Executive Council Meeting Minutes
Saturday, July 18, 20206

These minutes were approved on September 12, 2026.

This meeting was conducted online via Zoom.

Members Present: The Rt. Rev. Jennifer Baskerville-Burrows, Canon Brendan O'Sullivan-Hale, The Rev. Canon Giulianna Cappelletti Gray, Ms. Connie Betts, Ms. Louise Boling, Ms. Laurel Cornell, Mr. Steve Lawson, Ms. Yvonne Oliger, The Rev. Adam Pierce, The Rev. C. Davies Reed, Mr. Todd Relue, Ms. Natalie Rodriguez, Rev. Spencer Ruark, The Rev. Jim Said, Mr. Benjamin Sapp, Canon Mariann Scott, Mr. Greg Seamon, Mr. Mike Staubitz, The Rev. Karen Sullivan

Members in Absence: The Rev. Allen Rutherford, The Rev. Dr. Jason Haddox, The Rev. Jennifer Oldstone-Moore

Guests: The Rev. Mary Slenski, Interim Chair of the Budget Formation Committee; Ms. Sara Gunter, Executive Director, Waycross Camp and Conference Center; Megan Hillier-Geisler, Treasurer for the Board of Directors, Waycross Camp and Conference Center

Call to Order
Bishop Jennifer Baskerville-Burrows called to order at 9:03a.m. EST by leading the group in prayer.

Roll Call
Connie Betts completed the roll call.

Organizing for Business
Canon Giulianna Cappelletti-Gray reviewed of Diocesan mission and Executive Council norms. All members agreed to their use.

Minutes
Connie Betts presented the March 28, 2026 minutes for approval. Canon Mariann Scott moved to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Benjamin Sapp seconded. **The motion was approved**.

Connie Betts presented the May 30, 2026 minutes for approval. Mr. Mike Staubitz moved to approve the minutes as presented. The Rev. Jim Said seconded. **The motion was approved**.

Constitution and Canons Team Update
The Rev. Allen Rutherford was not able to attend, but provided a report. Mr. Todd Relue presented the report and explained that the changes included moving some items from the Constitution to the Canons. This will provide more flexibility for future changes and keep our documents in line with any General Convention changes. He responded to questions and comments. Mr. Relue requested that suggestions for edits be sent to Rev. Rutherford or himself by August 14, 2026.

2027 Budget Planning
The Rev. Mary Slenski and Canon Brendan O'Sullivan-Hale presented the preliminary 2027 diocesan budget. The Rev. Slenski explained the process used to form the budget and Canon Brendan reviewed the details of the budget. The Rev. Slenski said the committee will meet again in August and will review budget changes with impacted organizations. The Rev. Slenski led the discussion that followed. The final proposed budget will be sent out about a week before the next meeting on September 12, 2026.

9:20 A 10-minute break was taken

Waycross Update

Sara Gunter provided an update on Waycross Camp and Conference Center. Sara gave a review of the Summer Camp season and the work of the Waycross Board. The data that Waycross is collecting is beginning to help them budget and anticipate financial needs. August is the costliest month for them. They are also building a mechanism to calculate the actual per camper cost for summer camp. Currently, there is a $96,000 shortfall and they can use $35,000 of interest earned to apply to that balance. Waycross requested $61,000 in assistance. A discussion followed about the shortfall. Steve Lawson moved to meet the $61,000 shortfall from the Waycross operating funds with immediate aid; with Brendan providing information about how the funds were allocated within the diocesan budget during our next meeting on September 12. Greg Seamon seconded the motion. **The motion was approved with one opposed vote.**

Bishop & Staff Updates

Bishop Jennifer

- The Capital Campaign will launch publicly on September 12, 2026 at Waycross. The committee is working on the final version of the case statement. The parish engagement kit will go out next week. The goal of the campaign has been reduced to $5 million. We have already received approximately $1million toward the goal. $3 million will support youth ministry; $1 million will provide youth scholarships which ensures participation for all youth in our diocese; and one million dollars will support Waycross Camp and Conference Center. Our youth ministry is growing in economic and cultural diversity and we want to ensure this for the future.
- The youth mission trip to Detroit was wonderful! There were so many good works of mercy. This community is a vital support to our young people.
- The Standing Committee is working to update Bishop Jennifer's Letter of Agreement.
- An Episcopal Mutual Ministry Review will take place on October 31at St. Paul's Columbus. There is no prework involved.
- A revision of the Diocese's Employee Handbook is underway. Thanks to Canon Giulianna, Canon Brendan and Todd Relue for their input.
- Peace Church in Rockport will conclude its ministry.

Canon Giulianna

- Canon Giulianna recently returned from Diocese of Detroit College of Congregational Development. She was reminded of how great an impact this program has on the leaders of the Church.
- College of Congregational Development will begin here soon.
- She reviewed changes in diocesan staff.
- Members are invited to send a card to Kim Christopher to commemorate her retirement.
- The Rev. Ian Lasch will begin August 1. He will be our Missioner for Formation.
- Steve Lawson, Spencer Ruark, and Mike Staubitz volunteered to serve on the Mission Strategy Committee. Canon Giulianna is looking for 2 more volunteers to meet 2 more time before August 14.

Canon Brendan

- Canon Brendan attended youth mission trip and served as the chaplain at Waycross for one week. He noted that he finds engaging with youth invigorating in his own spiritual life.
- Indy PRIDE went well. Jack Chamberlain led the effort this year. It was great to have a point person. Indy PRIDE did a great job with its new model of returning to community roots while still inviting corporate support.
- A slight breach earlier this year gave light to IT support needs that are not being met. Brendan is exploring other IT vendors. Our costs may be significantly more to ensure that our IT support needs can be met appropriately.
- Peace Rockport is not closing for financial reasons. Its resources, between $100,00 and $150,000, will revert to the diocese. It is not yet clear how those funds will be allocated.

Financial Reports
Canon Brendan presented a financial update. He reported that we are right on budget for income and are a bit over for budget expenses. Medical insurance and support for Waycross have impacted this overage. Canon Brendan noted that Congregations' investments are doing well. St. Paul's and St. Stephen's also joining the diocesan investments group.

Laurel Cornell presented the Treasurer's report. The Rev. C. Davies motioned to receive the report. The Rev. Karen Sullivan seconded the motion. **Motion approved**.

Leadership and Diocesan Updates
Executive Council members shared news from their congregations.

New Business
There was no new business.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:44

Respectfully submitted,
Connie Betts
Secretary of the Diocese
Secretary to the Executive Council

2026 Executive Council Meeting Dates:

RSVP to Bethany Baugh (baugh@indydio.org) by dates listed below for Waycross planning purposes.

- Sept 12 (*RSVP by Aug 28) – Waycross*

Joint Leadership Retreat with Standing Committee and Neighborhood Conveners:

- December 11 – 12 – Waycross