

Annual Convention Report

The 132nd Annual Convention of The Diocese of West Missouri



It continues to be a privilege for me to serve you as the Secretary of the Diocese. I am grateful for the trust that the members of the Convention showed in electing me to this position.

In my role as Secretary of the Convention, I report that the greetings of the 2020 Convention were extended to those persons named in the Courtesy Resolutions passed by the Convention. I would also report that plans are in process for holding the Diocesan Convention electronically this year. I wish to thank the members of the Diocesan Staff for their work in making this possible.

In my role as Secretary of the Diocesan Council, I have prepared the following summary of the actions taken by the Diocesan Council since the 2020 Convention. The minutes of Diocesan Council meetings are available at <https://www.diowestmo.org/our-work/diocesan-council-minutes-and-audits.html> after the Council has approved the minutes of the meeting.

The meetings of the Diocesan Council save the August 2021 were held via Zoom due to COVID-19 health regulations. The August meeting was a hybrid meeting, with some meeting at St. Mary Magdalene, Belton, and others attending via Zoom.

Yours in Christ,

Curtis D. Hamilton
Secretary of the Convention

December 12, 2020

- The members of the Diocesan Council and the Standing Committee met for discussion per the requirements of the diocesan canons. Fr. Galen Snodgrass was elected as Vice President of the Diocesan Council.
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- Fr. Joe Pierjok was elected as the at-large member of the Executive Committee.
- A recommendation from the Finance committee that income from forgiven Payroll Protection Program loans be exclude from the calculation of diocesan assessments was adopted.
- Housing allowances for clergy paid by the diocese were approved.
- A motion to authorize Bishop Field to sign contracts for the 2021 Diocesan Convention to be held in Springfield was approved.

February 13, 2021

- The Diocesan Council and Standing Committee met together for an Annual Retreat. No business session of the Diocesan Council was held during this meeting.

April 10, 2021

- An expenditure related to payment of a legal bill for work on a filing in the Boy Scouts of America bankruptcy was approved.
- The 2021 Plan for Ministry (PfM) was adjusted to provide additional money to on the Christian Formation line item to fund the Everything Holy project.
- The Council entered executive session to discuss personnel matters.

June 12, 2021

- Bishop Field reported the Jamillah Duckett had been named Events Coordinator for the diocese.
- The Council accepted the auditors' report on the Audited Financial Statements of the Administrative Segment of The Diocese of West Missouri for the year ended December 31, 2020. An unqualified ("clean") audit was received.
- A recommendation from the Finance Committee that the diocese apply for the Diocesan Relief Fund Grant from the Episcopal Church was adopted.

- A grant from the Congregational Development Grants line item of the 2021 PfM to St. Matthew's, Ozark was approved upon recommendation from the Finance Committee.
- The Council entered Executive Session to discuss personnel and legal matters.
- The Council authorized a renewal of the lease on the Springfield Apartment for one year.

July 27, 2021 (special meeting)

- The council met in executive session to a personnel matter.

August 14, 2021

- The Council entered Executive Session to discuss legal and personnel matters.
- The Council adopted a recommendation from the Finance Committee to extend the period of zero percent (0%) interest on current and future Expansion Fund loans indefinitely.
- The Council reviewed a draft of the 2022 PfM.
- A motion to pay the expenses of Bishop Field to attend the House of Bishop's meeting on September 21-23 was approved. (This vote was held via email between meetings.)
- Upon nomination by Bishop Field, Fr. Tim Coppinger (St. Paul's, Lee's Summit) and Mtr. Kary Mann (Trinity, Independence) were elected to the Commission on Ministry to fill vacancies with terms expiring after the 2022 Diocesan Convention.
- A motion to engage Ministry Architects to consult with the Youth Ministry department was approved.

October 9, 2021

(Note—the minutes of this meeting have not yet been approved)

- A motion was to adopt a recommendation from the Diocesan Staff that a contract with Summer One for information technology services was approved.
- The recommendation of the Finance Committee to adopt the 2022 PfM the Convention Edition of the 2022 PfM was approved.

- A grant from the Congregational Development Grants line item of the 2021 PfM to Church of the Resurrection, Blue Springs, was approved upon recommendation from the Finance Committee.
- A recommendation from the Human Resources Committee to approve the 2022 Medical Trust Plan Selection and the Minimum Clergy Compensation Schedule was adopted. (This vote was held via email between meetings.)
- The Diocesan Council determined that the upcoming Convention Eucharist offering be split, with 50% going to the ordinand's discretionary fund and 50% going toward Ministry Migration programs through Episcopal Migration Ministries.
- The recommendation of the Assessment Review Committee to provide assessment relief to five congregations was approved. The congregations given the relief and the amount of the relief are

○ St. Mary Magdalene, Belton	\$16,162.00
○ St. Anne's, Lee's Summit	8,061.00
○ St. Alban's, Bolivar	1,546.00
○ Grace Church, Liberty	16,804.00

Total relief	\$42,573.00
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Total line item from 2021 Plan for Ministry	\$83,354.00
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- The recommendation of the Finance Committee to extend the zero percent (0%) interest rates for Expansion Fund Lines of Credit through June 2021 was approved.
- The recommendation of the Finance Committee to adopt the 2021 Plan for Ministry dated October 6, 2020 as the Convention Edition of the 2021 Plan for Ministry was approved.
- The recommendations of the Human Resources Committee for 2021 minimum clergy compensation levels and medical insurance plans were approved.
- The recommendation of the Finance Committee to approve an expenditure of up to \$3,500.00 for the Communication Department to purchase equipment to allow for live streaming of diocesan events was approved.
- A motion that the Diocesan Convention will be held at church facility or facilities withing the Diocese on a day or days to be selected by the Provisional Bishop in consultation with the Diocesan Council and Standing Committee was passed.