

Executive Committee Meeting Report
May 7, 2025
F&H Conference Room

Committee Members Attending: Sonia Wasco-Chair, Kent Weaver, Roger Rohrer, Dan Zimmerman, and Chris Thompson.

Guests: Adam Stern and Amanda Goldsmith

Purpose of the Meeting: To review and discuss offering an invocation and actions impacting public meetings.

The meeting was called to order at 5:44pm. After a welcome and introductions discussion topics included:

1. Offering an invocation at public meetings - LCCD has had a longstanding practice of opening our public meetings with an invocation. Occasionally, that practice has involved a recitation of a poem, an inspirational statement or a reflective moment of silence, but most often it has involved a “Christian” prayer. An Operational Assessment completed in 2024 identified that some staff have a concern about the practice. Adam and Amanda met with the Executive Committee to explain how they feel it is inappropriate for our organization as it creates a non-inclusive impression for those who don’t share the same convictions. Adam and Amanda said they recognized the value of taking a moment to reflect and center the group to their called purpose, but felt offering a “Christian prayer” excluded those with differing convictions. Amanda suggested that a moment of silence would allow everyone in attendance to participate in the moment in their own way. The directors want to continue the practice of an invocation prior to our meetings, but they were convicted by the respectful exchange of how the practice is perceived. It was suggested that all staff be given a chance to express their thoughts prior to the full board making a decision, which would likely be discussed and acted on at the July or August meeting.
2. Meeting Start Time - Committee members questioned the 7:30pm start time for our monthly Board meetings. It was understood that years ago a 7:30pm start allowed the farmer directors time to get to the meeting after a full day “in the field”. The later start also allowed for committee meetings to be held prior to board meetings, but Executive Committee members were in agreement that a proposed earlier start of 7:00pm should be considered by the full board.

Meeting was adjourned at 7.15pm.

*Action requested to receive the report