

**Wisconsin Religious Collaborative
Board of Directors Meeting**

**Zoom Meeting
October 27, 2025**

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
Jean Schafer, SDS	Board Member	Present
Julie Schwab, OP	Board Member	Present
Sharon Glumb, SLW	Shared Services Director	Present

Call to Order

A regular meeting of the Wisconsin Religious Collaborative Board of Directors was called to order by Pat Cormack, SCSC, at 9:35 a.m.

Prayer

Sue Ernster, FSPA, led an opening prayer.

Approval of Agenda

Sharon Pollnow, CSA, moved to approve the agenda, and Rose Jochmann, OSF, seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Approval of Minutes of September 15, 2025

Jean Schafer, SDS, moved to approve the September 15, 2025 minutes, and Sue Ernster, FSPA, seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Sue Ernster, FSPA, presented the Treasurer's report. As of September 30, 2025, assets totaled \$597,950.08. There were no liabilities. YTD income totaled \$82,481.06 and expenses totaled \$18,191.67, for a net gain of \$64,289.39.

Pat Cormack, SCSC's community made a donation in September, and two communities paid their dues. The \$287.99 credit under "Website" is the Carbonite refund from Julie Tydrich, FSPA's credit card.

We are on track with the budget.

Julie Schwab, OP, moved to approve the finance report, and Sylvia Anne Sheldon, OSF, seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Shared Services Director's Report

A written report from Sharon Glumb, SLW, was sent to the Board prior to the meeting (Attachment 1). Sharon drew attention to the following items:

Financial Issues

On October 6, Sharon met via Zoom with three congregational finance officers – Hertha Longo, CSA, for Sisters of St. Agnes, Laura Reicks, RSM, for Sinsinawa Dominicans, and Theresa Malm for Holy Cross Sisters of Merrill – to better understand their unique functioning and explore resources that might enhance collaboration. The main takeaway was the need for business community resources, and Sharon will follow up on specific business recommendations.

In the discussion that followed, Board members expressed a desire to meet to explore the needs of individual communities for financial services. The Board agreed to devote a portion of the January 5 meeting to this topic and to invite Hertha Longo, CSA, and Laura Reicks, OP, to participate in the discussion as resources. Sharon will draft a set of questions for members to use in consultation with their finance personnel in preparation for the meeting. The questions will aim to explore both the short-term and the long-term financial issues facing the congregations, identify specific finance issues arising within the congregations, and consider potential points of intersection or models for collaboration.

Canon and Civil Law Issues

On October 8, Sharon, Pat Cormack, SCSC, Beverly Heitke, SDS, Jean Schaefer, SDS, Charlotte Roost, OSF, and Sylvia Anne Sheldon, OSF, met in Milwaukee with attorney Michael Mazza, an adjunct professor of law at Marquette University with degrees in both canon and civil law. The purpose of the meeting was to explore questions raised by the three congregational leaders about trusts and legacy and dissolution documents. The questions were so extensive and complex that Mr. Mazza said all he could do would be to provide recommendations of attorneys to consult.

In conjunction with the discussion of canonical and civil issues, Board members recommended the following sessions from the 2025 RCRI National Conference:

- # 6. You Can't Take It with You: Legal Strategies for Religious Institutes to Continue Ministry After...and Maybe Even Before Completion – Mark MacDougall & Brooke Rink
- # 8. Legal Agreements with Archival Repositories – Sarah Aisenbrey, Ginger Downey, OLVM, Susan Durkin, OSU & Mollie Werwas
- # 21. Legal Foundations and Management of Religious Commissaries – Michael Airdo, James Jansen & Stephen Patterson
- # 26. Commissary Conversation: Recent Developments – Katie Clauss, IHM, Anna Marie Colapietro, SNJM, Sharon Euart, RSM, Larry Ford, OFM, Barbara Jean Franklin, ASC, Ann Lacour, MSC, & Elizabeth Langmead. MSHH
- # 36. Legal Insights for Effective Trust and HR Administration – Michael Airdo, James Jansen & Stephen Patterson

Conference recordings may be ordered at <https://rcri2025.wpengine.com/>.

Bimonthly Conversation Topic

Pat Cormack, SCSC, suggested a session on legacy options, such as the Franciscan organization that Kate Katoski is involved with and the Incarnate Word Foundation in St. Louis. Sharon Glumb, SLW, will follow up on this.

Executive Committee Elections

Elections for WRC officers will be held at the Board meeting on March 2, 2025. All four positions are open. Officers are elected for a two-year term and are eligible for re-election. Sharon Glumb, SLW, will coordinate the election process and recruit Board members to assist her.

FSPA to Return Land to Native Americans

Sister Sue Ernster, FSPA, announced to the Board that the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration will return the land of the Marywood Spirituality Center on Trout Lake to the Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa. The transfer agreement, facilitated by Land Justice Futures, will be made official in a ceremony on October 31, 2025. This is reportedly the first such land transition in the country and is garnering significant publicity.

Future Board Meetings

Date	Time	Location	Prayer Leader	Notes
5-Jan-26	9:30-2:30	Zoom	Jochmann	
2-Mar-26	9:30-2:30	Zoom	Sandok	Annual Meeting
4-5 May-26	noon-noon	Best Western, Portage	Sheldon	Joint Teams
13-Jul-26	9:30-2:30	La Crosse	Pevas	
21-Sep-26	9:30-2:30	Fond du Lac	Schafer	
16-Nov-26	9:30-2:30	Zoom	Pollnow	
18-Jan-27	9:30-2:30	Zoom	Cormack	

Bimonthly Conversations: Zoom 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Date	Presenters	Topic
10 Dec 2025	Theresa Sandok, OSM & Andrew Small, OMI	Missio Invest as an Option for Impact Investing
11 Feb 2026	Chioma Ahanilu, SLW	Consecrated Life in the 21st Century

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Theresa Sandok, OSM
WRC Secretary

Shared Services Director Report to the WRC Board October 27, 2025

Since our last Board meeting on September 15, these actions have been taken around the Priority Areas that were created at the July 21 Board Meeting:

1. Meeting by Zoom with 3 congregational finance officers to better understand their unique functioning and explore resources that might enhance collaboration (10/6).
2. Meeting with lawyer Michael Mazza and 3 congregational leaders (SDS, OSF-Lake & SCSC) in Milwaukee to secure recommendations for civil and canonical advice that would answer questions raised by these three congregations (10/8).
3. Meeting by Zoom with the LegNet group (10/7); regular reporting & preparations for their presence / presentation at the LCWR Region 9 meeting in Racine in November. Clarifications provided about topic, how to be responsive yet responsible with justice action.
4. Small revisions were made to the Priority Areas list; emailed to the Board.

New activities during this time included:

1. Attendance at the annual RCRI conference in Dallas, providing valuable information and connections to important resources (9/30 – 10/3).
2. Was interviewed by CSA Communications Dusty Krikau for an article to appear in their community newsletter to explain the current work of WRC.
3. Facilitated a gathering in Milwaukee of SDS Sisters who live independently, to consider housing / residence changes that will be needed (10/14).
4. Continued planning for the Joint Teams Gathering in May 2026 by meeting on Zoom with newly constituted committee members, Pat Cormack, Laura Nettles and Mark Clarke (10/13).
5. Secured presenters for the next two Bi-Monthly Conversations, namely,
 - a. December 10: 'Missio Invest' as Option for Legacy – Theresa Sandok, OSM & possibly Fr. Andrew Small
 - b. February 11: How Might Consecrated Life in the US Emerge through the Second Quarter of the 21st Century – Chioma Ahanihu, SLW
6. Participation in 2 LCWR webinars for leaders (9/25 & 10/21).

Submitted by:
Sharon Glumb, SLW
WRC Shared Services Director
October 21, 2025