Hope Evangelical Free Church Board Minutes

Meeting held on the Campus of Hope Church
3000 Lenhart Road, Springfield, Illinois 62711
September 22, 2025

Shannon Alderman, Presiding Elder, called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

The following Board members were present: Shannon Alderman, Gary Clark, Anthony Hamilton, Curt Mavis, Brian Mills, TC Morsch, Caleb Payne, Jeff Pfaffe, Dave Richardson, Shelley Simpson, and Tony Suggs.

Prayer and Reflection – Time was set aside for the elders to pray.

Opening: Curt Mavis opened the meeting with scripture and prayer. Dave Richardson led the group reading of the Elder Board Values and Norms.

Approval of Minutes: The Board approved the August 25, 2025; meeting minutes with changes to the Metrics and Elder Development Class wording. The corrected minutes will be posted to the Hope Church App.

Senior Pastor Reports

- **Strategic Plan Review: Vision Initiative Project (VIP) Status**
  Brian reported on the success of Vision Night and that it is being perceived as a regular event. The night was highly effective in presenting the One Aware initiative and informing the attendees of the financial status of the church.

- **Metrics**
  Brian provided a detailed financial report and stated that it looks like the church is on track to finish with a positive balance for the 2025 fiscal year. He explained and answered questions about the financial statements. The board appreciates the Summary Overview document and how it summarizes the church financial status.

- **Limitations Compliance**
  Brian explained and answered questions pertaining to the Limitation that was presented in his report.

- **Personnel**
  Brian explained and answered questions dealing with the business manager's transition plan that was presented in his report.

Policy Work

- Elder Selection (for term starting January 2026)
  The Review team has met and interviewed the candidates, and a report was presented to the Board. The Board thanked Jeff and Caleb for their time and work on this team.
- Elder Selection (for term starting January 2027)
  Brian presented a list of recommended candidates and stated there should be enough eligible candidates to form a development class starting this fall. He also presented an analysis of the possible scenarios for the next few years on board member vacancies.
- Audit firm status
  Sikich will conduct an audit review this fall. Carol is working with them and waiting for the contract.
- Annual review of Process Policies
  The following policies were reviewed, and no changes were deemed necessary:
  Conflict of Interest
  Teams
  Commissioning
  Vocational Pastoral Ordination in the EFCA

After discussion, the board decided to possibly delete assignment 4f from the Audit Process policy and re-word the statement 5a on the Ordination policy and move the Ordination Resource Guide to the Appendix section. These changes will be reviewed and possibly confirmed at the October meeting.

Announcements

Shannon announced that the next meeting date will be Monday, October 27 at 6:30 p.m. TC Morsch will open the meeting with prayer and Jeff Pfaffe will set the meeting context.

Adjournment
Dave Richardson closed the meeting with prayer, and Shannon adjourned the meeting at 9:26 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Pfaffe