeting at 5:30 p.m. Pastor Eckelkamp gave opening prayer. Shayla took notes in Rick's absence (travel for work).

**Minutes from prior meeting:** Ron noted that the minutes needed to be corrected to reflect that Kyle Kaldahl was not present (family affected by flooding) to introduce the budget. ***Ron moved (Kristy 2<sup>nd</sup>) to approve the minutes with those changes. Minutes were approved by unanimous vote.***

Business Item:	Purpose: Inform/Discuss/Decide	Material provided prior to or at the meeting	Duration
Ministry report	Provide update	Video report, Infographics	15 min

### 1. Standing Committee on Lay Eldership

Pastor Eckelkamp noted the need to create a standing Committee on Lay Eldership as set forth in Article V, Section 2 of the Bylaws, to support our pastors. He will be meeting with the other pastors this week and will report back to the LLB within the next 60 days concerning his recommendation for the committee.

### 2. Men and Women Leading in Worship Whisper Sessions

Pastor Eckelkamp reported that the whisper/listening sessions are going well. He is looking at creating a study that consists of 5-10 sessions, 90 minutes in length, once a month or every other week that will address topics such as biblical history on this topic, headship, difficult/controversial Bible passages, other studies, positions and practices. He envisions assigning homework to participants and holding sessions at both campuses.

### 3. Yankee Hill Pastor search

Pastor Eckelkamp reported that he has communicated with District President Snow to assess the current candidate pool and narrowed the list down to 19 potential candidates. The Call Committee will work to narrow the current list down to ten candidates and begin working through the evaluation process. The Call Committee meets again at the end of August.

**4. Making Room Campaign**  
 Pastor Eckelkamp reported that this process is going very well and that James Moseman, who had been very ill for a few weeks, has again been busy making home visits to encourage participation.

**5. Infographics on Finances and Biblical Generosity and Worship**  
 Pastor Eckelkamp shared infographics created by Josiah Janke that summarize key financial performance indicators for each quarter and an infographic outlining key numbers related to worship. The purpose of these graphics is to communicate key numbers to the congregation concerning finances and worship on a quarterly basis. The graphics were well-received overall by the LLB but there was some concern that the font may be too small in places.

**Recommendations:** Continue efforts.

<b>Old Business</b>	Update and inform	Draft LLB questions for Cong. Survey	15 min
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**1. Lincoln Lutheran School Association (LLSA)**  
 Pastor Eckelkamp noted that there have been changes in leadership on the LLSA Board, including that Autumn Crable is now representing Christ Lincoln on the board. The next meeting will be August 27<sup>th</sup>.  
 Discussion:  
 LLB discussed the effectiveness of communication of these issues to members of the congregation with children attending Lincoln Lutheran. Pastor Eckelkamp noted that we will continue our efforts to negotiate a sustainable funding model to better serve our congregation in the long term.

**2. Congregational Survey**  
 Kristy reported that the subcommittee met on July 8<sup>th</sup> to discuss what questions to include in the survey. Staff leaders in each area covered in the survey were asked to submit five questions concerning that area. The subcommittee also drafted five questions concerning the LLB and circulated them to the LLB. The next survey meeting will be held in August.  
 Discussion:  
 LLB members discussed the proposed questions and made some suggestions.

**3. Congregational Meeting**  
 The date for the annual Congregational Meeting was set for Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup>, at 12:30 p.m., and will be held in the West Ministry Center of the Sumner Campus. A run-through is scheduled for November 17<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 p.m. in the WMC.

**Recommendations:** Continue efforts.

<b>New Business</b>			5 min
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**1. Funding for laptops**  
 Pastor Eckelkamp requested that \$20,000 of contingency funds be allocated to replace outdated laptops for staff.  
 Discussion:  
 Kyle Kaldahl answered questions about the Contingency Fund and the Special Projects Fund and the current amount of funds in the Contingency Funds.  
**Ron moved to approve the request that \$20,000 of contingency funds be allocated to replace outdated laptops for staff (Shayla 2<sup>nd</sup>). The motion carried by unanimous vote.**

## 2. Recognition

Kyle suggested that the LLB recognize Bruce McKeag for his service on the Financial Oversight Committee during the Annual Meeting. There was no objection to this suggestion.

### Decisions/Recommendations:

- Approved using \$20k of contingency funds to replace outdated laptops for staff.
- Recognize Bruce McKeag at the Annual Meeting.

{Note: Subsequent to the meeting, Mark L'Heureux clarified that an alternative plan was in place for replacing the laptops, thus, the \$20k was not expended and remained in the contingency fund.}

Reports	Update	Questions about call process and elections	5 min
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### Financial:

Kyle provided an update on the monthly finances and status of the budget.

A Financial Town Hall is scheduled for August 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in the North Ministry Center. Members of the congregation are invited to attend and ask questions related to church and school finances.

### Nominating:

Dave reported that the Nominating Committee met on June 26<sup>th</sup>. They have received the names of 35 people who are interested or have been recommended to serve on the LLB. The committee will work to narrow this list before presenting recommendations to the LLB.

Dave asked how Cole Weihe's resignation will affect the term of any newly appointed member. Shayla clarified that Article VI, Section 3 of the By-Laws provides that *"in the event that any position on the LLB becomes vacant for any reason, the LLB shall, by simple majority vote, fill the vacant position for the remainder of the unexpired term."* The By-Laws further provide that any individual appointed to fill a vacancy remains eligible to be elected to a first full term of office.

Dave asked how to handle filling the new Treasurer officer position, in light of recent amendments, and whether Kyle needs to formally become a member of the LLB before he can move to the Treasurer position. Shayla noted that she would research the policies, By-Laws and Constitution on this issue.

Personnel: No report.

### Policy:

Rick had raised via email questions of whether the LLB had authority to appoint/elect LLB officers and whether all policies were in effect to give LLB authority to extend calls to non-pastoral called workers. Shayla noted that she would research the Constitution and By-Laws and report back to the LLB.

Shayla reported that the policy manual review and revisions were nearly complete, with the exception of the provision concerning LLB meeting agenda structure and the policies contained in the appendix. The Policy Committee expressed a sincere thank you to all LLB members who appeared for several separate two-hour meetings to get the entire policy manual reviewed and updated.

**Recommendation:** The LLB needs to appoint someone to fill Cole Weihe's vacancy.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.