



EPC

A Global Movement of Evangelical Presbyterian Churches

GA39-31
FROM THE PRESBYTERY REVIEW COMMITTEE

Recommendation:

That the Assembly approve the Minutes of the EPC presbyteries with the following exceptions requiring responses by December 31, 2019, general advice and commendations.

a. Great Plains

Exception(s):

The action of the Ministerial Committee to approve Out of Bounds calls is not constitutional. It is the responsibility of the Presbytery to approve these calls. 14th/431/14:15c. **G. 10-8B.2.**

The Presbytery may allow the Ministerial Committee to approve temporary pastoral relationships as authorized in the **G. 21-2D.2.e.2**. This authority is limited as provided for in **G.10-7**. (See the footnote on page 57 of the 2018-2019 **Book of Order**.)

Commendations:

Great Plains Presbytery is to be commended for: its rich teaching times during meetings. Also, as a hospice Chaplain, this reader especially appreciated the Ministry Sharing time given Chaplain Rash – very moving and helpful in providing the perspective of this ministry. Each of the Ministry Sharing times were very encouraging.



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b. Gulf South

Exception(s):

When the Ministerial Committee is authorized to ordain/install, it is still required that Presbytery approve the date and time of the service. This should have been accomplished at this meeting of Presbytery. 13th /42/13.18.12; **G. 13-1 A.1. Acts of Assembly** – Presbyteries, 16-23.2.

Commendations:

- a. The World Outreach Committee 2025 project effort
- b. The church and safety and security guidelines
- c. The singing of hymns to start each Presbytery meeting.
- d. The new church development and support committee work
- e. The church health committee activities
- f. The prayer time for specific churches

c. Mid-America

Exception(s):

The Ministerial Committee report, 81.03 p. 1184, states that TE Mike Werkheiser was appointed as Candidate Kevin Butler’s advisor. There is no mention of the church and city where he is ministering; however, after reading the list of attendees it is shown that TE Mike Werkheiser is TE with City Church in St. Louis, of which Candidate Kevin Butler is a member. TE Ryan Wampler is assigned as the advisor to Chris McKinney; TE Wampler is pastor with The Crossing of which Candidate McKinney is member. According to **G. 11-2E**, “The Presbytery shall assign a Teaching Elder in the Presbytery, ordinarily not the Candidate’s pastor, to serve as advisor.”

Commendations:

- a. List of correspondences shared.
- b. Small group prayer time.
- c. “Thanks Committee” organized to give thanks to hosting church.
- d. E2025 plans for ministry in Tetova, Macedonia Minutes are well recorded decently and in order. Format is easy to follow and identify reports.



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d. Midwest

Exception(s):

The practice of dividing the Presbytery for Candidate examinations does not give the full Presbytery the opportunity to examine all Candidates and should not be done. (163-12, p.23) **G. 12-1**

In 163-12, p. 23 Candidates' examinations were sustained "pending [their] required sermon[s]," which did not take place until after the vote, so that the sermons were essentially not included in the examinations. **G. 12-2 D.**

Commendations:

The PRC adds its congratulations to Stated Clerk Manon and the "First Lady of the Presbytery," our own loved and respected PRC member, on the Clerk's retirement.

e. Pacific Southwest

Exception(s):

The composition of the Administrative Commission for the ordination of Tommy Branagh needs REs from two different member churches per **G. 21-1-C-2-b** p. 54. All ruling elders for Tommy Branagh are members from the same congregation of Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church, 1:26. This is also true for TE Joshua Hall from Fair Oaks Presbyterian Church, Fair Oaks, CA. All Ruling Elders are from Fair Oaks Presbyterian Church. (1-40) The Administrative Commission to install TE David Pack is also composed of REs from the same church, Fremont Presbyterian (1-41).

Commendations:

1. Establishment of a meeting theme for each Presbytery meeting.
2. Focus presentations based on the theme.
3. Job well done for putting your first set of minutes together.

f. Rivers and Lakes

Exception(s):

Goetz, Henry, and Rathburn should not have been voted on in an Omnibus motion, 24-15 p. 10.

Commendations:

- a. The members of the PRC, and all of the EPC, mourn the sudden and unexpected loss of Stated Clerk TE Paul Heidebrecht; we appreciate your observance at the 22nd Stated Meeting.
- b. Reporting the RE/TE attendance ratio at its meetings.
- c. Prayer time by geographic regions.



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- d. Encouraging families to bring their children to Presbytery.
- e. Encouraging Church Health and resources available at the GO Center.

g. West

Exception(s):

A Candidate's exception to the Westminster Confession is included in the minutes, p. 12-164; this is disallowed by *Acts of Assembly* 3-09. Exceptions are to be retained in personnel file.

Election of Corporate Officers is to be done by General Council; the election is reported in Omnibus motion. The General Council, not the Presbytery, elected the President, VP, Secretary, and Treasurer. Neither a report from the Nominating Committee nor Election of Committee members is included in the minutes. Also, there is no mention of election of a Moderator. 113:10 p. 164, 114:7 p. 185.

Commendations:

- a. The exhortation of TE Addison was very thought-provoking: he exhorted the Presbytery to "holy restlessness that leads to holy discontent, and holy discontent that brings innovation and change, which will encourage us to take risks to plant churches."
- b. Praise be to God – TE Lee told of his opportunities to share the Gospel with many prisoners while imprisoned on an unwarranted arrest in Cambodia; 114:19, p. 12-192.
- c. Revitalization Team presenting vitality seminar information, GO team presentation on millennial generation, and geographic Cohort groups to revitalize their congregations in outreach to their communities,
- d. The Minutes are well presented and easy to read.
- e. Presentation of a plaque to the retiring Moderator.
- f. Retiring TE was honored for 38 years of service at Faith Presbyterian Church. He addressed the presbytery, sharing his journey of faith.
- g. Presented a new model for organizing the POW.
- h. Fall meeting featured the Gettys and explored music in worship.
- i. Pastor's Benevolence Fund
- j. New Women's Network

www.epc.org/files/ga2019document-prcreportofpresbyteryminutes

www.epc.org/files/ga2019report-presbyteryreviewcommittee

Referred to FLOOR