ALTECO 2024 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

VIRTUAL MEETING ON FEBRUARY 22,2024

The ALTECO Board meeting was called to order via Zoom on February 22, 2024 at 1:08 pm by Bob Hardin. Board members attending were: Paul, Phil, Chris, Tina, Doug, Joe, Javier, Irma, Henrique, Greg and Bob. All members were present as well as translator, Waleska.

Paul Johnson shared a devotion on Galatians 1:9-16 concerning staying true to the Gospel and striving to please God and not man. God provides the plan for our lives. We are to press on in obedience to find the plans for us, the church and the Amazon. Paul then led a prayer to open the meeting.

Bob asked for any questions concerning the minutes from the last meeting. Doug suggested a change from ET to EC on the 3rd item. Greg made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected. Henrique seconded it. The minutes were approved as corrected.

Chris and Tina led a discussion of the open action items from the last board meeting.

1. The Communication committee was to meet to discuss messaging and media for ALTECO. After evaluating, it was thought better to delay this to allow the EC of the Board to establish an ALTECO strategic plan so that the communications will closely follow the strategic plan. Between now and the August board meeting, work will be done on this master plan for ALTECO. This action item remains open.
2. Calendar was added to the board portal to indicate important dates for ALTECO and for the MTO. This is updated on a monthly basis. Also added was the status of the funding of projects. This is completed.
3. An ALTECO team retreat had been planned, but there was a conflict with the dates and new dates have not been locked down. This remains open.
4. A review of the organization chart resulted in the word “team” being changed to “partners” and is now reflected on the ALTECO organization chart and on the website.
5. The ALECO website will be reviewed by Tina and Vicki. Still open.
6. All board members are to sign a conflict of interest form. The form can be downloaded from the board portal, signed and emailed to Chris. It will be stored with all the ALTECO documents. Phil requested an email from Chris as a reminder. Still open.
7. Drake was to provide a country-by-country assessment for unreached people groups in the Amazon. This has not been completed. Drake cannot travel to events in SA because of his finances, but he is using people in SA to get him the information he needs. ALTECO has established an investigation fund to help with Drake’s travel expenses in the future. It is estimated that 2 trips would be necessary in 2024 at an approximate cost of $2,000 a trip. Phil asked where the data is being stored and Chris reported that ALTECO is helping fund a map program for the data that can be shared with groups with passwords to the program. Javier added that they do collaborate with other organizations to input and share information. It is currently being used by ALTECO in Colombia. Tina added that research/ investigation is currently on the ALTECO website with an option for donors to donate. It could in the future become a joint project with the MTO and have a promotional flyer. Henrique suggested that the TransAm officially invite Drake to make these two trips so that he can plan and have something in writing.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

The Finance Committee reviews financial statements on a monthly basis. Bob as Treasurer performed an audit to verify the monthly statements agreed with actual bank statements.

ALTECO has $66,000 in the General Fund to begin 2024. This will fund for the year the administrative and bookkeeping personnel who currently work for ALTECO. Phil asked how much in administrative fee (10% of all donations) are we expecting for 2024. This is estimated (on the August 2023 board documents in the portal) to be about $60,000/year, which very closely approximates the expenses that are being incurred.

Donors are receiving monthly statements as to their donations.

POLICY REPORTS

The Policy committee, with suggestions from the EC, proposed a change to the Salary and Housing allowance policies. The EC will decide changes in salary or housing expenses so that will lighten the load of the Ferrys. They suggested taking off the limits of housing allowance to reflect the IRS guidelines.

Phil made a motion to adopt the proposed policies. Irma seconded it. The policy was approved.

REVIEW ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR 2023

There were several bullet points in the board documents, but Chris and Tina wanted to highlight two of them.

1. Celebrate a 5 year partnership agreement with Church at Sandhurst. This is an investment on their part of $50,00 per year which includes $20,000 for missionary support and $30,000 for projects. Each month the Ferrys and Javier meet with the mission pastor, Beau. This is a good example of what ALTECO would like to replicate with other churches. This goes deep with the North American church to change the way missions is done and increases the effectiveness. Thanks to Paul, Javier, Irma, Henrique and Bob for helping with this agreement.

Bob asked what is ALTECO’S capacity to partner with churches. Chris and Tina are capping the number of churches at four because of time restraints.

Another Church as a potential partner is First Cleveland in Tennessee.

Bob asked what the possibility of creating a partnership with a South American church would be. Javier stated that the MTO is slowly changing from trying to partner with organizations to trying to partner with pastors and churches. Joe noted that relationships with pastors are the key.

1. Celebrate three years of leadership development training. God provided $115,000. This included $30,000 from Mosaic church, small individual donations, Canadian churches, and second and third wave partners who paid for food, hotel stays (while waiting for flights), child care for families and churches who opened spaces for meetings and meals. This was a great demonstration of the sacrifice and investment of all three waves. PTL

Joe inquired about the effectiveness of the leadership training. Tina/Chris responded that the training brought clarity and ownership along with the ability and to0ls to plan for the future. Also, emerging leaders were given important training tools for future use.

Board Discussion

Tina and Chris proposed that Viki’s title be changed to Communications Officer to better align with the excellent job she is doing for Alteco. The Board was positive on this title and was so approved.

Tina and Chris requested participation from the Board on the forthcoming consultation survey.

Again, Tina and Chris solicited each Board member to support one of the 8 strategic projects.

2024 Strategic Projects

The eight strategic projects for 2024 were reviewed and explained by Javier, Irma and Henrique. Each project was discussed and three key questions were answered: 1) How does this project strengthen the indigenous church, 2) how does this project facilitate reaching the unreached, and 3) which countries are impacted by these projects. The summary of strategic projects are available in the Board Portal. The board affirmed that the projects are in line with Alteco and MTO goals.

Board Proposal

Phil presented a proposal that the Executive Committee of the ETO, TransAmazon network and the Executive Committee of Alteco work together to form a master plan for the MTO.

Much discussion and questioning followed with no resolution to the proposal. The meeting ended with the proposal not being voted on or approved.

Follow up Action item: The Alteco EC will meet with the Alteco ET to seek clarification of the proposal and determine next steps to address the proposal.

Next Board Meeting

Next Board meeting will be August 13 and 14 in Townsend, Tennessee. Travel days are August 12 and 15.

 SUMMARY OF OPEN BOARD ACTION ITEMS

1. Communication committee to discuss ALTECO messaging and media to keep up-to-date on changing technologies (after strategic plan with EC)
2. ALTECO team retreat for 2024—looking for dates.
3. Clarify on ALTECO website that ALTECO directors are independent directors. Communication committee to review website for clarity.
4. All board members need to sign conflict of interest form.
5. Drake to provide a country-by-country assessment for unreached people groups.
6. Henrique (Trans-Am) to officially invite Drake to visit South America two times.
7. ETO to engage SA churches to partner with them.
8. Follow up to Phil’s proposal to develop a “master plan” for the organization is required