

**Approved Minutes**  
**From the April 3, 2017 General Conference**  
*General Conference of the Joint Conference of Restoration Branches*  
*Good Shepherd Community of Christ, Independence, MO*  
*April 3, 2017*

The general conference of 2017 was begun with a ceremonial opening, including the hymn “Great and Marvelous Are Thy Works,” a power point with the flags from the countries which have branches that participate in the Joint Conference of Restoration Branches, the hymn “This Is My Song,” and a blessing on the conference by conference vice president Dan Sherer.

The conference was called to order with an introduction of officers serving for the conference. They include president Fred Greene, vice-president Dan Sherer, secretary H. Alan Smith, treasurer Nathan Sherer and recorder Doug Patterson.

Doug Patterson presented a preliminary credentials report, with a fuller report to be presented at the Friday, April 7, business session. By March 30 there had been 166 registrations for the conference, a significant increase in the number of registrations at that point before conference began in past years.

The minutes of the April 15, 2016 business meeting were brought to the attention of the conference for approval. Jim McKay moved and Dale Wilson seconded the motion to approve the minutes as printed. The motion was approved.

Julie Skotak moved and Rex Curtis seconded the motion to approve an amended order of business and the order of resolutions for the conference. The addition of action on the setting apart request by the Seventy for two new Presidents of Seventy was added to the business for the opening session. The motion to adopt the order of business and order of resolutions was approved.

President Greene called the attention of the conference to reports from the Education Committee, Latter Day Saints’ Beacon, Restoration Women’s Ministries, Youth Activities Committee, Information Technology Committee and the U.S. National Conference Discussion Summary. A motion was made by Chad Nestman and seconded by Frank Frye to accept the committee reports. The motion was approved.

President Greene called the attention of the conference to quorum reports from the Quorum of Restoration Apostles, Quorum of High Priests and Quorum of Seventy. Dale Wilson moved and David Newman seconded the motion to accept the quorum reports. The motion was approved.

Treasurer Nathan Sherer presented an amended budget for the general conference this year. The budget calls for \$2,600 in building rental, \$1,500 in other expense, \$2,500 in food expense, \$350 for childcare, \$800 for supplies and \$1,500 for IT expense for a total general expense amount of \$9,250. Delegate travel totaled \$19,600 for a total budget of \$28,910. This

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compares to the budget of \$28,220 for 2016. Dave Drummond moved and Dave Newman seconded the motion to approve the conference budget for 2017. The motion carried.

Treasurer Sherer also gave a brief introduction to the Joint Council of Restoration Branches annual budget, which will be voted on at the Friday business session with details from the Quorum of Seventy are completed.

Next item for discussion was Resolution 2017-1 Change of Rules of Order for Election of Officers. Dale Wilson moved and Martha VanNordstrand seconded the motion to approve the resolution which read:

### **2017-1 Change in Rules of Order for Election of Officers**

*(From the Conference Officers)*

**Be it resolved** that the first seven items in Resolution #3 -- Rules of Order of the conference be amended to read:

#### **Resolution #3, Rules of Order**

##### **Rules of Ordering the Conference**

1. Mass meeting of Melchisedek Priesthood from Participating Branches. Following prayer and supplication to the Lord that these activities shall be blessed with His spirit, a mass meeting of the registered Melchisedek priesthood shall be convened prior to the election of officers. The JCRB Vice President shall call the meeting to order and appoint the JCRB secretary/clerk to take minutes.
2. Presiding Protocols. The Conference President shall be chosen from among the registered Melchisedek priesthood. Preference shall be given to the office of Apostle, then the office of High Priest, then to the office of Seventy, and finally the office of Elder.
3. Nomination by the Melchisedek Priesthood for Conference President. Having affirmed the presiding protocols, the Vice-President shall open nominations for the office of President of the Conference. The nominee shall be determined by a hand vote of the priesthood.
4. Closing the Mass Meeting of Melchisedek Priesthood. The Vice-President shall direct the Secretary/Clerk to prepare a report of the meeting and election results for the conference. He shall then call upon the newly elected nominee to offer a closing prayer.
5. Election of Conference President by the Conference. At the announced time and place, the presiding officer shall read the report of the mass meeting of the Melchisedek priesthood to the conference. He shall then accept the nomination from the Melchisedek priesthood and open the floor for nominations. Following the nominating process, the conference President shall be chosen from the eligible nominees by vote of the officially registered membership.
6. Electing other officers. Nominations will then be opened for four officers: Vice-President, Secretary/Clerk, Treasurer and Recorder. These offices will be filled by vote of the officially registered membership.
7. Officers: Officers shall be elected to serve from spring conference to spring conference. New officers shall assume their responsibilities at the close of the conference at which they were elected. These duties of the officers are as follows:

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- a. President: The President shall be elected to preside over the deliberative sessions of the conference. He shall also serve as the chair for the Logistics Committee in planning and coordinating preparations for the next conference. The president will be responsible to ensure that the operations needed to carry out the will of the conference during the inter-conference period are handled.
- b. Vice-President: The Vice-President shall be subject to the same qualifications for office as the President. He shall be a member of the Logistics Committee with voice and vote and shall preside in the absence or by the direction of the President. He shall serve as a counselor to the President and lend support and assistance. The President and the Vice-President shall function harmoniously for the benefit and welfare of the conference.
- c. Secretary/Clerk: The Secretary/Clerk shall be chosen from among the Melchisedek priesthood (Doc. & Cov. 17:25b) to keep a record of the activities and deliberations of the conference. Minutes shall be provided at each subsequent business session for approval by the body and a draft set of minutes shall be available on the day after the last business session by electronic format for distribution to delegates and members. He shall serve as the secretary for the Logistics Committee with voice and vote. The Secretary shall be allowed to contract with members to assist in completing these tasks.
- d. Treasurer: The Treasurer shall be chosen from among the Melchisedek priesthood and shall preside over the Finance Committee. He shall receive all Conference monies and shall disburse all financial obligations. He shall report on budgetary items, as requested, and provide an annual report of conference income and expenses to the conference. In all his duties, the Treasurer shall be accountable to the Conference. The Treasurer shall draw from among the membership to assist him in transacting his responsibilities.
- e. Recorder: The Recorder shall maintain membership records as submitted by participating branches and oversee the credentialing of delegates and members as chair of the Credentials Committee.

Jerry Vickery offered an amendment to the measure, changing the wording in several places and Jamie Herring seconded the motion. In item number 1, the amendment struck the words “from participating branches.” In item number 2 the amendment added the word “registered” before Melchisedec priesthood and struck the words “of the participating branches.” The amendment also struck the words “Apostle, then the office of” in the second sentence. In items 7d the amendment struck the words, “and until a bishop shall be appointed.”

Frank Frye then made an amendment to the amendment, putting the words “Apostle, then the office of” back into the resolution. Patrick McKay seconded the motion. A vote was held on the amendment to the amendment, which carried. The amended motion was then voted on and approved as well.

The adopted motion was:

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### JCR#135 Change in Rules of Order for Election of Officers

*(From the Conference Officers)*

**Be it resolved** that the first seven items in Resolution #3 -- Rules of Order of the conference be amended to read:

#### **Resolution #3, Rules of Order**

##### **Rules of Ordering the Conference**

1. Mass meeting of participating Melchisedec Priesthood. Following prayer and supplication to the Lord that these activities shall be blessed with His spirit, a mass meeting of the registered Melchisedec priesthood from participating branches shall be convened prior to the election of officers. The JCRB Vice President shall call the meeting to order and appoint the JCRB secretary/clerk to take minutes.
2. Presiding Protocols. The Conference President shall be chosen from among the Melchisedec priesthood of the participating branches. Preference shall be given to the office of Apostle, then the office of High Priest, then to the office of Seventy, and finally the office of Elder.
3. Nomination by the Melchisedec Priesthood for Conference President. Having affirmed the presiding protocols, the Vice-President shall open nominations for the office of President of the Conference. The nominee shall be determined by a hand vote of the priesthood.
4. Closing the Mass Meeting of Melchisedec Priesthood. The Vice-President shall direct the Secretary/Clerk to prepare a report of the meeting and election results for the conference. He shall then call upon the newly elected nominee to offer a closing prayer.
5. Election of Conference President by the Conference. At the announced time and place, the presiding officer shall read the report of the mass meeting of the Melchisedec priesthood to the conference. He shall then accept the nomination from the Melchisedec priesthood and open the floor for nominations. Following the nominating process, the conference President shall be chosen from the eligible nominees by vote of the officially registered membership.
6. Electing other officers. Nominations will then be opened for four officers: Vice-President, Secretary/Clerk, Treasurer and Recorder. These offices will be filled by vote of the officially registered membership.
7. Officers: Officers shall be elected to serve from spring conference to spring conference. New officers shall assume their responsibilities at the close of the conference at which they were elected. These duties of the officers are as follows:
  - a. President: The President shall be elected to preside over the deliberative sessions of the conference. He shall also serve as the chair for the Logistics Committee in planning and coordinating preparations for the next conference. The president will be responsible to ensure that the operations needed to carry out the will of the conference during the inter-conference period are handled.
  - b. Vice-President: The Vice-President shall be subject to the same qualifications for office as the President. He shall be a member of the Logistics Committee with voice and vote and shall preside in the absence or by the direction of the President. He shall serve as a counselor to the President and lend support and assistance. The President and the Vice-President shall function harmoniously for the benefit and welfare of the conference.

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- c. Secretary/Clerk: The Secretary/Clerk shall be chosen from among the Melchisedec priesthood (Doc. & Cov. 17:25b) to keep a record of the activities and deliberations of the conference. Minutes shall be provided at each subsequent business session for approval by the body and a draft set of minutes shall be available on the day after the last business session by electronic format for distribution to delegates and members. He shall serve as the secretary for the Logistics Committee with voice and vote. The Secretary shall be allowed to contract with members to assist in completing these tasks.
- d. Treasurer: The Treasurer shall be chosen from among the Melchisedec priesthood and shall preside over the Finance Committee. He shall receive all Conference monies and shall disburse all financial obligations. He shall report on budgetary items, as requested, and provide an annual report of conference income and expenses to the conference. In all his duties, the Treasurer shall be accountable to the Conference. The Treasurer shall draw from among the membership to assist him in transacting his responsibilities.
- e. Recorder: The Recorder shall maintain membership records as submitted by participating branches and oversee the credentialing of delegates and members as chair of the Credentials Committee.

Next item of business was the request from the Seventy for setting apart two of the members of the quorum to responsibilities as Presidents of Seventy. Jim McKay and Dan Norman were recommended to serve as members of the Council of Presidents of Seventy. The action was moved to the agenda for Monday so the two men could function in their new roles during the week. Dave Drummond made the motion to approve the request and Dick Hahn seconded the motion. The measure was approved.

Dale Wilson then moved and Dave Newman seconded a motion to adjourn the conference session to the next scheduled meeting on Friday, April 7.

Respectfully submitted,  
H. Alan Smith  
Conference Secretary