



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

September 23, 2025

Governance Presentation at 2pm: Jean Dunning (past Chair)

Board meeting at 3p.m.
Virtual meeting (In person – Lanark)

Attendance: Mary Lou Pratt, Jean Dunning, Wayne Stryde, Gerry Van Loon, Miriam Hunt, Teri Rheume, Lesley Scharf, Carole Devine, Nick Dibdin, Shari Glenn, Michel Vermette, Bruce Brough

Staff: Sarah Sark, Cheslea Ballinger

Regrets: Jan Paul-Barr

1. **Welcome:** Mary Lou called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. and formally welcomed all those present.
 - 1.1 **Land Acknowledgement:** Mary Lou delivered a land acknowledgement and invited volunteers to prepare a personalized acknowledgement for the upcoming year. October (Jean), November (Shari), January (Wayne), February (Nick), March (Bruce), April (Leslie), May (Miriam) and June (Sarah)
 - 1.2 **Confirmation of quorum:** Quorum was confirmed.
2. **Approval of agenda:** Approved as presented.
 - 2.1 **Conflict of Interest:** No conflicts of interest were declared at any point during the meeting.
3. **Approval of minutes:**
 - 3.1 **June 24th, 2025, ConnectWell Board meeting minutes:** Consensus to approve, with the change to wording on 3.2 to state that Board Member requested titles of the positions that had financial signing authority.
4. **Business arising from minutes:**
 - 4.1 The signing authority process has been completed
5. **New Business:**
 - 5.1 **Exit Interviews:** Jean provided a summary of notable points, including feedback and reflections on the experiences of former board members.



6. Board workplan items for September:

- Orientation and update for Board members have been completed and a request for suggestions on future orientation sessions was made.
- A commitment to uphold the organization’s Mission and Belief statements was confirmed.

7. Report from the Chief Executive Officer:

An overview of the report’s primary themes and strategic considerations was presented, engaging participants through thoughtful discussion and responding to questions as they arose

8. Finance Committee report:

8.1 There are no new developments or updates to report (Meeting scheduled October 20)

9. Governance Committee Report:

9.1 A request was made for the Board’s approval to amend the terms of reference, increasing the number of community members from three to four. The motion was approved for this year. A discussion regarding community members on Board Committees followed and resulted in a recommendation that the governance committee review this practice to ensure it aligns with our By-Law and policies.

10. QRS Committee Report:

10.1 There are no new developments or updates to report (Meeting scheduled September 25)

11. Alliance Liaison report:

11.1 There are no new developments or updates to report (Meeting scheduled for October)

12. Nominating Committee Report:

12.1 A request was made for the Board’s approval to add a community member to the nominating committee for this fiscal year. The motion was approved.

13. Information Items: Prior to the meeting, memos, news articles, and relevant information were shared with Board members

14. Next Board meeting: October 28, 2025 @ 3:00 p.m. in Cobden (Parish Hall)

15. Meeting Adjourned: 4:37 p.m.