

1 **Minutes of the**
2 **Forty-Eighth Annual District Conference**
3 **Pacific Southwest District of the Church of the Brethren**

4 **November 12, 2011**

Hillcrest Homes, La Verne, California

5 **I. Call to Order**

6 Moderator Karen Walters called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m. with prayer.

7 **II. Quorum**

8 A roll call was taken. A quorum was declared to be present.

9 **III. Announcements, Appointments, and Introductions of Special Guests and Others**

10 A. District Executive Minister Don Booz was introduced. Timekeeper Maxine Ritchie was
11 introduced. Tellers Shirley Crane, Shawn Carothers, Jim Weaver, and Richard Hart were
12 introduced. Parliamentarian Russ Matteson was introduced.

13 B. A committee to verify the 2011 minutes was named: Linda Davis (Church of the Living
14 Savior), Joe Schechter (La Verne), and Pat Royer (Modesto).

15 C. Special Guests introduced were Bob Gross, Lowell Flory, and Eric Law.

16 D. Matthew Neeley, Hillcrest CEO, welcomed the conference attendees and gave a
17 background of Hillcrest Homes. Hillcrest Homes received a round of applause from the
18 attendees in appreciation of their hosting the conference.

19 **IV. Dedication of Delegates**

20 The Delegates' Dedication Litany was read (Page 6 of the Business Book).

21 **V. Introduction of the Conference Officers and Proper Procedures**

22 The Policy Board Chair Don Fancher, Moderator-Elect Jack Storne, Moderator Karen
23 Walters, and Clerk Laura Miller were introduced. Karen Walters directed the delegates to
24 Pages 7-9 of the Business Book for proper procedures for the conference.

25 **VI. Approval of 2010 Minutes**

26 A. A committee of Pat Royer (Modesto), Linda Davis (Church of the Living Savior), and
27 Kate Spire (Circle of Peace) had verified that the minutes are correct.

28 B. **Eric Bishop (La Verne) moved and Mauricio Iacueli (Circle of Peace) seconded to**
29 **approve the minutes. Approved.**

30 **VII. Approval of Agenda**

31 **Linda Davis (Church of the Living Savior) moved and John Heisel (Modesto) seconded**
32 **to approve the agenda. Approved.**

33 **District Reports**

34 **VIII. District Executive Minister's Report**

35 A. Don Booz spoke briefly and showed a short video about some of the things happening in
36 the PSWD.

37 B. Don Booz introduced the new Youth Cabinet and the Youth Director, Dawna Welch.
38 The Youth Cabinet was sworn in, and the Youth Cabinet was affirmed by the conference
39 attendees.

40 C. Don Booz spoke about pastors, and the conference attendees showed their appreciation
41 for the District's pastors and chaplains with a round of applause.

- 1 D. Don Booz showed a PowerPoint presentation highlighting some items happening in
2 the PSWD.
- 3 E. Don Booz spoke briefly about the anxiety in the denomination following the recent
4 Annual Conference.
- 5 **IX. Standing Committee Delegate Report**
- 6 Lucile Leard gave a report and directed the delegates to Page 13 of the Business Book. She
7 thanked the Conference for the opportunity to represent the PSWD at Annual Conference.
8 Lucile reported that nominees are needed for the national denomination and that she has the
9 necessary forms available. Lucile solicited self-nominations and nominations of others.
- 10 **X. Program Committee Report**
- 11 A. Russ Matteson gave a brief report and thanked Hillcrest for hosting this year's
12 conference. Russ thanked Linda Hart, Matthew Neeley, Karen Clobes, and Neil Fancher
13 for their work in making the conference successful.
- 14 B. **Recommendation for District Conference Date and Locations**
- 15 1. Russ Matteson directed the delegates to Page 66 of the Business Book for the new
16 business item "Recommendation for District Conference Date and Locations."
17 He spoke briefly about the need to hold the District Conference in different
18 locations around the District. Discussion was held.
- 19 2. **This comes as a recommendation from the Program Committee. Approved.**
- 20 **XI. Report from the Pacific Southwest District Board**
- 21 A. Board Chair Don Fancher directed the delegates to Page 18 for his report and thanked the
22 members of the PSWD who have supported the ministry of the Churches of the Brethren
23 locally and the District with time, talent, and money. He thanked the members of the
24 Board of Administration for their work and acknowledged those who have finished their
25 terms. Delegates were directed to Pages 20-22 of the Business Book for the Ministry and
26 Stewards Commissions reports. Don Fancher and the commission chairs are willing to
27 answer anyone's questions.
- 28 B. Don Fancher explained that the one item that was not completed last year was the
29 work of the stewardship education task team renamed Resolution for a Call to Education
30 on Faith and Finances by the 2010 District Conference. That will be completed
31 next year.
- 32 C. A question was asked about the Church Renewal and Revitalization Committee. Don
33 Booz answered that this committee has been appointed and one meeting has been held.
- 34 D. **Don Fancher (La Verne) moved and Barbara Ober (La Verne) seconded to accept
35 the reports of the District Board of Administration. Approved.**
- 36 **XII. University of La Verne Report**
- 37 No report. The new president, Devorah Lieberman, spoke at the evening dinner.
- 38 **XIII. Report from the Agencies of Annual Conference**
- 39 A. Steve Mason (Brethren Benefit Trust) and Bob Gross (On Earth Peace) each spoke
40 briefly when they presented the official four agency video report that includes the
41 Church of the Brethren Inc., Brethren Benefit Trust, On Earth Peace and Bethany
42 Theological Seminary.
- 43 B. Lowell Flory spoke briefly about Bethany. He reported that there has been an
44 increase in off-campus students and that Bethany is trying to make programs accessible
45 to more people.

1 **New Business**

2 **XIV. Bella Vista Name Change**

- 3 A. Don Fancher explained that Bella Vista followed the proper procedures. He noted this
4 will be a Doing Business As (DBA), not a legal name change. The new name will be
5 “Restoration Los Angeles.”
6 B. **This comes as a recommendation from the Policy Board. Approved.**

7 **XV. Election of Officers**

- 8 A. Richard Hart presented the 2012 ballot to the delegates. There were no nominations from
9 the floor.
10 B. **Charles Cable (La Verne) moved and Sara Haldeman-Scarr (San Diego) seconded**
11 **to accept the ballot as a slate. Discussion was held. Approved.**
12 C. The following people were elected to 2012 PSWD Positions:
13 1. Jim LeFever (Glendale,) Moderator-Elect
14 2. John Price (Empire), Nominating Committee
15 3. Marlin Heckman (La Verne), Standing Committee Delegate
16 4. Don Shankster (Papago Buttes), Standing Committee Delegate Alternate
17 5. Berkley Davis (Pomona), Program Committee
18 6. District Board of Administration Policy Board
19 a. Norman Johnson (Waterford), Northern California Representative
20 b. John Jackson (Glendale), Southern California West Representative
21 c. Richard Downhour (Papago Buttes)
22 d. Phyllis Eller (Pomona)
23 e. Elizabeth Rowan (Pasadena)
24 f. Mike Wolfsen (La Verne)
25 g. Paige Butzlaff (La Verne) Youth/Young Adult Rep
26 h. Nohemi Flores (Cristo Sion), Youth/Young Adult Rep
27 i. Julie Park (Glendale), Youth/Young Adult Rep
28 7. Steve Johnson (La Verne), Brethren Hillcrest Homes Board

29 **XVI. Ministry Investment Plan**

- 30 A. Don Fancher introduced the Ministry Investment Plan and directed the delegates to
31 Pages 54-64 of the Business Book. A time was given for questions and comments.
32 B. **This comes as a recommendation from the Policy Board. Approved.**

33 **XVII. Query: Annual Conference Elections**

- 34 A. Jack Storne introduced the query. Don Fancher gave a background on the query and
35 explained that the Policy Board has forwarded this query to the District Conference for
36 its consideration. A time was given for questions or comments.
37 B. **This comes as a recommendation from the Policy Board. Approved.**

38 **Old Business**

39 **XVIII. Process for Responding to Congregational Disagreements with Annual Conference**
40 **and/or District Conference Decisions**

- 41 A. Don Fancher introduced the paper (Exhibit G, a supplement to the Business Book).
42 Don explained that in 2010, the Board of Administration had presented a paper, which
43 was rejected. A committee was appointed to write a paper for 2011. That committee
44 consisted of Linda Davis (Church of the Living Savior), Jeanine Ewert (Modesto),
45 Tom Hostetler (La Verne), Sara Haldeman-Scarr (San Diego), Doris Dunham
46 (Bakersfield), Lois Frantz (Empire), and Reba Herder (La Verne). Board Chair Don

1 Fancher (La Verne), Moderator Karen Walters (Papago Buttes), and District Executive
2 Minister Don Booz served ex-officio.

3 B. Linda Davis spoke about the need for the paper and highlighted several items. A time
4 was given for questions and comments.

5 C. *It was moved to strike Section C. Lines 180-190. The motion died, lacking a second.*

6 D. **This item comes as a recommendation from the Executive Board. Approved.**

7 **XIX. Introduction of Special Guest**

8 Tim Harvey, Annual Conference Moderator, was introduced and spoke briefly. He invited
9 everyone to attend Annual Conference in St. Louis in 2012.

10 **XX. Moderator’s Closing Remarks**

11 Karen Walters thanked everyone who worked hard to make the PSWD 2011 District
12 Conference a success and thanked the attendees for the opportunity to serve as Moderator.
13 Karen led the attendees in prayer.

14 **XXI. Passing of the Gavel**

15 Karen Walters passed the gavel to Jack Storne.

16 **XXII. Adjournment**

17 Jack Storne thanked Karen Walters for her hard work over the last year. Jack Storne
18 adjourned the PSWD 2011 District Conference at 4 p.m.

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20 Minutes recorded by Laura Miller, Clerk

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22 In June 2012, the draft copy of the minutes was examined by the committee: Linda Davis (Church of
23 the Living Savior), Joe Schechter (La Verne), and Pat Royer (Modesto).