

World Missions Board of Directors Meeting

9/30/2024

World Missions Board of Directors Meeting

September 30, 2024

Contents

Meeting date and Location and those Present.....	3
Meeting Called to Order	3
Devotions	3
Introduction of New Members	3
Agenda Approval and Approval of Minutes.....	3
Director’s Report.....	3
Administration	4
Board Orientation	4
Updates from Previous meeting:	4
Shelby Greven	4
Personal Support Update	4
Zach and Carey Ritland.....	5
Paul and Becky Abel	5
Administration Continued.....	6
Future potential missionaries:	6
Grants/Legacy Funds for upcoming travel.....	6
Missionary Assistant Casey McLoughlin	6
Payroll and Children’s Education	6
Depreciation/Capitalization policy.....	7
Pastoral Care for Missionaries	7
Lay Missionaries	7
Abuse Prevention	7
Special Projects Requests for 2025	7
Jon Nelson	8
Brazil.....	9
Fazenda Rural Retreat.....	9
Michael Rokenbrodt.....	9
Approve Expenses and Next Meeting.....	9
Adjournment	9

World Missions Board of Directors Meeting

September 30, 2024

Meeting date and Location

The World Mission Board met prior to All Boards meeting at the AFLC Headquarters, September 30, 2024 at 8am

Present

Pr. Earl Korhonen, Wanda Jacobson, Pr. Craig Johnson, Dr. Lyle Mattson, Ken Sletten, Pr. David Johnson, Pr. Jerry Nelson, Mark Riley, and Sam Quanbeck. Corporation officers Pr. Ray Ballmann (President) and Pr. David Handsaker (Treasurer) were also present.

Meeting Called to Order

Pr. Craig Johnson called the meeting to order

Devotions

John 11 – Pr. David Johnson – Sometimes the most important is not what appears to be critical.

Introduction of New Members

New board members, Mark Riley and Sam Quanbeck, shared many aspects of their testimonies and experiences leading to their presence on the World Mission Board.

Agenda Approval

202431 *MSC JN/LM to accept the Agenda*

Approval of Minutes

Pg.6 – “boarder of China” should be “border of China”

Pg.7 – AFTS should be FLTS

202432 *MSC KS/MR to accept corrected minutes as corrected*

Director’s Report

Board orientation will be discussed by Wanda with the new members. Thank you to all for serving on this board, not only for the new members, but for the ongoing serving of all members. Pr. Earl gave a brief devotional based on the example of the woman who anointed Jesus’ feet. The passage reminds us that “this woman would be remembered” wherever the gospel is preached. Don’t underestimate our simple acts of humble worship and service for Christ.

Travel

Pr. Earl covered the past locations of ministry, and future plans.

Michael R. returns Jan. 19, 2025 (He will be stateside spring 2025, and spring 2026)

Todd and Barb (Furlough) Now through Oct. 30

Brent and Emily – Returning 11/19, Completion of service 12/31

World Missions Board of Directors Meeting

September 30, 2024

Paul and Becky – Back to Brazil, End of Dec until June 2025 (We will meet with them at the Annual Conference and then evaluate their future role in AFLC World Missions)

Administration

The Board discussed the resignation letter from Brent and Emily Raan. The letter and email cover letter were read. The letter was accepted and appreciation shared for the tone and content of the letters.

202433 MSC JN/SQ to receive the Raan resignation. Resignation received.

Word came through (during the meeting) that the Raans travel plans had been interrupted. Jon Nelson is working with them and the travel agent for the rebooking of flights for them to reach Uganda. Time was spent in prayer for the situation.

Board Orientation

Wanda reviewed the Board Manual and stressed the importance of reading and digesting the information. Some specific questions were answered about policies and practices. Ethics documents were handed out to the new members to review and sign. Wanda also reviewed the meaning of the various financial reports that are dealt with each meeting. There are also Missionary handbooks and employee handbooks.

Wanda also brought the Board up to date on the audit process. It is complete, though we are waiting for the final report. This audit a two-year process, with a review done every two years. Katie Johnson has also been involved with the process, and a great help with her own observations and insight.

Updates from Previous meeting:

The World Still Needs Missionaries – Pr. Earl mentioned several fields that are seeking missionary support. Brazil Properties – Pr. Earl explained the concerns regarding the mission property in Brazil. Becky Abel is directing the process – with a corporation being developed with 17 members consisting of current missionaries and nationals. With this in mind, the transfer of property may not be necessary.

Shelby Greven

Shelby Greven the new World Missions Communications Coordinator met with the Board, and updated us on the process of communications in World Missions. She is learning a new software to enhance the contacts with AFLC members and missionaries. She also deals with the web updates and additions. Shelby is finishing her time at Northwestern in 12/24. Going (through Journey Missions) to Brazil in 2/25 and also travel to Paraguay.

Personal Support Update

We reviewed the current status of each missionary's personal support and expected expenses. We also evaluated the various support activities the missionaries gain through our US AFLC Office. These are the funds AFLC members and churches have donated for their support. Some concern was discussed about a couple missionaries who are dipping a bit lower than comfortable. Options of shifting dollars around were discussed.

World Missions Board of Directors Meeting

September 30, 2024

Pr. David Handsaker (Mission Corp Treasurer) offered the suggestion that the missionary support be labeled “Missionary Support” rather than “Missionary Savings.” There has been some confusion about what personal money is, and what has been donated for the support and function of a mission outreach.

Zach and Carey Ritland

The board discussed various issues concerning the potential candidacy of the Ritlands. A series of questions were options for evaluation. It was pointed out that our current interviews are for candidacy not appointment. They are not being considered for appointment at this time – they are simply being reviewed as potential candidates for the field.

The Ritlands shared their previous experiences with missions in both Brazil and Paraguay. They also shared a bit of their testimonies. There were a number of questions asked by the Board toward the Ritlands, but also a few questions asked by the Ritlands for the Board. Much of the time was spent clarifying the expectations of the Board towards full time missionaries, as opposed to part-time or support mission staff. Some time was spent discussing the possible options for ongoing training and preparation.

Following the interview, the WMB discussed some observations of the Ritlands. There was much excitement about the answers shared and the obvious passion shown by the Ritlands.

The WMB encourages the Ritlands to continue their preparation and training, as they move towards the ultimate goal of Mission work with the AFLC. This would include the completion of training with the Seminary. The Lay Training Program (under development) may also a possibility. This would also include: deputation training (including raising 80% of the first year’s expenses), Cross-cultural training, MTI (Mission Training Institute), Procedure / language studies.

202434 MSC SQ/LM that the WMB agrees to pursue the Ritlands as Missionary Applicants provided that Zach pursues those seminary level classes designated by the AFLC World Mission Board. They also encourage Carey to attend the FLBC.

Paul and Becky Abel

We began our time with the Abel’s by viewing their presentation of the ministry in Brazil. They shared a bit of their itinerary plans. They reviewed their plans to shift to retirement/ refinement ministry. They explained some of their thoughts as they move forward. They will probably remain in Brazil for most of the year, but discussed the option of traveling stateside for part of the year. They are attempting to pass the baton, but some aspects of ministry remain in their care. So the discipleship continues, but the end is in sight. They spoke of the staff that are being raised up to step into leadership.

They explained the property concern, and how it could/should be resolved “in-house.” No transfer will be necessary, as the property will remain under the covering of the “Mission.”

Time was also spent discussing some of the Board conversations on the Ritlands and Casey McLoughlin. The Abel’s shared their observations and interaction on both.

World Missions Board of Directors Meeting

September 30, 2024

They also shared some of their concerns within the AFLC World Missions in general. They shared about the need to grow in some areas, in addition to planting churches, and expanding to orphanages, schools, etc. around the world in a host of countries.

Administration Continued

Future potential missionaries:

The follow people have expressed interest in mission work with World Missions.

Justo and Patricia Pillman

Zach and Carey Ritland

Ignacio (Nacho) and Kaetlyn Davalos

Josiah and Mandy Charon

Jon Nelson made several contacts at the Missio Nexus Conference (Louisville, 9-11/13)

Grants/Legacy Funds for upcoming travel

Wanda explained the need there is at times for Grant and legacy funds to be transferred from savings and paid out for the purpose of travel and other ministry needs including missionary care.

When Grants and Legacy funds are used for this the WMB approval is required and a motion is to be made regarding the expenditures.

202435 MSC LM/KS to approve funds to be paid from grants to cover the expenses for Joan Korhonen, Mark and Jodie Riley when they travel to Paraguay and Brazil. (Teaching and missionary care)

202436 MSC KS/MR to approve funds to be paid from grants to cover the expenses for Joan Korhonen, Jerry, and Kristi Nelsons travel to India in January. (Teaching for pastors and Bible women)

202437 MSC JN/LM to approve funds to be paid from grants to cover the expenses for the Jon Nelson Family's travel and visit to Brazil (Jon's expenses will be paid through the Journey Missions budget)

Missionary Assistant Casey McLoughlin

The WMB discussed the possibility of calling Casey and Sandor as Missionary Assistants. They reviewed the request, and discussed the situation.

202438 MSC KS/SQ to deny the missionary assistant applications of both Casey and Sandor

Payroll and Children's Education

Our recent audit has brought out the IRS expectation that our Children's Education benefit for Missionaries should be reported as a taxable benefit on their W-2 Tax Forms. This information was

World Missions Board of Directors Meeting

September 30, 2024

dispersed and will be passed to the applicable missionaries. Katie Johnson (AFLC Bookkeeper) will handle the W-2 reporting.

Depreciation/Capitalization policy

The WMB discussed the proper course for depreciation or removal of the mission assets (mission house, Brazil HDQRTRs, Campo Grande)

202439 MSC SQ/MR to remove these assets from the Balance Sheet (write them off as assets)

Pastoral Care for Missionaries

Jerry encouraged the Board to read the "Pastoral Care for Missionaries" article that he provided for the Board.

Lay Missionaries

Sam, Earl, Ken, and David volunteered to serve on a task force to research the proper rostering of a lay missionary. The information will be presented to the WMB ASAP.

Abuse Prevention

Jerry and Earl to present material concerning abuse prevention on the field. Earl explained that a policy concerning this issue needs to be formulated and applied to our ministries across the board. They will report to the WMB at the December meeting.

Special Projects Requests for 2025

Brazil	Requested
AILLB (AFLC of Brazil)	
DRELL Translation & Publication Fund	\$3,500.00
DRELL Discipleship Fund.....	\$5,000.00
Cohapar Church (Reconstruction) Campo Mourao	\$50,000.00
SETELL (Seminary/Bible School)	
SETELL Summer Teams.....	\$6,000.00
Miriam Home	
Follow Them Home	\$3,000.00
Camps and VBS Fund	\$500.00
Easter and Christmas Celebrations	\$750.00
Miriam Home Building Addition (Admin & Ed)	\$17,000.00
ARCA (Bible Camp)	
Repair ARCA Van	\$5,000.00
Bathrooms: Complete Renovation	\$15,000.00
Ongoing Projects (As received)	
ARCA Ministry	(as received)
ARCA Social Projects	(as received)
ARCA Bible Camp Scholarships	(as received)

World Missions Board of Directors Meeting

September 30, 2024

Seminary Student Scholarships (as received)
Student Work Fund (as received)

Paraguay

Emergency Food Pantry \$3,000.00
Pavilion/Church (Church and Gym Floor) \$12,000.00
Pavilion/Church Walls and Perimeter fence \$20,000.00

Mexico

Principios Church Building Project \$60,000.00 \$14,535.38
Christmas Gift Boxes (100 @ \$5 per box) \$500.00
Help Me Hear God's Voice-Bibles \$500.00
Kid's Club (books, Christmas gifts, etc.) (as received)
Compassion Projects (as received)

India

Bibles and Literature- training materials \$1,200.00
Pastor's Houses (\$9,500 each- ½ Grant) \$4,750.00
Maintenance needs at the HQ building in Chirala \$3,600.00

202440 MSC KS/JN to use general Legacy funds to fulfill the maintenance needs at the India HQ Building (\$3,600)

Ministry Van required for Luther's travel \$24,000.00

202441 MSC LM/SQ to use Quanbeck Legacy funds to purchase the van requested by the India mission. (\$24,000)

Uganda

Ambassador Institute Teacher Workshops 13@\$100 \$1,300.00
~~Ambassador Institute Zonal Projects00~~
~~Ambassador Institute National Team Project00~~
Ambassador Institute AI Office expenses \$1,350.00
Ambassador Institute Micro Loans \$2,200.00

Journey Missions

Scholarship Fund for Missionary Assistants \$5,000.00

World Missions

AFLC International teaching Scholarship Fund \$4,000.00

202442 MSC (KS/LM to approve the special projects list as amended.

Jon Nelson

Brought the WMB up-to-date on his ministry, trips, and outreach. Reviewed his upcoming trips: Israel (3x), Brazil, Mexico. Student mission classes continue...PTL. He continues his studies at the Lutheran Brethren Seminary. He is to finish after spring 2025. Time was spent discussing various issues and goals of the World Mission Dept. He spent several minutes reviewing some of the unique challenges of ministry and trips in the Israeli communities.

World Missions Board of Directors Meeting

September 30, 2024

Brazil

Pastor Patricio Rivero from Santiago Chile has been invited to attend the Brazil Annual Conference in November. Purpose of this is to get to know him and for him to learn about the AFLC.

202443 MSC JN/LM to pay for Pr. Patricio's airfare to the Brazil conference with grant funds.

Fazenda Rural Retreat

The Brazil Field Conference is seeking approval for the Fazenda to be brought under the umbrella of AFLC World Missions in Brazil.

Over 50 years ago, John Abel started a retreat center in rural Campo Mourao. 'The Farm' as it has been called, has had its own board in Brazil and formerly had a board in the US through which it was able to receive funds from The States. Since the US board was disbanded several years ago, there has been no way for the camp to receive funds. In the recent Brazil Field Conference report, the field makes the following request:

Jonathan proposed that the Rural Retreat be recognized as an AFLC ministry and be able to receive offerings as received through World Missions. This was heartily approved by the Field Conference. A recommendation was made that the Rural Retreat board consider a tithe of gifts to be given to the AILLB, to support other ministries (a policy followed by the ARCA).

202444 MSC SQ/KS to approve adding the Fazenda Rural Retreat as a non-budget project under Brazil. (A new receipt and disbursement code will be added to the non-budget financial report)

Michael Rokenbrodt

Time was spent discussing the report of Michael Rokenbrodt. Michael is exploring his options for where to serve in the future. He is committed to AFLC World Missions but would like to continue his seasonal trips to Uganda.

202445 MSC LM/JN for Michael to remain in Uganda for this term, and not travel to Brazil in November.

Approve Expenses

202446 MSC LM/JN to approve Expenses for Board members and corporation officers.

Next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for December 6, 2024 - 8 am at AFLC Headquarters World Missions office.

Adjournment

202447 MSC LM/SQ to adjourn

Respectfully Submitted,

David Johnson
Secretary