

Board Meeting Notes – February 17, 2026

Overview

The MCCDC Board Meeting on February 17, 2026, covered several key points. The board approved the agenda and meeting minutes from November 16, 2025. They discussed the need for a 90-day ministry plan due to ongoing pastoral transitions and financial uncertainties. The finance team reported a draft budget with \$167,200 in intended giving and \$50,000 in recurring giving, totaling \$217,200. The board considered selling property 472 to address financial issues. They also discussed a \$13,000 sump pump repair and agreed to seek a second quote. The interim pastor search is progressing well, with a candidate in mind.

The MCCDC Board Meeting discussed several key points. Tina Fulp and Rev Cathy Alexander discussed whether to join the finance committee meeting or present findings later. A special meeting on system structures and processes was postponed due to transitional leadership. Tommy Wiggins was appointed as Vice Treasurer, with unanimous approval. The board also discussed the church's historical site designation, building maintenance, and the need for a new picture. Phil Helbling announced his move to Spain, affecting his attendance. The board entered an executive session to discuss church litigation, with updates on arbitration and a pending summary judgment.

The board discussed the renewal of Early Learning Academy contract, scheduled for August. The need for a second plumber's quote for a \$10,000 sump pump replacement. They decided to table the decision on paying off a \$70,000 line of credit until the next meeting. The generosity team is focusing on congregational engagement, with upcoming events like a pre-Valentines party and a chili cookout. Tommy Wiggins was appointed as Vice Treasurer. The board also discussed the church's litigation, noting a \$10,000 settlement offer and a pending summary judgment decision. The meeting concluded with a prayer and a reminder of upcoming events.

Opening Prayer and Agenda Approval

- Tina Fulp initiates the meeting, welcoming everyone and mentioning the agenda.
- Phil Helbling reads a scripture from James 2:14-18, emphasizing faith without deeds.
- Phil Helbling leads a prayer, mentioning Tim Helm's health challenges and Pastor Dwayne Johnson's transition.
- Rev Cathy Alexander adds prayers for the sick and shut-in of the congregation.
- Phil Helbling motions to approve the agenda, which is seconded by Darryl Walker and approved by the board.

Approval of Meeting Minutes and Moderator's Report

- Tina Fulp asks if people have reviewed the meeting minutes from November 16, 2025.
- Phil Helbling and others confirm they were not at that meeting.
- Sheila Chittams motions to accept the meeting minutes, which is seconded by Darryl Walker and approved by the board.

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- Tina Fulp mentions the moderator's report, which includes meetings with Rev Dexter Brecht and Rev Oneta Brooks about leadership during the transition.
- Phil Helbling motions to receive the moderator's report, which is seconded and approved by the board.

Finance Committee Update

- Rev Cathy Alexander provides an update on the finance committee's work, including the ministry action plan and budget.
- The finance team met to discuss the ministry action plan and budget, with 36 people filling out intention forms totaling \$117,000.
- Tim suggests a 90-day ministry plan due to the ongoing search for an interim and full-time pastor.
- Rev Cathy Alexander and Tim discuss the rationale for the 90-day plan and the need for a short-term budget.
- The finance team is working on a 90-day ministry plan, with Brian Scott volunteering to help.
- Tina Fulp mentions the next Finance Committee meeting on Monday at 7 PM and encourages board members to join.
- Rev. Cathy Alexander discusses the possibility of a different conversation with the Finance Committee for the continuing resolution.

Continuing Resolution

- The board has decided to present a continuing resolution plan to the congregation, explaining the need for a short-term budget.
- Tim and others discuss the logistics of presenting the plan to the congregation, including the need for transparency and clear communication.

Discussion on Selling Property 472

- Darryl Walker suggests selling property 472 to retire both mortgages and reduce expenses.
- Tim mentions a real estate agent's positive evaluation of selling 472, potentially wiping out both mortgages and leaving \$400,000.
- Rev Cathy Alexander and the finance team met with financial manager David Edwards, who suggested selling 472 to retire both mortgages.
- Tommy Wiggins, a real estate agent, explains the process of selling with tenants and the time it would take.
- The board agrees to bring up the possibility of selling 472 at the congregational meeting.
- The board discusses the timeline for hiring the interim pastor, with Tim stating it will be soon.

Treasurer's Report

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- Rev Cathy Alexander provides the Treasurer's Report detailing the balances in various accounts and the status of the line of credit.
- Tina Fulp discusses the balance on the line of credit and the option to pay it off from the trust.
- Rev. Cathy Alexander explains the uncertainty of the closing cost and the impact of lawyer fees.
- Tina Fulp suggests waiting until the sub pump issue is resolved before making a decision on the line of credit.
- The board decides to table the decision on paying off the line of credit until the next meeting, pending further information on the sump pump issue.
- Tim Helm and Sheila Chittams agree to table the vote until the next board meeting.

Generosity Team Update

- Rev Cathy Alexander and Melvin provide an update on the generosity team's efforts, including congregational engagement activities.
- The board discusses the importance of congregational engagement and the upcoming chili cookout event and pre-Valentines party.
- The meeting concludes with a reminder of the next Finance Committee meeting and the importance of staying informed and engaged.

Special Meeting on System Structures and Processes

- Tina Fulp discusses the need for a special meeting on system structures and processes, training for board members.
- The meeting was initially scheduled for the day Rev Dwayne announced his retirement, but was postponed.
- Tina emphasizes the importance of having the meeting to clarify roles and responsibilities during transitional leadership.
- The meeting has not been scheduled yet due to other pressing matters.
- Tina Fulp confirms the board's intention to have a special meeting on system structures and processes.

Introduction of New Board Member Candidate and his role

- Tina Fulp introduces Tommy Wiggins, a new member interested in joining the board.
- Tommy shares his background, including his involvement in various church committees and his interest in the board's operations.
- Tina outlines the process for appointing a new board member, including asking questions and voting.
- The board votes to appoint Tommy Wiggins to the board, with Sheila Chittams making the motion and Phil seconding.
- Tina Fulp and Tommy Wiggins discuss the possibility of Tommy taking on the Vice Treasurer position.

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- Tommy expresses his willingness to learn and work closely with the treasurer.
- Tim, the current treasurer, supports Tommy's involvement and expresses his readiness to mentor him.
- The board agrees to have Tommy as the Vice Treasurer, and he accepts the position.

Updates on Various Church Activities

- Tina Fulp asks for updates on various church activities, including the historical site designation and building maintenance.
- Darryl reports no new updates on the historical site designation.
- Tina mentions an email from Joanna about renewing a license, which Rev Cathy Alexander confirms she has already done.
- Tim and Timothy express their gratitude for the ongoing support from various church members, including Shirley for counting offerings and Terry for training on the check machine.
- Sheila Chittams announces that the 2025 tax statements will be sent out via email this week.

Early Learning Academy (ELA) Contract Renewal Discussion

- Darryl Walker inquires about the renewal date of the ELA contract, which is scheduled for August.
- Rev. Cathy Alexander and Tina Fulp discuss the need to review the contract details and decide not to bring it up at the congregational forum.
- Donald Burch asks about the selection process for a plumber, suggesting research for a better estimate.

Plumber Selection and Sump Pump Issue

- The board discusses the sump pump issue, with Melvin explaining the need for a specific replacement pump.
- Phil Helbling suggests getting a second quote for the sump pump repair, which is agreed upon by the board.
- Melvin Moore explains the issue with the sump pump, stating it needed replacement due to age and maintenance issues.
- Donald Burch questions the selection process for a plumber, suggesting Yelp reviews or personal experience.
- Melvin Moore explains the diagnostic findings, stating the pump needed replacement due to age and maintenance issues.
- Melvin Moore mentions JCI Environmental Sewer Removers' recommendation to drain tanks three times a year.

Interim Pastor Search

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- Tina Fulp provides an update on the interim pastor search, mentioning a candidate with a good resume and recent references.
- The board discusses the timeline for hiring the interim pastor, with Tim stating it will be soon.

Closing Remarks and Prayer

- Tina Fulp thanks everyone for their contributions and expresses her appreciation for the team's communication and support.
- The board conducts a closing prayer, led by Rev Cathy Alexander, asking for healing, hope, and strength for the congregation.
- The meeting adjourns with a motion from Tim and seconded by Darryl Walker to end the session.

Action Items

- [] @Sheila Chittams - Check the two recent references for the interim pastor candidate (tag-team with Tina) and report back on whether references are satisfactory within the next two days
- [] Obtain at least one additional plumber quote for the sump pump repair this week (seek responsive contractors and provide quotes to the board)
- [] Transfer approved trust funds or otherwise arrange payment so mortgage payments from Hingham Bank can be made and recommend whether to pay off the line of credit or pay it down (evaluate options and provide recommendation to board)
- [] Schedule a meeting with Miss Murchison (daycare tenant) to review tenant operations and any payment/utility issues, and invite the moderator and Melvin to attend
- [] Add discussion of the possible sale of 472 and related financial analysis to the congregational forum agenda so the congregation is informed this is being considered
- [] Prepare and present the finance information and proposed continuing resolution / short-term spend authorization to the congregation at the March 8 forum and March 22 meeting; provide materials to the congregation at least one week before March 8
- [] Send an E-blast and announce in church this Sunday the congregational forum (March 8) and meeting (March 22) dates and that finance/continuing resolution materials will be provided prior to the forum
- [] @Sheila Chittams - Send 2025 tax statements (via Subsplash/email) to members this week and coordinate an announcement at Sunday worship about checking email and contacting treasurer@mccdc.com for issues
- [] Send the finance committee meeting link to the entire board for the Monday 7pm meeting
- [] Contact the banks and complete the appropriate documentation to add Tommy Wiggins to signatory/board records (banks, Truist, Higgins, etc.)
- [] Onboard and provide appropriate training/assignments to Tommy Wiggins in his role as Vice Treasurer so he can assume duties comfortably

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- [] Add the decision about paying off the line of credit (transfer from Trust vs. pay gradually) to the next board meeting agenda
- [] Log in and renew the required license online (follow up noted to be done tomorrow)
- [] Add the McCann Award nomination/item to the next regularly scheduled board meeting agenda for review (as requested by Darryl)
- [] Schedule and organize the special board meeting on systems, structures, and board member training (confirm date and notify board), keeping it on the agenda until scheduled