

**Wisconsin Religious Collaborative
Board of Directors Meeting**

March 24, 2025 - Zoom

Minutes

Roll Call

Pat Cormack, SCSC	President	Present
Sylvia Anne Sheldon, OSF	Vice President	Present
Theresa Sandok, OSM	Secretary	Present
Sue Ernster, FSPA	Treasurer	Present
Rose Jochmann, OSF	Board Member	Present
Mary Ann Pevas, OP	Board Member	Present
Sharon Pollnow, CSA	Board Member	Present
Donna Williams, SLW	Board Member	Present
Jean Schafer, SDS	Board Member	Present
Julie Schwab, OP	Board Member	Present
Sharon Glumb, SLW	Shared Services Director	Present

Call to Order

The annual meeting of the Board of Directors of the Wisconsin Religious Collaborative was called to order via Zoom by Pat Cormack, SCSC, at 9:30 a.m.

Prayer

Jean Schafer, SDS, led the opening prayer.

Approval of Agenda

Sylvia Anne Sheldon, OSF, moved, and Rose Jochmann, OSF, seconded the motion, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Approval of January 27, 2025 Minutes

Sharon Pollnow, CSA, moved, and Julie Schwab, OP, seconded the motion, to approve the January 27, 2025 minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Sue Ernster, FSPA, presented the Treasurer's report.

Financial Statements

As of February 28, 2025, assets totaled \$533,777.45, and liabilities totaled \$53.94, resulting in a positive fund balance of \$533,723.51. YTD income totaled \$85,873.61 and expenses totaled \$27,681.74, for a net gain of \$58,191.87.

Credit Card Policy

Deb Steiner has obtained credit cards for the WRC President and Shared Services Director (SSD). The Board agreed that credit card use shall be governed by the following provisions:

- The monthly limit on credit card purchases is \$2,000.
- Budgeted expenses in excess of \$2,000 require prior approval of the Treasurer.
- Unbudgeted expenses of \$2,000-\$5,000 by the SSD require prior approval of the President and by the President require prior approval of the Treasurer.
- Unbudgeted expenses in excess of \$5,000 require prior approval of the Executive Committee. At its discretion, the Executive Committee may submit such requests to the Board for approval.

Sue Ernster, FSPA, will prepare a draft of the credit card policy for consideration at the May Board meeting.

Shared Services Director's Report

Sharon Glumb, SLW, referenced her written report, which was sent out prior to the meeting.

Survey

The survey of WRC institutes was completed by all 10 groups on time, allowing for a quick turnaround in creating a compilation. The Executive Committee will meet with Sharon after today's Board meeting to discuss the best use of the compiled information.

Future Bi-Monthly Conversations and Topics

The Board agreed to hold conversations on the last Wednesday of the month, starting August 27. The April and June meetings will remain on Mondays, with Amy Hereford, CSJ, scheduled for April 21 and the June meeting on the 30th. Meetings run from 10:00-11:30 a.m., are open to team members, and will be recorded and posted in the members-only area of the website.

Future topics of interest include:

- Sharing management across congregations
- Sharing a finance director
- The emerging Franciscan Upper Mississippi Valley governance model
- Creating a vibrant community life for sisters no longer in ministry

The Board asked Sharon Glumb, SLW, to include in her April report to LCWR 9 an invitation to other institutes to consider membership in the WRC.

The Board expressed appreciation to Sharon for the fine work she is doing as Shared Services Director.

Educational Session with Dr. Emily Cash

Pat Cormack, SCSC, invited feedback on a topic for the May 30 educational session with Dr. Emily Cash. The following topics were suggested in order of priority:

1. Skills for courageous conversations – learning how to have difficult conversations honestly, lovingly, and tenderly – particularly around sensitive issues like the need for changes in living situations in light of the growing limitations of members and of leaders.
2. Resilience in the face of disruptions. The constantly changing landscape of leadership is filled with the unexpected crises that leaders need to face with resilience
3. Coping with the stressors of living in our current national and world climate.

The Board asked Pat to explore with Emily whether she would be open to including dialogue with participants during her time with us, rather than doing a purely lecture-style presentation.

The Board will meet at 9:30 a.m. Team members will join at 9:55 a.m. for the opening prayer.

St. Luke Institute Usage

Pat Cormack, SCSC, reported on the usage of the services we receive from St. Luke Institute and asked whether we wish to continue them. Those services include a subscription to SLIconnect for 50 seats at \$1,200 per year (an individual subscription is \$199 per year), 30 hours of individual consultation with teams at \$200 per hour, and two joint educational sessions per year with Dr. Emily Cash.

The Board agreed not to schedule additional educational sessions with Dr. Cash after the May 30 session. No decision was reached on whether to continue the SLIconnect subscription or the individual consultations. The consultations could be reduced from 30 to 20 hours per year or discontinued entirely. Pat will survey Board members to determine their preferences.

2025-2026 Budget

Pat Cormack, SCSC, asked Board members to give some thought to the impact of the current nine rather than the previous ten member units and whether we should revisit the funding model. She will meet with Sue Ernster, FSPA, and Sharon Glumb, SLW, on April 7 to discuss the budget and prepare some sample impacts of different funding models. She invited Board members to submit any budget-impacting ideas to Sue, Sharon, or her before the April 7 meeting.

Request to Share Recording of February 24 Conversation

Rose Jochmann, OSF, asked if she could share with her community members, facilitator, and canon lawyer the February 24 recording of the conversation with Jenny Howard, SP, on her role as a commissary. Speakers are told that these recordings will be confidential and available only to WRC Board members and their teams. Sharon Glumb, SLW, will contact Jenny regarding Rose's request.

Is Zoom AI Safe to Use?

Mary Ann Pevas, OP, raised a concern about using the Zoom AI recording feature for Board meetings. She offered to explore this issue with her IT people and get back to us.

Future Meetings: 9:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m.

Date	Place/Type	Prayer Leader
May 30, 2025	Zoom – Joint Teams	Sharon Pollnow, CSA
July 21, 2025	Fond du Lac	Pat Cormack, SCSC
September 15, 2025	St. Francis	Julie Schwab, OP
October 27, 2025	Zoom	Sue Ernster, FSPA

Adjournment

Jean Schafer, SDS, moved, and Sharon Pollnow, CSA, seconded the motion, to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Theresa Sandok, OSM
WRC Secretary