**St. Louis Church of God Camp Grounds**

**Annual Business Meeting Minutes**

**August 6, 2019**

Ed Whitaker called the meeting to order and opened with prayer at 3:42 p.m.

The membership requirements were read and it was determined that a quorum was fulfilled with 17 different church of God congregations present and accounted for.

**Introductions**

Parliamentarian: Virle Paulsen

Board of Directors: Ed Whitaker (Chairman), Arlyn Willett (Vice-Chair, Business and Nominations), Emily Holm (Secretary), Tim StCin (Budget and Finance), Connie Graham (Program and Publicity), Ray Schaub (Operations), Shirley Hearn (Development), Dale Clingenpeel (At Large), Marvin Krontz

Camp Caretaker and Manager: Tom and Kathy Schaefer

Treasurer: Sandy Turk

Tellers: Darrel Curtis, Scott Hayward, Craig Hearn

**Secretary’s Reading of Previous Year’s Minutes**

The minutes were read from 2018’s annual meeting.

Motion to accept last annual business meeting’s minutes by Loretta Holm, seconded by Darrel Curtis; motion carried.

The minutes were read from the special meeting held on August 25, 2018.

Motion to accept reading of minutes from special meeting by Jan Eyre, seconded by Dave Mulherin; motion carried.

**Treasurer’s report**

Have done really well this last year. The board has changed its focus to the sewer project – need many prayers. Thank you to Tom and Kathy Schaefer for all they do; Tom always is looking for ways to save the campground money. If you would like to donate to the campground, in the wintertime, you can send it to Sandy Turk. Any other time, you can send it to the campground. Public sale income is up to $64,458.26. With more campers, expenses go up as well. Consumer’s bill averages about $3000 per month, during camp meeting it is about $4,000.00. Camp meeting income from 2018 was 36,429.77. We had a very large donation from an estate under the tithing from families of about $45,000. Support from families and tithing is tremendous.

We did have some expenses for the south sewer upgrade project, $6,080. The roads are being upgraded with Stone-crete for longevity. A drain was added to help with standing water – Spring this year was very wet. Normal expenses are trash removal and other small things. Insurance this year is going to go up about $1,000; 2020 Budget will reflect this. Many people only come to this camp for two weeks out of the year, but since the camp runs longer, we need insurance to cover it. Commissions have gone up in 2018; Tom and Kathy are getting a great compensation. The camp had a potluck this year instead of a hog roast, and the reception was very well. We ended the year with an additional

There was discussion of the 2018 profit and loss presented by Sandy Turk.

2019 Profit and loss goes to June 30. Income includes the windmill workers; we need to include them in our ongoing activities and be welcoming. Expenses: we have some money going out on the south sewer upgrade project, including license fees, engineering work, Gratiot County fees. Sewer dumping income and sewer dumping expenditure: Shankel’s comes and pumps their trailers out on a weekly basis in lieu of the expanded sewer system in the meantime. They cancel each other out: income vs. expenditure. The youth building received a new roof. Nothing out of line. We are currently at a negative, which is normal for us around this time because camp meeting giving is coming up and will be factored in. We have some money in designated funds, and we currently have operating funds of $20,514.56. We also have some stocks and bonds. Total amount in accounts and stocks and bonds is $48,531.77.

Thomas Watkins seconds the acceptance of the treasurer’s report as presented by Sandy Turk; motion carried.

**Proposed 2020 Budget**

It seems our average numbers of workers on the grounds is increasing. The camp lot rentals is projected to be $45,000, but we are expecting it to surpass this. Tom and Kathy have been working on beautification of the grounds. Sewer dumping is estimated at $10,000. Camp meeting income was raised a bit in hoping that giving will increase for the sewer project. There is income from sale of the memorial bricks and plaques. Our Consumer’s bill will increase as we have more campers staying with us. We need updates on our electrical system – there are many lots that have only 20 or 30 amps, and the new campers in the South end mostly need 50 amps. A leak was discovered in the roof of the house – needs to be a priority to repair. There is a children’s building that needs a new roof as well. Insurance, salary and camp meeting expenses will be staying relatively the same. We have a total budget of $154,970.00.

Questions and discussion of the proposed budget follow.

Question was raised if we have enough set aside just in case there is a major catastrophic event to happen on the campground. Is there a percentage that we need to have on hand at all times to cover expenses? Answer: We are making the monies we take in work for us. As we get the variable expenses, we address them the best we possibly can.

Question was raised if the new public income is affecting our non-charitable organization status? The Board of Directors is organizing to have services on a weekly basis to provide for the workers staying here. We need to minister to these folks staying here on the grounds.

Question was raised about funds for new cabins; there is nothing in the 2020 budget to allow for addition of new cabins. Each cabin costs approximately $8,500 to install. The issue is that we need to be making money on those cabins for the rest of the camping year (they are getting better); but we have not made enough money on those cabins outside of camp meeting to warrant adding more cabins. It would take 14 years of renters only during camp meeting to pay the cost of three cabins. Possibility of fundraisers to help pay for cabins? Some churches are struggling themselves, and fundraisers have been asked for previously, but they are difficult to have churches put them on.

The difference between last year’s budget and this year’s is about $20,000.

Sandy moves that we propose this budget to the association for voting; Dale seconds. Motion carried.

**Chairman’s Report**

* Very grateful to everyone who showed up at the special business meeting last August.
* Insurance cost may go down because of replacing so many roofs with metal – this reduces fire risks, etc.
* Drain tile was introduced and helped the water drainage quickly when there is flooding.
* The hog roast has been losing money, since we were only asking for donations. It cost from $1200 to $1500 per year to put on, and we only took in $800 last year. The potluck this year was very well received and was a bunch cheaper than the hog roast.
* New padded seats in the tabernacle – all donated by local churches.
* Roads have been redone with Stone-crete – this costs about $1200 per trainload. We have had four loads so far this year. If it rains, the roads will not be muddy.
* Each new windmill farm consists of about 60 to 70 towers, more workers coming in almost daily. Soybean plant will be built nearby – bringing in more workers for a few years. After the soybean plant is completed, plans in place to remodel to an ethanol plant.
* Sewer project update.
	+ Needed to evaluate what we currently have; we have 259 current campsites. State operates on the theory that the camp is always full, and that every site will use the dump station. Because of this, the state told us that the current sewer capacity is not sufficient.
	+ New plan is to remove 40 lots by making some lots drive-through instead of back-in double lots. We would go from 259 lots to 219 lots.
	+ New septic system will be brand new and fully independent of what is currently operating.
	+ After evaluation of what we have versus what we are capable of installing, project cost estimation has gone up to $190,000.
	+ Question if there will be enough room in the new sewer system to add more lots in the future to full hookups, or maybe add full hookups to the row of camping lots next to the field between the cabins and the tabernacle.
	+ Tim read the recommendation to the association from the board to be included on the ballot: **That we proceed forth with the sewer project, subject to (a) the raising of the total ceiling from $130,000 to $180,000, (b) subject to the raising of 50% or $90,000, and (c) subject to a two-year time limit for funds to be completely raised. Ann Hawkins makes a motion to accept this proposal for voting on the ballot.**

**Presentation of the 2019 Ballot**

Tim StCin read the names on the ballot. There are two open spots on the ballot; Tim explained that the board has decided to appoint the proper people to fill these slots later on. According to the by-laws, the Board of Directors has power to appoint people to fill committee member spots as they deem necessary. The ballots were passed out for voting.

**Address Submitted Questions**

* One question was submitted regarding parking at the south restroom. The plan is to put some posts in on the south side of the building to designate four parking spots.
* Another question/comment was submitted regarding a conflict of dates for the 2020 camp meeting; schools are beginning earlier, coinciding with our camp meeting dates. Michigan is allowing schools to start earlier now; many of the teachers in the children’s camp are teachers at Michigan schools as well and would not be able to help at camp meeting. Dates to be discussed for 2020 camp meeting?
* Are there plans in the future to install any more fans in the roof of the tabernacle? There are three currently, but only two work.

Due to the late hour, the voting results will be posted in the back of the tabernacle.

Carrie Krontz makes a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Thomas Watkins. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:31 p.m. by Ed Whitaker.

The 2020 budget was approved. All names listed on the ballot for the board of directors and committees were ratified. The sewer project proposal was approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Emily Holm, St. Louis Board of Directors Secretary