

**ROLLING HILLS COVENANT CHURCH**  
**Elder Council – Meeting Minutes**  
**November 9, 2020 (Approved 11/30/2020)**

**MEETING ATTENDANCE**

Name	Position	Present	Absent
Mike Cochrane	Chairman	X	
Mike DiLustro	Vice Chairman	X	
Sam Evans	Interim Senior Pastor	X	
Shawn Hurley	Executive Preaching Pastor		X
Clyde LaGue	Elder – Children’s Commission	X	
Steve Bunyard	Elder – Congregational Care	X	
Jerry Rilling	Elder – Connect & Equip Commission	X	
Gene Chou	Elder – Finance & Property Commission	X	
Craig Knickerbocker	Elder – Global Outreach Commission	X	
Mike Curtis	Elder – Life Group Commission	X	
Dan Murdoch	Elder – Local Outreach Commission	X	
Terry Wheeler	Elder – Personnel Commission	X	
Mark Fredrickson	Elder – Stewardship Commission	X	
Rod Lenders	Elder – Student Commission	X	
Rich Tamble	Elder – Worship Arts Commission	X	
Bob Cubillos	Business Administrator	X	
Sam Tabari	Director of Communications & Strategy	X	
Jane Wallin	Secretary	X	

Pastor Nate Aanderud and Trent Mitchell attended this meeting.

At 7:03 PM, Chairman Cochrane opened this safe, in-person meeting by reading and praying Psalm 133.

Chairman Cochrane presented the annual Corporate Resolution by reading it to the EC. This document delineates who is authorized (Bob Cubillos, Business Administrator; Corporate Officers: Mike Cochrane, Mike DiLustro, Gene Chou, and Peter Knickerbocker; and Misty Epps, Director of Finance) to manage the assets of RHCC and how they must do so. The document was then signed by Chairman Mike Cochrane and Jane Wallin, Church Secretary, and adopted by acclamation.

**ADOPT AGENDA**

Moving the CR update directly after the devotional, delaying all other agenda items and replacing them with Discussion of the Path Forward, the meeting agenda was adopted.

**DEVOTIONAL**

Pastor Nate began by sharing his favorite verse after leaving his ministry in Costa Rica – 3 John 1:4 – *“I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth.”* (NIV) He encouraged the EC to be kingdom focused and to be making disciples, especially with the focus of raising up leaders from within our church. This is what Jesus did; He focused His ministry on His disciples. Nate noted that this is exactly what our Interim Mission and Vision state. [Mission Statement – Seizing this season to grow disciples and bring in the harvest. Vision Statement – Glorifying God by loving, discipling, praying, going, and teaching the Gospel to all generations, peoples, and nations.] Next Nate referred to Colossians 1:27-29 – *“<sup>27</sup> To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.<sup>28</sup> He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ. <sup>29</sup> To this end I strenuously contend with all the energy Christ so powerfully works in me.”* (NIV) He noted that these three verses clearly depict that Mission and Vision – to present everyone fully mature in Christ and to do this with all the energy Christ provides us. Pastor Nate concluded with this thought: if every elder disciplined 10 people per year and those 10 people went on to disciple 10 people each year, and so on, in 7 years everyone in the church will have been disciplined! This is his heart’s desire for RHCC.

**CELEBRATE RECOVERY UPDATE**

Pastor Nate and Trent Mitchell shared about the Celebrate Recovery ministry. Nate gave the EC the initial handout that is given to everyone who comes to CR. It includes a checklist to help one determine areas in their life that need attention and healing, the “Twelve Steps” and their Biblical comparisons, and the 8 Recovery

Principles based on the Beatitudes. Everything has Biblical foundations. Nate then invited Trent Mitchell to share some thoughts with the EC, as he will be taking on the mantle of leadership for CR with Pastor Nate now being fulltime Associate Pastor of Outreach. Trent gave a short version of his testimony. He was on the verge of divorce in 2011, when a counselor directed him and his wife to go to CR. First, CR deepened his relationship with Jesus Christ, and, secondly, his marriage was healed. He and his wife began attending services during that time as well and became members of the church. They love RHCC and the CR ministry and are grateful for both. Nate shared that he often told people he had the best job in the whole church, because he heard testimonies like Trent's week after week. Jerry interjected a testimony of CR's help to several of the homeless from Beacon Light – that the program had done wonders for them. Nate humbly corrected his statement that it is all God's work, not "the program." In closing this update, Chairman Mike asked the EC to lay virtual hands on and pray for Nate and Trent and the CR ministry.

### **ELDER PRAYERS**

The EC prayed for health concerns and loss of loved ones of members and staff, for the pastoral search committee, for protection of the flock, and for humble hearts and minds.

### **APPROVE PRIOR ELDER MEETING MINUTES**

The minutes from the 10/19/2020 EC meeting were approved by acclamation.

### **DISCUSSION OF THE PATH FORWARD**

Pastor Sam related that, after much prayer, thought, and work, the EC had Terry Wheeler, Mike Cochrane, Gene Chou, Bob Cubillos, Steve Bunyard, and Sam Evans meet with Paul Wilson, ECC Pacific Southwest Conference Supervisor, to determine a path forward for our church. First and foremost, there must be reconciliation. Paul also presented some options for consideration.

Pastors Shawn and Garrick along with those listed above met together. Each took the opportunity to admit their failings in the current context and to offer forgiveness to each other. All agreed to speak well of each other going forward. Shawn, Sam, and Mike Cochrane all recognized that, since our issues are decades in the making, it is unreasonable to expect that they as individuals or even collectively could "fix" everything.

After discussing the options Paul Wilson presented, Pastor Sam moved that we propose a church plant to both Pastor Shawn and Pastor Garrick. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. (The ECC provides guidelines for planting parameters.)

This plan yields great benefit to the Kingdom, in that each will be free to pursue what they believe God is calling them to; congregants will have the opportunity to choose where they believe God is calling them to worship and minister; it provides a path to peace and harmony; and it will be a gift to the incoming Senior Pastor, as he will have less of a "rebuild" to accomplish.

The EC agreed to bless Garrick and Shawn with 2 years severance each, if they each agree to a church plant. If Shawn is not interested in doing that, the EC agreed to bless him with a 1-year salary and benefits separation agreement.

Chairman Mike moved that we exceed the ECC standard for church planting resources to \$200,000. The motion was seconded and passed with two against.

Pastor Sam will present these options to Shawn and Garrick, with time to prayerfully consider and make a decision, after which details of the agreements will be worked out.

### **CLOSING PRAYER**

Vice Chairman Mike DiLustro concluded the meeting in prayer at 9:37 pm.

### **ACTION ITEMS RECAP**

N/A

**STAFF ROUNDTABLE – See Appendix A**

**ELDER ROUNDTABLE – See Appendix B**

**Next ECM Dates – (Meeting in person safely):**

**November TBD**, and December 7, 2020; and January 18, 2021.

(EC meetings are typically either on the 1<sup>st</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays of the month and sometimes both.)

**Next CBM Dates:**

**November 22, 2020**; February 28, May 2, September 19, and November 14, 2021.

s/Jane Wallin  
Secretary

## **APPENDIX A – STAFF UPDATES**

**Sam**

**Shawn**

**Garrick**

## **APPENDIX B – ELDER UPDATES**

**CHAIRMAN (Mike Cochrane)**

**CHILDREN’S MINISTRIES (Clyde LaGue)**

**CONGREGATIONAL CARE (Steve Bunyard)**

**CONNECT & EQUIP (Jerry Rilling)**

**FINANCE & PROPERTY (Gene Chou)**

**GLOBAL OUTREACH (Craig Knickerbocker)**

**LIFE GROUP (Mike Curtis)**

**LOCAL OUTREACH (Dan Murdoch)**

**PERSONNEL (Terry Wheeler)**

**STEWARDSHIP (Mark Fredrickson)**

**STUDENT MINISTRIES (Rod Lenders)**

**WORSHIP ARTS (Rich Tamble)**