Minutes of the Board of the
Pacific Northwest District, Church of the Brethren
Meeting May 14, 2026

In attendance: Enten Eller, Patrick Fiegenbaum, Daniel Klayton, Peggy Liley, Debbie Roberts, Liz Ullery Swenson, Howard Ullery

Peggy called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

Minutes

The minutes of the April 9, 2026 were approved as distributed.

Standing Committee Report

Patrick reported that the delegate briefing required by the Annual Conference office was held May 12, 2026 with three delegates in attendance. Delegates who didn't make the May 12 Zoom session can still receive the briefing on May 27, 2026 at 5 p.m. Pacific time. The briefing will be held by Zoom, and registration is required. **To register for the Zoom session, click here**.

Administrative Report

Daniel is working on the latest newsletter, which will be distributed after tonight's meeting to include business the Board conducts tonight. His target date for e-mail distribution of the District newsletter is the Tuesday after the Thursday the Board meets

Ministry Team Report

Daniel was ordained at the Ellisforde congregation on May 10, 2026. It was a lovely service, and Daniel's parents were able to attend by Zoom. As to the credentialing cards, Daniel reported that two of the cards were returned by mail. He will verify and correct the addresses, and then create a card for himself.

Finances

a. **Report** – Daniel distributed the Profit and Loss sheet and the Balance Sheet received from Debbie Franklin. Six congregations have requested and received their $18,000 grants from the District. If the other four congregations apply for the grant, it . After the financial reports were completed for April, $170,000 was transferred into the Eder accounts, six churches asked for and received their grants for $18,000 ($108,000 total), and roughly $3,000 in expenses were made for the Spring Event.

b. **Update on CLCC property sale distributions**. Daniel has calculated the distribution of the settlement proceeds from the sale of the Columbia Lakewood Community Church, $1.3 million less remedial costs and expenses for the sale. That remainder was $1,138,125.59. In accordance with the District's agreement with the United Church of Christ, five-eighths of the proceeds, $711,328.49, which we will forward to the United Church of Christ. Debbie and Howard wrote a letter to the UCC Conference detailing the transaction, and received a disappointingly terse response for the windfall.

c. **Questions received regarding $18,000 church donation offer**.

The leadership team at the Olympic View congregation had three questions about the $18,000 grants. Could they pass through part of the grant money to other organizations that align with their congregation's views? The answer is yes. Are there other congregations in the District who are in more dire circumstances who could use more of the money? It was the Board's intent to offer the same amount to all of the congregations, as laid out in the parable of the laborers, Matt. 20:1-16. If a congregation wanted pass some of their grant to another congregation, could they do that directly? The Board decided that a congregation could return part of their grant to the District and ask that it be disbursed to support another congregation. Finally, are the church camps were included in this offer of grant money? The answer is no, but the question has stimulated some ongoing discussion for the Board.

Proposal for a Virtual Hospitality Booth at Annual Conference

Enten has a proposal for the District to sponsor a virtual hospitality booth to welcome and interact with folks attending Annual Conference by Zoom. After discussion, the Board endorsed the proposal. Enten will work on staffing the room and protocols to encourage participants in a safe Zoom environment.

Report on Whitestone Community COB discernments

Daniel is stepping back from pastoring the Whitestone congregation toward the end of June. Time and energy considerations have forced this reluctant choice for Daniel. The congregation is meeting this Sunday, May 17, 2026 at 3 p.m. PDT to discuss their way forward. We reviewed the situation and the historic relationship between the congregation and the District, which has not always been smooth. The Board recognized the District's duty to the Whitestone congregation, and discussed whether the time is right at this meeting for someone from the Board to be physically present at this meeting. We decided to leave it up to the congregation if they wanted

someone from the District to attend their meeting by Zoom, and offer them a choice of Howard, Lani, or Enten.

District Conference September 25-27 at Camp Koinonia

a. Leadership Slate

Moderator (Liz eligible for second term)
Board Chair (Peggy finishing second term)
Ministry Team Chair (question regarding Enten's eligibility for a second term)
Standing Committee delegate (Patrick eligible for second term)

b. Conference theme

We tabled discussion of District Conference for our next meeting.

Report on Spring Event

Unfortunately, we were unable to provide a Zoom option for the Spring Event. Friends with the Weather provided very good leadership, and they did an incredible job of providing a program tailored to those in attendance. Howard gave them highest marks. Hopefully we can provide a Zoom option in the future.

Closing We adjourned at 8:11 p.m. **New Date and Time!** Next meeting June 18, 2026 at 5 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick Fiegenbaum
Recording Secretary
Pacific Northwest District