

Mike and Kay

I've been receiving the conversations below in my email and thought you should read them. They speak to the difficulty of financial continuity that other auU congregations experience. I think we feel this same pain.

These discussions focus on the problem with turning Treasurers over year after year and the long learning curve for church finances. I think that Mike you need to give this some thought both as it relates to Treasurers and Glenda.

P

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Peter Henrickson via UU-Money <[uu-money@lists.uua.org](mailto:uu-money@lists.uua.org)>

**Date:** June 23, 2019 at 9:15:13 AM EDT

**To:** Information Sharing among Society Finance Leaders <[uu-money@lists.uua.org](mailto:uu-money@lists.uua.org)>

**Cc:** Peter Henrickson <[kphenrickson@gmail.com](mailto:kphenrickson@gmail.com)>

**Subject: Re: [UU-Money] Check signers, bank authority continuity**

**Reply-To:** Information Sharing among Society Finance Leaders <[uu-money@lists.uua.org](mailto:uu-money@lists.uua.org)>

That's a big "if" Jackie. Dave's point, and I concur, is that it is unlikely that most UU churches with 300 members or less have that bench depth in finance acumen. For most, then, longer tenures are a must. Making the appointments more formally structured is one way to avoid the problems of happenstance tenure you brought up.

Peter Henrickson  
Vancouver, WA

On Sat, Jun 22, 2019 at 10:12 PM Jackie O'Sullivan via UU-Money <[uu-money@lists.uua.org](mailto:uu-money@lists.uua.org)> wrote:

Re: signers. Having people who are not employees or officers of the church, i.e. those without clear fiduciary responsibility, is problematic from an internal controls/loss prevention/insurance standpoint. Too often churches are not run like businesses, "good intention" trumps proper protocols, and things are done because they've always been done that way, not because they are aligned with best practices.

As far as long tenures for treasurers, if you have a robust finance/investment committee with some continuity and people with a basic understanding of how to read reports who have the best interests of the

institution at heart, it's easy to avoid the potentially dangerous trap of officer entrenchment and overly long tenures.

Jackie O'Sullivan  
DF&A  
Neighborhood UU Church  
Pasadena, CA

On Sat, Jun 22, 2019, 21:05 sjguu--- via UU-Money <[uu-money@lists.uua.org](mailto:uu-money@lists.uua.org)>  
wrote:

Our treasurer handles income, controller oversees the expenses. Both positions are often shared by a pair of "co"s. The treasure will make the deposit on Sunday, leaving a record for the bookkeeper to enter; controller balances the checkbook. I am not sure about terms.Sally GellertCUC, Paramus, N.J.

-----Original Message-----

From: David Banks via UU-Money <[uu-money@lists.uua.org](mailto:uu-money@lists.uua.org)>  
To: Information Sharing among Society Finance Leaders <[uu-money@lists.uua.org](mailto:uu-money@lists.uua.org)>  
Cc: David Banks <[dfbanks@earthlink.net](mailto:dfbanks@earthlink.net)>  
Sent: Sat, Jun 22, 2019 10:08 pm  
Subject: Re: [UU-Money] Check signers, bank authority continuity

first off, the Treasurer job is one that--IMHO--should never be turning over every year. It might require Bylaw change, but the learning curve isn't that shallow. I know I tend to think "ten years" like those I talk to from other non-UU churches locally. But 3-5 years minimum.

It can't hurt to have some additional signers on the account, especially Past Treasurers who already know the system. As you say, banks get

ickier  
every year.

Also, today online payments will take care of a lot of the routine non-payroll payments, and electronic payrolls are almost universal. Cuts way down on the number of checks requiring an actual signature....

Dave Banks  
Williamsburg VA UUs  
275/\$430K

On Jun 22, 2019, at 9:55 PM, Jennifer Smith via UU-Money wrote:

Hi everyone!

We struggle with continuity at the bank with our BOT turning over every year. Also, sometimes board members (check signers) don't live nearby or work full time which delays our office managers ability to promptly pay bills. Plus there are a ton of hoops to jump through at the bank each year to add signers.

We added two signers to the bank accounts, myself as past Treasurer and another past BOT member with financial experience to allow for continuity from board to board.

Our bylaws state that the Treasurer has responsibilities for all funds but depending on their skills, the handoffs are slow.

I am interested in how other churches handle financial authority handoffs and what policies are put in place to maintain transparency?

Thanks for your input!

Jen Smith

UUC Ft Myers, 200 members \$330 budget if we can get there this year!

Sent from my iPhone

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Peter Henrickson

read my book at [\\*churchfinancialmgmt.com](http://churchfinancialmgmt.com) <<http://churchfinancialmgmt.com>>\*

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