Part One: MoVal Taskforce Report
The Conference Council of the MMSCUCC voted in Spring of 2020 to form a MoVal Taskforce. The Covenanted Ministries were invited to participate to provide insight to some of the ongoing challenges and joys of Camp MoVal among the conference. In July 2020, the MoVal Covenanted Ministry ceased to meet, and no one reached out to the Conference or leadership of Camp MoVal with an interest to join, so the Taskforce continued. As the group was formed, we were tasked to complete the request for an appraisal of the T.A.M.BO. and Camp MoVal properties, as well as ascertain the viability of Camp MoVal’s longer term sustainability.

The Taskforce began meeting in Summer of 2020. It first reviewed the history, camping trends, ongoing financial concerns, and the Council Minutes that addressed the dedication of donors, staff, capital campaigns, decreasing trends, maintenance of property, and the cost of maintaining the Camp MoVal over the past 18 years.

As more information was gathered over the summer and into the early spring it was apparent that Camp MoVal has not turned a profit or been a self-sustaining entity for some time. In addition, the decline of camping as a popular pastime of members of the conference -- the numbers for congregations, individual families, children, teens, and groups were indicative of the trends that have been reported across the camping community.

In addition, the need for extensive upgrades, maintenance, and oversight of the properties each year was increasing compared to the decline of reservations each year. The loss of several key contracts in 2018 also added to the decline in revenue. Many of these groups reported contracting with other facilities that had more amenities, and the requirement of their organization to rotate their camps to different regions out of fairness to the members.

In 2020 the Conference Council made the difficult yet necessary decision to close Camp MoVal due to the spread of the COVID-19 virus. At the time the decision was made formed out of a care for the children, families and congregations, the safety of our contracted guests and the health and welfare of our employees and volunteers. This decision was not taken lightly and given what we know about the deadliness of this virus, we believe this decision was the best fiduciary decision on behalf of the Conference stakeholders -- our congregations.

In the Fall of 2020 so that Camp MoVal can raise funds and cover expenditures during the rest of the season, the conference voted to allow Camp MoVal to use funds from the 8000 accounts to continue operations and cover expenses over and beyond their revenue.
As 2021 approached the Taskforce, continued to review history, significant documents and after much deliberation decided to recommend that Camp MoVal be closed and recommend that the property be sold so that the proceeds of any sale could be directed to areas in line with the mission and values of the entire Conference.

However, in early 2021 the Taskforce received notification that few of our past guests planned to contract during the 2021 season because of the continued spread of the COVID-19 virus. In addition, the Director of the facilities announced he would be leaving in April 2021 to take another position in another conference. With this information and the prior recommendation to yet be announced, the Taskforce decided to close Camp MoVal for the 2021 season and make the recommendation to sell the property. This would be announced to the Conference Council at the next scheduled meeting in February 2021.

When it was indicated this was a possibility several interested parties and members of the conference asked for a Town Hall Meeting. Please see Part two which provides a debrief of this gathering.

Financials and explanation of Detail

- The attached financial report shows both the number of campers/rental groups as well as the income/expenses for the years 2013 through 2019.
  - Removing the timber sale income (an event that will not occur again for quite a few years) shows a deficit for 2018 and 2019.
  - Overall camper and rental numbers are declining as well.
  - Preliminary operating income/expense shows a deficit for 2020 (camp open approximately one month).
- April 14, 2018 Finance Committee recommendation (see 04/18/2018 Board Minutes):
  - Ulmer then passed around a document spreadsheet detailing the 8000 accounts. (See attached.) He clarified how these funds should be utilized by the Covenanted Ministries. A motion was made by Dierberg Ayers and seconded by Vann that the Council direct the Finance and Administration Standing Committee to allocate $40,000 to Mo-Val and $6,000 to Shannondale from the 8000 capital expense accounts for capital improvements. The motion passed.
### Camp Moval Statistics 2013-2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Camper #</th>
<th>Rental #</th>
<th>Camper Income</th>
<th>Rental Income</th>
<th>OCWM Income</th>
<th>Gifts Income</th>
<th>Other Income</th>
<th>Personnel Expense</th>
<th>Operating Expense</th>
<th>Over/Under</th>
<th>Remove Timber Sales</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>2,900</td>
<td>1,438</td>
<td>$151,242.00</td>
<td>$80,121.00</td>
<td>$58,000.00</td>
<td>$57,914.00</td>
<td>$5,917.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>3,570</td>
<td>2,232</td>
<td>$142,698.00</td>
<td>$94,356.00</td>
<td>$50,880.00</td>
<td>$43,146.00</td>
<td>$18,277.00</td>
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<td>2,443</td>
<td>$126,337.00</td>
<td>$106,995.00</td>
<td>$51,687.00</td>
<td>$28,867.00</td>
<td>$29,641.00</td>
<td>$187,164.00</td>
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<td>$(1,097.00)</td>
<td>$(2,124.00)</td>
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<td>2016</td>
<td>3,067</td>
<td>1,853</td>
<td>$118,086.00</td>
<td>$110,461.00</td>
<td>$46,501.00</td>
<td>$38,457.00</td>
<td>$48,144.00</td>
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<td>$148,900.00</td>
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<td>2017</td>
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<td>1,710</td>
<td>$124,477.00</td>
<td>$111,012.00</td>
<td>$51,174.00</td>
<td>$31,650.00</td>
<td>$14,363.00</td>
<td>$167,997.00</td>
<td>$120,161.00</td>
<td>$44,518.00</td>
<td>$(4,553.00)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>2,262</td>
<td>1,752</td>
<td>$110,544.00</td>
<td>$83,634.00</td>
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<td>$54,123.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>2019</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**

1. Camper and rental numbers are based on a camper day which consists of 3 meals and an overnight stay.
2. Other Gifts consist of both our annual giving gifts and direct giving from others and churches.
3. Other income is from camp store, investments and in 2018 and 2019 for some timber sales on the Moval property.
4. There was not enough information from 2020 numbers to gain any real insight other than based on contracts we booked and Camp Moval was showing an increase in rental business for 2020 prior to the pandemic. The Camp was only open for about one month in 2020 which was made up of 189 camper days.

Mo Val Reserve Fund as of 12/30/20 (no transfers made yet for 2020 deficit) = $516,354
Part Two: Overview of Events and General Debrief of Townhall Meeting

The town hall gathering about the 2021 MoVal decision showed us where our challenges as a Conference are in relation to the general conversation about Camp MoVal. There is deep concern that the MoVal Covenanted Ministry team has not met in a while and was not consulted on this decision. It seemed in that meeting that there is a lack of trust by individual members of the Conference regarding Camp MoVal because the Conference Council is not composed of people passionate about outdoor ministry and Camp MoVal. It was hard to differentiate between the decision to close for the upcoming 2021 season decision and the broader conversation about Camp MoVal’s viability.

Part Three: Recommendations and Action Items

The MoVal Taskforce has taken into consideration the following in making this recommendation:

- The ongoing financial concerns due to the decrease in camping contracts and campers over the past 5-10 years;
- The COVID-19 pandemic that caused Camp MoVal to shut down for the health and safety of campers and staff in 2020;
- The transition of leadership of Camp MoVal with the departure of Jeremy Force,
- The continuing concerns of the prolonged COVID-19 pandemic well into 2021 and the issues that arise from it:
  - Ongoing safety of campers;
  - Additional and uncertainty of financial requirements for cleaning and maintenance of a full-service camping facility and,
  - Need to hire staff in uncertain times.

Based on these concerns, the Taskforce recommended that the MMSCUCC shutdown camping operation for the 2021 camping season at Camp MoVal which was approved at a call meeting.

Camp MoVal has been a part of the MMSCUCC since 1962. In the 59 years that they have served as an outreach mission and embodiment of the wider outdoor ministry of the Missouri Mid-South Conference, Camp MoVal has served in ministering to the conference as our member churches sent their children there for summer camps, hosted their retreats, gathered for picnics, fished in the lake, hosted quilting circles, learned about nature, took advantage of the facilities and all the great outdoors had to offer.

Yet, the historical documents will show the trends in camping and ongoing utilization of the Camp MoVal properties (including T.A.M.B.O.) have been in constant decline over the past 5 years. This decline has created an increased dependence on the general operating budget of the Conference. And it has continued to create an ever-growing fiduciary concern for those who have served as members of the Conference Council.
APPROVED ACTION TAKEN AT February 20, 2021 Council Meeting:

Therefore, after careful consideration and ongoing deliberations by the Camp MoVal Taskforce, the Conference Council recommends that the MMSCUCC enter a time of listening and discerning the future of Camp MoVal with careful consideration to the sale of the property.

It is further recommended that a vote will be held following the listening and discernment period at a called meeting of the Conference Body in fall of 2021.

Taskforce Members: Andrea Asselmeier, Mickey Clark Paul Emily, Nancy Lueherman, Sonya Vann, and Karen Watson  Staff: Ginny Brown Daniel

Respectfully submitted by,

Sonya J. Vann
Conference Council Secretary
MMSCUCC