Annual Business Meeting of the Rocky Mountain Conference, UCC
Loveland, Colorado
June 21, 2025

Moderator: Sarah B. Linn, Creede Community Church, Creede, CO (SEA)
Vice Moderator: MaryEllen Beltracchi, Lakewood UCC, Lakewood, CO (MDA)
Parliamentarian: Lola Fehr, Greeley Congregational, Greeley, CO (PVA)
Scribe: Paul Heintzleman, First Congregational, Grand Junction, CO (WA)
Vote Counter: Laura Gurney, Greeley Congregational, Greeley, CO (PVA)

9:16 Moderator Sarah Linn called the business meeting to order.
Vote Counter Laura Gurney confirmed that a quorum was present, per RMC By Laws (41 of 70 churches and all associations represented).
Sarah welcomed everyone and opened the meeting with prayer.

929 Parliamentarian Lola Fehr outlined Robert's Rules of Order.
Consent Agenda item may be moved to the regular agenda.

Question posed concerning approving the agenda. Lola indicated that it was not required, but customary in case of an addition or removal of an agenda item. Colleen Hannon (Gunnison UCC) moved to add agenda approval to the agenda. Seconded by Elizabeth Endicott (Loveland UCC). Motion approved.

Question: Will the workshop discussion re Associations be on today's agenda? Sarah: It was not added to the agenda, nor requested, as it was merely a topic of discussion, not an actionable proposal.

9:44 Sarah outlined the Consent Agenda. The RMC Board provisionally approved last year's annual business meeting minutes in July 2024. **Motion** to approve the Consent Agenda was made and seconded. **Consent agenda approved**.

9:47 RMC Treasurer Hunter Baker (Union Congregational, Crested Butte, CO) gave the treasurer report: Thanks for staff and for Kari Collins and Teresa Campbell's work before he became Treasurer.
No large adjustments for next year's budget. We need to continue moving toward sustainability. That will depend in large part on how well we can articulate our story and deliver on our purpose of supporting local congregations.

10:09 Sarah calls for questions for Hunter.

Question re: anti-racism monies going to transition plan.

Question considering sale of a small parcel of land in WY; possible to apply that to Native American reparations?

Question re disability justice being added to RMC budget, moving WY land sale monies to local congregations.

Hunter: the parcel sale took it off our books; there was no revenue to the RMC (or for the RMC to distribute).

10:14 Hunter presented the proposed budget for 25-26 fiscal year.

An additional $5/member across the conference would balance the budget.

10:37 Sarah, **Motion** from the RMC Board to approve 25-26 budget as presented (no second required).

Discussion concerning increasing per capita from current levels (in place since 2020) to $20/member and promoting OCWM giving through video presentations, etc. No further comments/discussion. **Budget approved**.

10:45 Speak-outs with Vice Moderator MaryEllen Beltracchi.

10:56 Sarah recognized church anniversaries.

11:00 Vice Moderator MaryEllen Beltracchi presented proposed Bylaw changes on behalf of the RMC Board (no second needed; ⅔ majority vote required).

Motion: Updating language in the COM section of the Bylaws to adjust numbers required for the committee. No financial impact. **Motion approved**.

Motion: Eliminate EC language as applied to churches in their process of joining the RMC. No financial impact. Discussion concerning process of preparing and welcoming incoming congregations, upcoming approval by the General Synod of the UCC Manual on the Local Church, and whether changing the term EC would suffice. Oliva Hinnart (6th Ave. Denver, CO) called the question. Vote: 48 in favor, 28 against. **Motion is not approved**.

11:32 Endowment Fund of the RMC Chair, Tim Amen, presents EF Bylaw & policy changes update record keeping methods and allowing range of trustees 5-7. These were adopted by EF Trustees and endorsed by the RMC Board. **Motion passes**.

11:37 MaryEllen: Speak outs

11:50 Sarah recognized clergy anniversaries

11:55 Jenny Boteler (Green River, WY), on behalf of the Nominating Committee, presented this year's slate of nominees to open positions on the RMC Board, COM, Finance Committee, etc. No nominations from the floor. Motion from committee (no second required). **Nominating slate approved unanimously**.

12:00 Erin Gilmore: Thanked those who served in various roles over the last year.

12:15 Sarah Linn: Commissioning and blessing of incoming leaders

12:18 Representatives from the Intermountain Association invited the Conference membership to come to next year's **Annual Celebration in Provo, June 11-13, 2026!**

12:24 Meeting adjourned, song and blessing following.

Minutes submitted by Paul Heintzleman, meeting scribe