

Notice of Special Presbytery Meeting

A Special Meeting of the Presbytery of the Cascades has been called by Moderator Jennifer Martin for the purpose of:

1. Electing a Treasurer

And, in order to allow for the election of a Treasurer who is not a voting member of presbytery:

2. Amending Presbytery Bylaws Article VIII B. 9

3. Amending Standing Rule D.

The meeting will be held at 7:30 pm on October 17, 2023.

Please register for the meeting at this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZolcO-tqjsqHNNbfqXRZ3oOuctmcsufko5x>

This meeting is called at the request of

Ruling Elders

Sharon Hasenjaeger (West Linn, Emmanuel)
Chuck Missar (Cottage Grove, First)
Lisa Snodderly (Portland, First)

Teaching Elders (Ministers)

John Hasenjaeger
Elizabeth Winslea

1. Electing a Treasurer:

Treasurer Search Committee to Nominate Thomas Lundy

After a 4 month search, the Treasurer Search Committee (Lisa Snodderly, Sharon Hasenjaeger, and Chuck Missar) **nominate Thomas Lundy as Treasurer.**

Thomas Lundy serves as the Missional Resource Manager for the Presbytery of the Cascades where his duties include serving as property manager and business manager. If Thomas is elected, then both the **bylaws and Standing rules** will need amendment, in order to avoid a continuing breach of the rules. This is because one current qualification for treasurer is to serve as a voting member of the Presbytery Leadership Commission. In order to serve on a commission, a person must be in “ordered ministry” as a Ruling Elder or Minister of the Word and Sacrament. Thomas is neither a Ruling Elder nor a Minister. At the same time, nothing else in the law, the PC(USA) Constitution or elsewhere in our bylaws requires that the Treasurer be a member of the PC(USA) or in ordered ministry. *Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised 12th ed.* states that while it is usual to elect the officers from among the members, a “large society with complex financial affairs may wish to employ a professional as treasurer” (47:2, page 425).

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This would not be the first time that a Presbytery employee served as treasurer. The business manager served as treasurer from 2012 until 2015. At that time the business manager happened to be a ruling elder in one of our churches and so was qualified to be a voting member of the Presbytery Leadership Commission.

As required by Standing Rule J. 3. **Nominations from the floor at the time of election may be made, providing that the nominee has indicated willingness to serve and fulfill the responsibilities of the position and meets applicable criteria for nomination to the position.**

2. Amend the Bylaws Article VIII. B. 9

- Striking “**the treasurer**” after “Presbytery” and
- Inserting “**The Treasurer is a member of the Presbytery Leadership Commission with voice and is also able to vote if enrolled as a voting member of the Presbytery**” after “Commission”

The proposed amendments as they would alter section VIII B 9 to the bylaws are found below:

Presbytery Leadership Commission

The Presbytery shall establish a Presbytery Leadership Commission (PLC) composed of the following persons with voice and vote: the moderator of the Presbytery, the vice moderators of the Presbytery, ~~the treasurer~~, a chair from each of the following: Commission on Preparation for Ministry, Communication and Technology Team (CATT), New Ministries Team, Personnel and Administration Committee, Board of Trustees, a representative from the Committee on Representation and each of the regional Commissions on Ministry (COMs), and the immediate past moderator of the Presbytery, who shall serve as chair of the Presbytery Leadership Commission. ***The Treasurer is a member of the Presbytery Leadership Commission with voice and is also able to vote if enrolled as a voting member of the Presbytery.*** The stated clerk and other executive staff as the presbytery may employ shall serve as ex-officio members with voice but without vote. The Presbytery Leadership Commission (PLC) shall function in accord with the Constitution and these Bylaws as a coordinating body for the mission of presbytery, for advising the presbytery on budgeting, for meetings of the presbytery, and for amendments and overtures. The Presbytery Leadership Commission (PLC) shall have responsibility for strategic planning and management, for personnel matters on the recommendation of the Personnel and Administration Committee, and for action on behalf of the presbytery between meetings of the presbytery on recommendations of the Board of Trustees or as directed by the presbytery. The Presbytery Leadership Commission may have authority to appoint such sub-committees as it deems necessary to accomplish its responsibilities. The Presbytery Leadership Commission may have authority to authorize the chair of the Presbytery Leadership Commission to appoint an Administrative Commission charged with negotiations pertaining to congregations seeking dismissal under the Gracious, Just and Responsible Dismissal Policy.

Rationale: Amending the bylaws as above will allow church members, employees and others who are not in ordered ministry to be elected to serve as a Treasurer.

3. Amend the Standing Rules

- Strike from D. 1 **to serve as an uncompensated officer of presbytery for a term of three years.**
- Strike D.2 **The treasurer shall serve as a member of the Presbytery Leadership Commission, with voice and vote.** [This is redundant as already found in the bylaws].
- Renumber D.3 as D.2 and D.4. as D.3.

The amendments change Standing Rules Section D as below:

D. PRESBYTERY TREASURER

1. In accord with the Presbytery Bylaws, the presbytery shall elect a presbytery treasurer ~~to serve as an uncompensated officer of presbytery for a term of three years.~~
- ~~2. The treasurer shall serve as a member of the Presbytery Leadership Commission, with voice and vote.~~
3. 2. The treasurer shall serve as an ex-officio member of the Presbytery Board of Trustees with voice, but without vote.
4. 3. The treasurer shall be nominated for election by the presbytery by a search committee composed of three persons selected by the Presbytery Leadership Commission.

Rationale: By amending this Standing Rule the presbytery eliminates language already found in the bylaws and more importantly, the requirement that the Treasurer be qualified as a voting member of the Presbytery Leadership Commission.