

**Board for Communication Services**  
**Minutes (approved 5/26/08))**  
**May 10, 2008**  
**Telephone Conference**

Present: Dennis Clauss, Chairman; David Berger, John Bush, Ernest Garbe, David Kluth, Candace Mueller, Kevin Vogts, David Strand, Executive Director (non-voting); Eileen Bishop List (non-voting)

The meeting was called to order at 8 AM Central Daylight Time and opened with prayer by Chairman Clauss.

The chairman noted that the meeting would be recorded and that the board would determine the use to which the recording would be made, if any, at the close of the meeting.

Issues, Etc. update and actions

D. Strand reported that the Q&A document and the minutes have been posted. He attended part of the Board of Directors meeting this week and noted that several members expressed regret about discord in the Synod but were reluctant to insert themselves into the Issues, Etc. matter. Discussion:

- How does the board retain control over the relevant budget lines when a severance package is involved? Amounts for salary and benefits in the severance package would be debited against the BCS budget.
- Can the Executive Director insert himself into the process, given the political damage done in the case? All communications in employment matters are privileged and the director is not always privy to communication that takes place. Concern was expressed that once the Human Resources Department is involved the board lacks information.
- Is it likely that any reduction in deficit will accrue to the current fiscal year? Probably not, but there should be savings in the longer term.
- Are the Issues, Etc. name and associated material goods available to Rev. Wilken and Mr. Schwarz should they want to have them? The name is no longer a registered trademark, but the release of any property would need the permission of the Board of Directors, who have control over the property of the Synod.

**M/S/C** to recommend to the Board of Directors to offer the name, Issues, Etc., and ancillary materials (booklets, promotional materials, etc.) to Rev. Wilken and Mr. Schwarz should they so desire to have them.

- What should be done to respond to the various resolutions regarding the cancellation of Issues, Etc., submitted by the boards of directors and/or pastoral conferences of several districts?

**M/S/C** that the chairman be authorized to respond to each district resolution received. The responses should be personal and timely and may include relevant previously published materials. The board will be consulted if necessary and will be copied on all responses.

– What about responding to concerns expressed by individuals, congregations, etc.?

**Consensus:** The Executive Director will respond to other entities who have expressed concerns, e.g., LWML chapters, congregations, and individuals, in whatever way seems appropriate, requesting input from board members as needed. The Q&A document and the statements of the COP and synodical president will remain available on the front web page for at least another month.

#### Report on BOD/BCS KFUO Committee - Garbe

Scenario 1 (plan for engaging KFUO in support of the mission of the Synod) was prepared and presented by David Strand and Dennis Stortz.

Scenario 2 (plan for allocation of assets from sale, realignment, etc., of KFUO) was prepared and presented by Curtis Pohl.

Lee Hagen provided an informed overview of the radio market nationally and in St. Louis. At least one more meeting is scheduled before August. There is still a knowledge base to be built. All electronic media are “on the table.” The Task Force may not be finished by August, since the intent is to make an informed and researched recommendation that would be accepted as such by the Synod. There may be a preliminary report in August, but several of the members think it may not be finalized by that time.

#### Executive Director reports - Strand

1. Study of BCS activities and responsibilities vis-B-vis the Bylaws

Has met with Ron Schultz. The Bylaws are not expressive of the reality, e.g., working with circuits and districts in communication. Efforts should rather focus on integrating communication efforts at the synodical level, primarily in the form of advisory activity in departmental communications.

2. Director of News and Information Services search

The deadline for submissions is May 15. Eight names are already under consideration, with the expectation of possibly three more.

3. The communications department has been approached by the Task Force on Structure and Governance to lend a hand in communicating the work of the group. The work may provide occasion to distinguish between promoting and reporting.

4. No further action on filling a KFUO-AM host slot will be taken at this time.

The recording of the meeting will be available for 30 days; its potential use will be discussed at the next meeting.

#### Future meetings

**May 26** (8 AM - 5 PM) and **27** (8 AM - 1 PM) – Crowne Plaza, St. Louis

**August 4-5** – Crowne Plaza, St. Louis

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 AM and closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

David O. Berger, secretary