

# CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

## MEETING MINUTES

May 9, 2024

6:32 PM Meeting Commenced

Discussed LEAD material: *Male Eldership* by Strauch

Constitution / Bylaws Work

ARTICLE V:

### SECTION 1. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE.

**Recommended Change: sub-section 1**

From:

The congregation is the governing body of this corporation, having final authority in all matters.

To:

1. Under the authority of Jesus Christ and the Word of God, the congregation of the church is the final authority within this local church. In accordance with New Testament teachings, elders are elected and installed to lead, guide, and shepherd the church. However, the vote of the membership of this church at a properly called meeting, as provided in the bylaws, shall be required to effect the following actions:

- a. Accept members into the church
- b. Elect and install the elders of the church
- c. Discipline members by dismissing them and discipline leaders by removing them from leadership roles
- d. Approve annual budgets of the church, authorize any expenditure of the funds of the church when such expenditure is not covered by an approved budget or explicitly addressed elsewhere, and approve any transactions regarding real property
- e. Accept, reject, or otherwise dispose of any matter submitted to the membership by the elders
- f. Adopt, amend, or repeal the constitution or bylaws of this church.

**Recommended Change: sub-section 2**

From:

**The Board of Stewards** shall have overall responsibility for the direction, planning, coordination, and control of church objectives. The Board of Stewards acts for the congregation in all matters not specially reserved to the congregation in this constitution or where the congregation has not taken specific action.

To:

The Council of Elders will be responsible for the general oversight of the affairs of the church in accordance with the constitution and bylaws.

Discussion on whether to include deacons and trustees in this Article. It was agreed not to include them on the grounds that this article describes the overarching structure of authority and not a description of how every part of the church is governed. Those details will become clear throughout the constitution / by-laws

**Recommended Change: Cut sub-sections 3 & 4.** These are redundant since they will be detailed later in the constitution/by-laws.

## **SECTION 2. Board of Stewards.**

**Recommended Change:** Replace “**Board of Stewards**” title to “**Council of Elders**”

**Recommended Change:** Replace words in section 2

From:

The Board of Stewards shall serve as the officers of this church. The Board of Stewards shall be comprised of:

- a. The Senior Pastor
- b. The Church Chairman
- c. Six to ten other members elected by the congregation

To:

The Council of Elders are the legal directors of the church. The Council of Elders shall be comprised of:

- a. The Pastoral Staff
- b. The Church Chairman - to be elected by and among the Council of Elders
- c. Additional Elders approved by the membership of the church

**Recommended Change:** Move Sections 3, 4, 5, and 6 to the by-laws. These sections will be re-worded at a future meeting.

Distributed Lead Material for next meeting.

“Seven Elements of an Effective Shepherding Ministry” By Whitmer

“Getting Started” by Dever and Alexander

Schedule next meeting for: **Tuesday, June 11 at 6:30 PM**

Meeting adjourned at 8:27 PM