

## InterAct Ministries, Inc., Board Minutes

Best Western Plus, Portland, Oregon  
September 14, 2024

**Members Participating:** Daryl Kroeker (Chairman), Dave Perry (Vice Chairman), Ray Prigodich (Secretary), Chuck Schaap (Treasurer), Huron Claus, Randy Jackson, Dave Ley, Mike Matthews, Peter Rogers, George Schultz, Bill Twichell, and Dale Smith (*ex officio* as Executive Director).

**Others Participating:** Steve Horsman and Lucas Orner (both via Zoom) during the first part of the meeting.

### Call to Order and Welcome

Chairman Kroeker called the meeting to order at 8:42 AM and opened in prayer.

**Note was made of a potential conflict of interest for board member Mike Matthews.**

### Devotional and Prayer Time

Dave Ley led us in a devotional time. He began by asking, “How many of us woke up this morning and said, ‘Maybe today?’” Paul, he said, lived in expectation of the Lord’s return. He had been in Thessalonica for only three Sabbaths, but during that brief period he instilled in the new believers there a strong expectation of the Lord’s return. In 1 Thessalonians 4-5 and 2 Thessalonians 2 he referred to the Lord’s *appearing* and his *coming*. In 2 Thessalonians 2 Paul referred, as well, to *the day of the Lord*, which, Dave said, will consist of several stages. And this particular term, he noted, generally refers to judgment. We should be living, he said, with a strong expectation of Christ’s return, but to what extent, he asked, are we doing so? We need to live in the light of his coming—although not by going so far as to set dates, as some Bible teachers have done. We should be telling others about his return and urging them to prepare for it. We have a blessed hope, Dave reminded us—the hope of the glorious return of Jesus Christ. He concluded by leading us in prayer.

### Approval of Previous Minutes

Dave Perry moved and Huron Claus seconded his **motion** that the Board minutes from March 1, 2024, be approved as circulated, and the motion was **approved** without any objection.

## REPORTS

The reports were not reviewed at this meeting, since it was assumed that everyone had read them prior to the meeting. Lucas Orner and Steve Horsman were available, however, to answer questions.

### **Russia Field Director's Report** (Lucas Orner)

- Lucas reported that things have been going really well, despite the current situation.
- He's been encouraged by the interest shown by a number of young people in the possibility of one day serving with InterAct in Russia.
- Two InterAct couples are moving toward taking up residence in villages where there is currently no church.
- Lucas is hoping that urban-dwelling believers will gain a vision to return to their home areas to spread the gospel, since there are currently very few churches in rural areas.
- Everyday life is pretty much the way it was before the current conflict began.

Lucas left the meeting following his presentation.

### **Alaska Field Director's Report** (Steve Horsman)

- Steve reported that he's been spending a lot of time with people—especially mature, experienced adults—who are open to serving in InterAct's ministry in Alaska.
- He has been encouraging his supporting churches to get more involved in facilitating ministry in Alaska.
- He's excited about the significant number of requests that have been received for missionaries to be placed in various villages (11 places in all). There have been more requests than available people.
- Working with Assistant Field Director Toby Curtis has been very exciting. Toby, he said, is doing an incredible job. He's taken on Jill's administrative role and is really excited about it.
- Steve has been spending a lot of time mentoring Mark Overbeek for the his future role of field director. Mark will soon be spending one week each month at the field office. Things related to the transition are going a lot better than Steve had anticipated.
- In answer to a question, Steve talked a bit about ETANA, the comprehensive missionary training program developed by Mike Matthews. He said that he wants the process to be simple, but not necessarily easy.
- In answer to a question about the possibility of increasing the use of Zoom for training and mentoring, Steve said that unless there is already a deep relational tie between the trainer and the trainee, Zoom is less effective than meeting face to face.

### **Prayer for the Fields**

Several board members led in prayer for Lucas and Steve and for the ministries they lead in Russia and Alaska. Steve left the meeting following this time of prayer.

### **Transition Leadership Committee Report** (Daryl Kroeker, Chairman; Mike Matthews; Jack Teeter; and Dale Smith)

Over the last few months, serious conversations have taken place with four potential candidates for the role of executive director, interviews have been conducted with two of them, and one person, Tim Colwell, has now been identified as the leading candidate. The

Canada Board voted last week to pursue Tim as *the* (not simply *a*) candidate, and the Transition Leadership Committee is fully behind him.

- Tim is a 53-year-old American citizen who has served in the Yukon for 27 years. Tim and his wife, Gwendy, have five children. Tim came over to InterAct from SEND North, whose management board he chaired for several years. He has a solid reputation among his former SEND colleagues.
- He's very church-oriented and is a committed church planter, although no native leadership has yet emerged after 27 years.
- He established the Hope Centre, a community center in Ross River, which he hopes will eventually develop into a church.
- He's approachable and convivial, is servant oriented, is teachable and open to new ideas, and is a good communicator.
- He's less relational than Dale, but neither is he top-down in his leadership style.
- He's willing to move to Portland but would prefer to be based in Alaska.
- He doesn't like administrative work, but his wife, Gwendy, does.
- He was raised in a very conservative Baptist environment but says that he has since grown out of that exceptionally narrow mindset.
- He has a certificate in Bible from the Practical Bible Training School and a bachelor's degree in biblical studies and intercultural studies from Prairie College.
- He's the author of the book *Blessed Is He: Learning to Trust the Lord*.
- Even before he was considered for this role, he had sensed that it would soon be time to move on from Ross River.

Dale said that while Tim may not be a perfect candidate, he's clearly the best person they've come across in their search. The Committee anticipates having Tim attend the JMAC meeting in February and, if all goes well, May 2026 is the anticipated date for the transition. Dale said that he's committed to doing all he can to make the transition as smooth as possible.

It was noted that the Canada Board, which met last week, has affirmed to the InterAct Inc. Board its desire that Tim Colwell be the candidate for executive director, and it recommended that the current TLC team should continue overseeing the transition process, working with Dale until completion.

Dave Ley moved and Chuck Schaap seconded his **motion** that we accept the recommendation of the TLC that Tim Colwell be considered the candidate for the position of executive director and that we agree with the Canada Board that the current TLC Committee continue working with Dale and the executive director designee until transition is complete. The motion was **approved** without any objection.

Dale said that he will make available to us on the password-protected board website some additional information about Tim, including his CV.

### **Executive Director's Report (Dale Smith)**

Dale first walked through, section by section, what is posted on the board website and reviewed how to gain access to that site.

Since it was assumed that everyone had read his report prior to the meeting, Dale didn't go through the entire report, but he did add a few comments on various items included in the report. Someone asked the question, "How do you see the direction of InterAct for the next number of years?" Dale's response was: "Continuing to focus on facilitating the planting of new churches."

Dave Ley moved and George Schultz seconded his **motion** that Dale's report be received, and the motion was **approved** without any objection.

### **Prayer for the Organization**

Two members led us in prayer for Dale and for the work of InterAct Ministries.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Finance and Audit Committee Report** (Chuck Schaap, Committee Chair; Randy Jackson; Dave Ley; Ray Prigodich; Daryl Kroeker, *ex officio* as Board Chair; Dale Smith, *ex officio* as CEO; and Mike Hubbard, *ex officio* as CFO).

Chairman Schaap presented the Committee's **report** (see attached minutes), and Huron Claus **moved** that it be accepted. The motion was **approved** without any objection. By approving this report, the Board accepted the following recommendations:

- That the 2023-24 audit be approved.
- That Kern & Thompson be appointed as auditors for the 2024-25 budget year.
- That the clergy housing allowance for 2024 be set at a maximum of \$36,000.
- That IRS Form 990 be approved as presented.

**Nominating and Review Committee Report** (Dave Perry, Committee Chair; Huron Claus; Mike Matthews (by invitation); Peter Rogers (by invitation); Daryl Kroeker, *ex officio* as Board Chair; and Dale Smith, *ex officio* as CEO).

Chairman Perry presented the Committee's **report** (see attached minutes), and Ray Prigodich **moved** that it be accepted. The motion was **approved** without any objection. By approving this report, the Board accepted the following recommendations:

- That the following slate of officers be approved for 2025:
  - Chairman: Dave Perry
  - Vice Chairman: George Schultz
  - Secretary: Huron Claus
  - Treasurer: Dave Ley
- That the Board committees be constituted as follows in 2025:

- **Nominating and Review Committee:** George Schultz, Chair; Huron Claus; Peter Rogers; Bill Twichell; Dave Perry, *ex officio* as Board Chair; and Dale Smith, *ex officio* as Executive Director.
- **Finance and Audit Committee:** Chair, Dave Ley; Chuck Schaap; Randy Jackson; Dave Perry, *ex officio* as Board Chair; Dale Smith, *ex officio* as Executive Director; and Mike Hubbard, *ex officio* as Finance Director.
- That the following people be considered as potential new board members:
  - Mark Mowery, who is very interested in being a board member (Mike Matthews will contact Mark to fill out an application)
  - Cal Dunham – Alaska (Huron will inquire)
  - Dan Teeter – Everett, Washington
  - John Leo – North Spokane
  - Derrick Zuk – Missions Pastor, Anchorage Grace Church (Dale spoke with Derrick and Derrick remains interested)
  - Randy Karlberg – Alaska
  - Steven R. Tracy – Arizona/Oregon: Professor of Theology and Ethics at Phoenix Seminary in Phoenix, Arizona. He graduated from Western Conservative Baptist Seminary (MDiv, ThM) and received a Ph.D. in New Testament from the University of Sheffield, England. He was a pastor for fifteen years and has extensive pastoral counseling experience. He and his wife, Celestia, who is a family therapist, are the founders of Mending the Soul Ministries, a non-profit Christian organization that provides training, curriculum, and education on abuse prevention and healing. Dr. Tracy is the author of various articles on abuse and sexuality, serves on the Governor’s Commission to Prevent Violence against Women for the State of Arizona, and serves on the Fatality Review Team for the city of Phoenix. (Huron will inquire)

### **Future Meetings**

The Board will meet:

- Thursday through Saturday, February 27-March 1, 2025, at the Collins Retreat Center in Eagle Creek, Oregon, with committee meetings on the afternoon and evening of February 27, the Joint Board Dialogue and JMAC meeting on February 28, and the Inc. Board meeting on March 1.
- Friday and Saturday, September 12-13, 2025 (in the Portland area), with committee meetings on the afternoon and evening of the 12<sup>th</sup> and the meeting of the full Board on the 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Thursday through Saturday, February 26-28, 2026 (at a location to be decided), with committee meetings on the afternoon and evening of February 26, the Joint Board Dialogue and JMAC meeting on February 27, and the Inc. Board meeting on February 28.

We briefly discussed the pros and cons of holding next September's meeting via Zoom, but we quickly agreed that, in light of the leadership transition, we should definitely meet in person at least next year.

**Closing Prayer and Adjournment**

Dave Perry moved and Dave Ley seconded his **motion** that the meeting be adjourned, and the motion was **approved** without any objection. Chairman Kroeker adjourned the meeting at 1:25 PM and led us in a closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Ray Prigodich  
Crossville, Tennessee  
September 21, 2024