

Diocese of Rupert's Land
Executive Committee Minutes
February 21, 2023, Zoom

Present = P Partially Present = P* Regrets = R Absent = A (*) = *ex officio*

P	Akinwale, The Rev. Wilson	P	Rampton, The Rev. Andrew
P	Blaikie, The Ven. Simon (*Exec. Arch.)	P*	Ripley, Jim (*Chancellor)
P	Cummings, Lucy	P	Robinson, The Rev. Theo
P	Dorrian, Colin	P	Routley, Mrs. Sharon (*Treasurer)
P	Johnson, The Very Rev. Paul (*Dean)	P	Russell, Mr. Gary
R	Labdon, The Ven. Dave (*Archdeacon)	P	Woodcroft, The Rt. Rev. Geoffrey (*Bishop)
P	Lampman, The Ven. Paul (*Archdeacon)	Staff (Present not voting)	
R	Mawejje, The Ven. Godfrey (*Archdeacon)	P	Nixon, Melissa (office coordinator)
P	Manzongo, The Ven. Naboth (*Archdeacon)	P	Valencerina, Joy (director of finance)

1. Call to Order -1:31 pm

Welcome, opening prayer – Read by S. Blaikie

2. Land Acknowledgement – Read by S. Blaikie

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion: *Be it resolved that the Agenda for the 21 February 2023 meeting of the Executive Committee be approved.*

Moved by P. Johnson, Seconded by P. Lampman **Carried**

4. Approval of Minutes from 17 January 2023

Motion: *Be it resolved that the meeting minutes from 17 January 2023 of the Executive Committee be approved.*

Moved by S. Routley, Seconded by G. Woodcroft **Carried**

5. Reports of Diocesan Officers

A. Finance

Motion: *Be it resolved that the Executive Committee receive the 2023 Draft Diocesan budget*

Moved by S. Routley, Seconded by G. Woodcroft **Carried**

S. Routley presented the 2023 Draft Diocesan budget with a projected deficit of - \$315,405.00. She noted that this budget does not include any extraordinary events, and while we project a high deficit, it could still increase. S. Routley asked that when we are reviewing the budget, please ask yourselves if this deficit budget is an expense or an investment in ourselves. It will not change the accounting but it may help us change our attitude. We have to find a way to help parishes recover and grow and it is going to require an investment.

P. Lampman asked if we pass this budget, would the diocese be able to cover payroll. S. Routley replied that there is not enough funds in the general fund to cover payroll at this time and that the principal from the Investment named 'New Church Development Fund' would need to be used.

A. Rampton asked how we arrived at the budget amount for the proposed New Ministry Developer.

G. Woodcroft explained that it was a best guess by adjusting the previous ministry developer salary for change and inflation.

C. Dorrian asks about the increase year to year for Diocesan Staff. Bishop G. Woodcroft replies that the staff increases was from the 3 part time positions that were increased from 19 hours a week to 20 hours a week, with this 1 hour increase, these employees now are eligible for benefits. This change was a moral decision by

the bishop and ensured we could make the positions more desirable. The rest of the increase can be explained by the 8% COLA increase to the stipend staff.

P. Johnson asks if this is the worst deficit we have seen since WWII, G. Woodcroft nods in confirmation

Motion: *Be it resolved that the Executive Committee defer a motion of recommendation of the 2023 Draft Diocesan Budget until the Executive Committee of March 21, 2023 at which time a motion of recommendation will come before the committee and be voted upon.*

Moved by J. Ripley, Seconded by G. Woodcroft

Carried

P. Lampman asks the reasoning behind the deferral, S. Blaikie responds that it will give us another month to think and pray on it, and D. Labdon will be back by then. A. Rampton asked what or who will change this in a month, if nothing, then why defer. J. Ripley advises us that if the time is available, then we might as well take it and think on it broadly.

P. Johnson asked who, if anyone, was going to bring new information to next months meeting, or who is doing the work? S. Blaikie replied that he was hoping people would look thoroughly through the budget and bring any questions to the treasurer or finance director.

C. Dorrian asks if we know if there is a trend among parishes in passing deficit budgets, specifically because the decrease in CM+M. S. Routley replied that they have received some notice of decrease in contribution but that most parishes are in the midst of planning, having and reporting from their AGM. A. Rampton shared that Holy Trinity has adopted a budget that sees all staff and clergy, with the exception of him, terminated, as well as many other cost-cutting measures and they will likely still show a deficit. G. Woodcroft replied that, with the information we have currently, roughly 65% of the diocese is projecting a deficit. J. Valencerina reminded us that CM+M was based on the financials from 2 years ago. If in the past 2 years, they have decreased, they may have a hard time meeting their pledges.

Motion: *Be it resolved that the 2023 Draft Diocesan Budget be forwarded to the Diocesan Council prior to March 1st in order that they have sufficient time to pray and discern prior to the March 25 meeting of Diocesan Council and that the draft minutes of this meeting, as it pertains to the budget are forwarded at the same time.*

Moved by P. Johnson, Seconded by P. Lampman

Carried

G. Woodcroft asks if there is some way to transmit the quality conversation we just had to Diocesan Council and explain we are expecting of them a commitment to digest this budget, and prayerfully consider it. S. Blaikie explained that they will get the budget March 1st but will get the comments March 21 once the meeting minutes have been approved.

A. Rampton asks why give them a month to look at numbers but not the commentary that is supposed to foster and support the discussion. A. Rampton wishes there was a document or instructions on how to direct the conversation on this topic with other people that may or may not be able to read financial statements. I do not feel comfortable putting a budget (which is just a stack of numbers) in front of a group of people and say 'ok, were supposed to talk about this' with no direction or mention of other possibilities or what they might be.

S. Blaikie asks if sending draft minutes of this conversation, along with the budget would help.

J. Ripley added that there would be nothing inappropriate with sending the draft minutes of this conversation to the Diocesan Council

**J. Ripley left at 2:10pm*

Motion: *Be it resolved that an opportunity be provided by the treasurer and director of finance to members of diocesan council, to discuss the 2023 Draft Diocesan budget ahead of the March 25th meeting.*

Moved by P. Johnson, Seconded by L. Cummings

Carried

B. Executive Archdeacon

S. Blaikie went over an update of the parishes that he is currently assisting as they are 'in transition' including; St. Alban – Kenora, St. Paul - Middle church, Church of the Ascension – Stonewall, St. Cyprian – Teulon, St. Phillips – Scanterbury, St. Peter – Winnipeg, St. Chad now with St. Andrew's – Woodhaven, St. Michael and All Angels, St. Mark's – Winnipeg, and St. George – Transcona.

S. Blaikie promoted the new webinar for the AFC grant application and the new Social Media policy is nearing completion.

Save the date! Oct 13 & 14th – Faith Horizons is booked at St. John's College with 'Discipleship' as the theme. Mid-April we will be having a Corporation (wardens and incumbents) and Treasurer's Workshop.

C. Bishop

G. Woodcroft has completed his first session of "A Jesus shaped life" has gone extremely well, with many thanks and upwards of 45 people in the zoom room.

C. Barnes (Companion Diocese lead) and G. Woodcroft received word from the Diocese of Central Buganda that we should postpone our trip. That because of the current unrest in the Anglican church, specifically regarding marriage, we would no longer be welcome, and it quite likely would not be safe for our delegation.

6. Business arriving from Minutes

None at this time

7. New Business

a. Referral of CM&M Report from Diocesan Council

Motion: *Be it resolved that the executive committee receive from the Diocese Council the CM&M report and that report be tabled until the March 2023 executive committee meeting, thus allowing the Bishop to discern an appropriate road ahead*

Moved by P. Johnson / Seconded by P. Lampman

Carried

b. Anglican Foundation Grants

Reminder of the new AFC grant rules and the webinar on the changes

c. Receipt of Synod 116 & 118 motions

These reports have been forwarded from B. Wedlake, Secretary of Synod, to show the work that still needs to be completed from 2018 as well as the 2022 Synod. The process is the acts are forwarded to the Diocesan Council, who then must review these motions, discuss and decide what action, if any, needs to be made. Then finally what actions will need to be made by Diocesan Council.

d. Motion from Kenora – St. Alban Archdeaconary

Motion: *Be it resolved that the executive committee approve the request for \$8,000 for the Twice as Nice program from the Archdeaconary of Kenora – St. Alban mission and ministry fund*

Moved by N. Manzongo of behalf of the committee

Carried

e. Receipt of Provincial Executive Council Meetings

Motion: *Be it resolved that the executive committee receive from the EPRL the meeting minutes from November 2022 meeting*

Moved by T. Robinson / Seconded by G. Woodcroft

Carried

The provincial Synod has now set a date and location; it will be May 23-26, 2024 in Calgary, AB, more details to follow.

8. Announcements

Blessing of Oils and Renewal of Vows – February 28th at 7PM - Reminder that all are welcome
Celebration of New Ministry - All Saints Anglican church, Winnipeg – 10:30 Saturday March 18th
A Celebration of Black History – "Ours to Tell" March 19th – 2PM at Holy Trinity Anglican

9. Adjournment – 2:58 pm

Motion: *Be it resolved that Executive council be adjourned*

Moved by A. Rampton

G. Russell prayed to close the meeting