

**THE DIOCESE OF WEST MISSOURI**  
Minutes of July 12, 2025 Diocesan Council Meeting

The Diocesan Council of The Diocese of West Missouri met Saturday, July 12, 2025, via Zoom. Members attending:

~~Ms. Regina Berens~~  
Cn. Shirley Bolden  
Ms. Anne Breid  
Ms. Hayley Cobb  
~~Ms. Zella Forsythe~~  
Ms. Kate French  
Cn. Mark Galus, Chancellor  
~~Ms. Amy Garcia~~  
The Rev. Chandler Jackson III, Registrar  
Mr. Tom Kokjer, Treasurer  
The Very Rev. Jean Long, Dean of the Northwest Metro Deanery  
Anne Jetter Maas, Associate Treasurer  
~~The Very Rev. Kary Mann, Dean of the Central Deanery~~  
The Rev. Katherine Mansfield  
The Rt. Rev. Amy Dafler Meaux, President  
Mr. Phil Metz  
Mr. Chris Morrison  
~~Ms. Amanda Perschall~~  
~~The Very Rev. Joe Pierjok, Dean of the Southern Deanery~~  
~~Ms. Jennifer Snider, Vice Chancellor~~  
Mr. Eric Rhodes, President of the Standing Committee  
The Rev. Susan Roberts, Vice President  
~~The Rev. Brittany Sparrow Savage~~  
The Rev. Cn. John Spicer  
The Rev. Donna Stanford, Secretary  
Ms. Judith Turner, President of Episcopal Church Women  
Ms. Elisa White  
Mr. Steven Williams

Also attending: Mr. Ron Weil, Finance Administrator

1. **Call to Order and Devotion.** Bishop Meaux determined that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. The Rev. Susan Roberts led Council in a devotion and prayer.
2. **Consent Agenda Adoption.** Mr. Phil Metz moved, seconded by The Rev. Cn. John Spicer, that the following Consent Agenda be adopted:

- a. Approval of June 21, 2025 Diocesan Council meeting minutes, as corrected
- b. Receipt of July 2, 2025 Executive Committee meeting minutes
- c. Receipt of reports, if any, from committees, commissions, and ministries
  - i. Youth Ministry Commission Report

**The motion passed.**

### **3. Reports.**

#### **a. Deanery Reports**

- i. Northwest-Metro Deanery  
The Very Rev. Jean Long reported that the Deanery picnic will be an ice cream social to be held on July 19 from 3-5 p.m. at HJ's Youth and Community Center and hosted by St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Kansas City.
- ii. Southern Deanery  
There was no report from the Southern Deanery.
- iii. Central Deanery  
There was no report from the Central Deanery.

#### **c. Standing Committee Report**

Mr. Eric Rhodes, President of the Standing Committee, reported that the Standing Committee consented to:

- the candidacy of Dr. Chris Dodson
- the candidacy of Ms. Janette Platter
- the alienation of camp property by Christ Church, Springfield

#### **d. Registrar's/Archivist's Report**

The Rev. Chandler Jackson III reported that Consecration Committee material is being archived, and there is ongoing processing and inventorying of the collection. A question regarding the late 19<sup>th</sup> century mission of St. Mark's in St. Joseph is being researched.

#### **e. Secretary's Report**

The Secretary had no report.

#### **f. Treasurer's Report (with reports of Finance and Property Committees)**

The Treasurer submitted a written report and the minutes of the July 1, 2025 Finance Committee meeting. The Treasurer reported that the financial markets have been resilient, despite recent tariff uncertainties and now a new major piece of legislation. Diocesan revenue and expenses are tracking reasonably close to budget at this time. The new terms for the St. Mary Magdalene loan with Central Bank will be 20 years

with a fixed rate of 7% for five years. There are no action items from the Property Committee.

The Treasurer met with Bishop Amy, Fr. Isaac Petty Pierjok, and Finance Administrator Ron Weil on July 9 to talk about what is expected in revenue and expenses for the 2026 budget. Finance Administrator Ron Weil has received most of the requests from the stakeholders. The Treasurer anticipates that assessment income will be down \$60,000, and our investment draw up marginally due to the performance of our long-term investment portfolio. The Treasurer reported that the 2026 draft budget is within \$2,000 of being balanced.

**Grant Funds Balances Update:**

Central: \$90,233 spent. \$109,767 balance remaining

Property: \$240,953 spent. \$149,047 balance remaining

g. **Vice President's Report**

The Rev. Susan Roberts had no report.

h. **Bishop's Report**

The Bishop reported that:

- today is Cn. Shirley Bolden's birthday
- Council member Zella Forsythe's 12-year-old grandson died in a motorcycle/scooter accident; his funeral is this morning, and the Bishop requested prayers for Zella and her family
- visitations are ongoing (The Episcopal Church of the Redeemer, Kansas City; St. James, Springfield; Christ Church, Springfield)
- The Rev. Cn. Chas Marks and the Bishop will be attending the College for Congregational Development for a week at the end of July
- the 2026 budget will reflect two full-time canons who will be hired in January 2026: one for common mission and one for discipleship
- the purview of the canon for discipleship will include vocations, Commission on Ministry, and other commissions (the canon will work with formation chairs: The Rev. Brittany Sparrow Savage – children; Ms. Kim Snodgrass – youth; The Rev. Dcn. Alisa Carmichael – college; The Rev. David Wilcox – spiritual formation)
- the 2026 budget will reflect two 20-hour/week missionaries: one for grades 3-8 and one for grade 8 up to college; Ms. Kim Snodgrass will act as team facilitator

4. **New Business**

The Treasurer summarized the draft 2026 budget, noting that the budget is organized within the pillars. The Treasurer and Finance Administrator will prepare a revised budget summary.

5.     **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the meeting, Mr. Phil Metz moved, seconded by Mr. Tom Kokjer, to adjourn. **The motion carried**, and the Bishop adjourned the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
The Rev. Donna Stanford  
Diocesan Secretary