



**West Shore Evangelical Free Church  
Elder Board Meeting Minutes  
July 9, 2024  
6:00 PM**

**Attending:** Dave Baechtle, Ned Davis, Brock Heller, Matt Krise, David Mills, John Nesbitt, Rob Pepper, Tim Ryan, Trent Thompson, Tim Jones, Wendell Witter

**Absent:** Dave Balinski

**Call to Order:** 6:09 pm

**Prayer:** Dave Mills

**Approval of Minutes:**

**Motion:** *That the regular minutes of the 06/04/24 Elder Board Meeting be approved as proposed.*

*Brock Heller / Tim Ryan 2<sup>nd</sup>*

**Action:** **Approved by voice vote**

**Membership Interviews:**

Wade Fickle

Deb Fickle

**Motion:** That the above candidates be approved for membership.

*Tim Ryan / John Nesbitt 2<sup>nd</sup>*

**Action:** **Approved by voice vote**

Darrel Gelnett

Joyce Gelnett

Kolton Gelnett

**Motion:** That the above candidates be approved for membership.

*Brock Heller / Dave Mills 2<sup>nd</sup>*

**Action:** **Approved by voice vote**

Ray Hein

Gilda Hein

**Motion:** That the above candidates be approved for membership.

*Dave Baechtle / Brock Heller 2<sup>nd</sup>*

**Action:** **Approved by voice vote**



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Bethaney Sjoquist

**Motion:** That the above candidate be approved for membership.

*Dave Baechtle / Wendell Witter 2<sup>nd</sup>*

**Action:** **Approved by voice vote**

**Board Advisory Team Reports:**

**Finance Advisory Team** (Dave Mills)

- Discussed investment strategies for current funds
- Provided an update on the reasons for the recent decline in cash reserves (due to lobby renovation capital reserve expenditures)
- Discussed financial discipleship resources for the congregation
- Discussed 2025 mortgage change to variable rate and potential options

**Facilities Advisory Team** (Dave Balinski)

- Did not meet

**Human Resources Advisory Team** (Tim Ryan)

- Did not meet

**Security Team** (Ned Davis)

- No issues to discuss

**First Wednesday Elder and Staff Prayer**

- Went well. Someone came during the last 10 minutes.

**Human Resources:** (Tim Ryan)

**New Hires:**

- Kayden Jones (Custodian)

**Departures:**

- Ryan Hartzel (Custodian)



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**Operations:**

**Vote on Wendell taking the Secretary role**

**Motion:** *That Wendell Witter would take on the role of secretary for the elder board*

*Dave Baechtle / John Nesbitt 2<sup>nd</sup>*

**Action:** **Approved by voice vote**

**Discussed potential assignments for Advisory Teams**

Teams were encouraged to propose the 2-3 top priorities they need to work on over the coming year, potentially including:

- Mortgage options, recommendations and implementation timeline
- Remodeling recommendations and timing for other areas of the church
- Review of employee compensation and benefits

**Approve 2025 employee paid holidays**

**Motion:** *Motion to approve 2025 holidays per the provided document*

*Matt Krise / Brock Heller 2<sup>nd</sup>*

**Action:** **Approved by voice vote**

**Discussed questions related to WSFC's Position Paper on Women, Men & Gospel Ministry**

- Do the theological tenants and church practices outlined in the position paper constitute "essentials" or "non-essentials" in the life of our church?
- What differentiates the roles of Director and Pastor on our Ministerial Staff relating to the position paper?
- How do the practices outlined in the position paper regarding WSFC's context relate to our Ministerial Staff when they engage in other church contexts?
- Should the position paper reference practices for any additional areas, such as officiating of weddings and funerals?
- After a lengthy discussion, the elders determined to continue to pray, study Scripture, and seek God's guidance in preparation to reengage this topic in the August board meeting

**WSFC Mission & Strategies**

- Reviewed and gave feedback on simplified and clarified language for WSFC's Mission & Strategies



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**Introduction of Ministerial Staff Search Process Document**

- Tim Ryan drafted a document for the board to consider that is intended to provide guidelines and ensure consistency when staff searches are initiated in the future. The board will review the document prior to the August board meeting, coming prepared to discuss, edit and approve it.

**Closing Prayer:** Dave Baechtle

**Adjourned:** 9:35 PM

Respectfully Submitted:  
Wendell Witter, Secretary