



Synodical Council Report

Kurt Austad

Nebraska District SC Lay Member

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Membership and organization

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- One Lay Member from each district
- Two at-large pastors and one at-large teacher
- Chairmen of the three areas of ministry
- Three district presidents
- President
- Advisory members
- Three standing committees
 - Administration
 - Finance
 - Ministry

Oversight of Operations and Policies

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- Accounting Oversight Committee (*RTD* p. 59)
- International travel and security
- Corporate credit card policy
- Uniform endowment spending policy
- Conflict of interest policy
- Use of special funds and designated gifts

Oversight of Operations and Policies

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- Facilities and property (p. 56)
 - SAB maintenance and future plans
 - School campus maintenance
 - MLC chapel project
 - Restoration and sale of the last synod-owned parsonage
- WELS archives (p. 57)
 - Progress in organizing materials
 - Need for staffing and space

Oversight of Operations and Policies

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- Support Services (p. 60-66)
 - Financial services
 - Technology and Information Services
 - Human Resources
 - New Human Resources Oversight Committee

Implementing Convention Decisions

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- Convention Compliance List (p. 34-35)
 - Tracking responsible entities
 - Reports on progress
 - Prepare final report to the 2011 Convention

Overseeing Areas of Ministry

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- Ministry Committee membership
- Progress and planning reports
- Prioritizing and coordinating mission and ministry

Developing the Ministry Plan and Budget

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- Support forecast
- Input from areas of ministry and support services
- Process for 2011-13 already begun
- Initial budget proposal to SC in November 2010
- Refined proposal in February 2011
- Final budget in April 2011
- Budget proposed to Convention in July 2011

Oversight of Subsidiary Organizations

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- WELS Church Extension Fund (p. 95)
- WELS Foundation (p. 96)
- WELS Investment Funds (p. 98)
- Northwestern Publishing House (p.100)
- WELS Benefit Plans (p. 101)
- WELS Historical Institute (p. 102)

Other Entities

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- WELS Archives (p. 57)
- Committee on Relief (p. 57)
- Publication Coordinating Committee (p. 58)

Long Range Ministry Plan 2017

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- Mandated by the 2009 Convention
- Draft to be considered by 2010 District Conventions
- Additional development and refining
- Final plan presented to 2011 Synod Convention

2009-2011 Biennial Budget

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- Balanced
- Increased transparency
 - Synod Special Funds
 - Schools
- Improved projectability
 - CMO driven
 - Financial Stabilization Fund

Fiscal Year 2009-10

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- Surplus projected
 - CMO shortfall
 - VEBA premium holiday
 - Under-spending

Fiscal Year 2010-11

Slide 14

- Balanced budget projected
 - CMO shortfall
 - Wage freeze
 - Foundation support
 - Bequests

2011-2013 Biennial Budget

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- Deficits projected
 - FY 2011-12: \$4.2 million
 - FY 2012-13: \$4.3 million
- CMO increases of 2.0%
- Wage increases of 3.5%
- Schwann Foundation
- School maintenance
- CMSG support

2011-2013 Biennial Budget

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- Preliminary annual subsidy allocations:
 - Ministerial Education \$7,800,000 (28.5%)
 - World Missions \$6,000,000 (21.9%)
 - Home Missions \$5,100,000 (18.6%)
 - Cong. & Dist. Ministry \$3,900,000 (14.2%)
 - Ministry Support \$3,000,000 (10.9%)
 - Debt \$1,600,000 (5.8%)

Our prayer

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We always thank God for all of you, mentioning you in our prayers. We continually remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Thessalonians 1:2-3)