

1 **REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON**
2 **REVIEW OF PRESBYTERY RECORDS**
3 **TO THE FIFTIETH GENERAL ASSEMBLY**
4 **OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**
5 **June 2023**

6
7 **I. A list of Presbytery Minutes received by the Committee (See VI below)**

8
9 **II. A list of Presbyteries that have not submitted approved responses to exceptions of**
10 **previous General Assemblies:**

11 Korean Eastern
12 South Coast
13 South Flosrida
14 South Texas
15 Tennessee Valley

16
17 **III. A list of Presbyteries that have submitted Minutes after the March 15 deadline**
18 **required by RAO 16-4.d:**

19 Catawba Valley - (Printed)
20 Chicago Metro - (Printed)
21 Columbus Metro - (Digital, Standing Rules, Directory, Printed Minutes not submitted)
22 Georgia Foothills - (Printed)
23 Grace – (Printed)
24 Gulfstream (Digital and Printed)
25 Iowa – (Printed)
26 Korean Capital – (Digital and Printed)
27 Korean Eastern – (Printed)
28 Korean Southern (Printed)
29 New River – (Printed)
30 North Texas – (Printed)
31 Northern Illinois – (Printed)
32 Piedmont Triad – (Printed)
33 Rio Grande – (Printed)
34 South Coast – (Printed, missing Standing Rules and Directory)
35 South Florida – (Digital and Printed)
36 South Texas – (Minutes)
37 Tidewater – (Printed)

38
39 **IV. Citations**

40 Cite the following Presbyteries to appear before the Standing Judicial Commission
41 according to the provisions of *BCO* 40-5 for “a credible report” of “an important
42 delinquency or grossly unconstitutional proceedings”:

43
44 Metropolitan New York
45 Northwest Georgia

1 Note: All members of the Standing Judicial Commission who are serving on CRPR
2 abstained from discussion and all votes with regard to Metropolitan New York and
3 Northwest Georgia Presbyteries, as well as abstaining from discussions regarding
4 Catawba Valley and James River Presbyteries.
5

6 **V. General Recommendations**

- 7 1. Thank Dr. Bryan Chapell, Margie Mallow, Ashley Davis, Karen Frey, Priscilla
8 Lowrey, Angela Nantz, Karen Cook, Heidi Harrison, TE Billy Park, and the rest of the
9 AC staff who covered their responsibilities in addition to their attentive support,
10 friendly welcome, and support to the officers. 45-0-0
11
- 12 2. Commend the 2023 Committee on Review of Presbytery Records officers, TE
13 Hoochan Paul Lee, TE Chris Wright, TE Jon Anderson, TE Eddie Lim, and TE Freddy
14 Fritz for their work. 45-0-0
15
- 16 3. Commend all presbyteries for submitting minutes for review; only 3 presbyteries have
17 not submitted physical copies in addition to their submitted digital copies. [Columbus
18 Metro, Gulfstream, and South Coast.] 45-0-0
19
- 20 4. The Stated Clerk of the General Assembly send a letter to the Presbyteries through the
21 stated clerks of the presbyteries:
22
- 23 a. Commend those Clerks who sent records for their hard work to create, keep,
24 and submit their records, and every presbytery who sent delegates to serve on
25 the Committee on Review of Presbytery Records. 45-0-0
26
 - 27 b. Encourage Presbyteries to establish commissions to review their records early
28 in the year so that the records may be sent in by the deadline. 45-0-0
29
 - 30 c. Urge those who failed to send reports or delegates to do so in the future. Note
31 that 79 of 88 presbyteries had representatives appointed to the committee this
32 year, with 61 attending the meeting (including 49 TEs and 12 REs). 45-0-0
33
 - 34 d. Remind Presbyteries that records (both hard-copies and digital) must be
35 submitted by the deadline of March 15 of each year. 45-0-0
36
 - 37 e. Remind Presbyteries that records must be submitted in one of two formats: (1)
38 four bound, paginated hard-copies or (2) two bound, paginated hard-copies and
39 one paginated digital copy (preferably as a single document). 45-0-0
40
 - 41 f. Urge Presbyteries, when recording an examinee's stated differences to the
42 Confessional Standards, to record judgment on each stated difference using the
43 wording of one of the four categories explicitly spelled out in *RAO* 16-3.e.5.a
44 through d. 45-0-0

- 1 g. Remind Presbyteries that when GA takes exception to a Presbytery’s minutes
2 for failure to record or take a required action, and Presbytery agrees with the
3 exception, a satisfactory response should indicate that they have taken the
4 required action, if possible, and properly recorded the same in their minutes.
5 Furthermore, remind Presbyteries to follow the guidelines for responding to
6 GA in *RAO* 16-10. 45-0-0
7
- 8 h. Remind Presbyteries that responses to GA’s exceptions must be approved by
9 the presbytery, and such approval and the responses must be recorded in their
10 minutes. 45-0-0
11
- 12 i. Request that Presbyteries approve their responses to GA exceptions in the same
13 calendar year in which the exceptions were taken and to request that clerks
14 state when such approval occurred when providing responses to CRPR.
15 45-0-0
- 16 j. Remind Presbyteries that some actions must be taken annually, including
17 review of session records, receiving reports from TEs without call, receiving
18 reports from TEs laboring out of bounds, receiving reports from candidates
19 under care, and that record of such reports should be included in their minutes.
20 Additionally, reports of interns must be received at each stated meeting.
21 45-0-0
- 22 k. Remind presbyteries to ensure that their minutes and appendices include page
23 numbers. 45-0-0
24
- 25 l. Request Presbyteries to encourage candidates to clarify their stated differences
26 to the standards when writing them in their own words to accurately reflect
27 their view as presented to Presbytery and to allow the candidate to amend as
28 needed based upon examination on the floor. 45-0-0
29
- 30 m. Remind Presbyteries to be attentive to making the appropriate edits to the
31 ordination/installation template according to the particular context when
32 creating minutes of these services. 45-0-0
33
- 34 n. Remind Presbyteries that candidates coming under care are required to be
35 examined “on experiential religion and on his motives for seeking the
36 ministry” (*BCO* 18-3); licensure requires a “statement of his Christian
37 experience and inward call to preach the Gospel,” which seeks greater scrutiny
38 than to come under care (*BCO* 19-2.a); ordination requires “his acquaintance
39 with experiential religion, especially his personal character and family
40 management (based on the qualifications set out in 1 Timothy 3:1-7, and Titus
41 1:6-9)” (*BCO* 21-4). These examinations are not interchangeable, but require
42 increasingly close examination of the character of the candidate. 45-0-0
43
- 44 o. Remind Presbyteries to include statements in their minutes demonstrating
45 necessary requirements were provided, including membership and

1 endorsement requirements for candidates, concurrence of Sessions or
2 congregations with dissolution of calls, and petitions for particularization.

3 45-0-0

- 4 p. Remind Presbyteries that, while calls need not be attached to the minutes,
5 minutes must demonstrate that the specific arrangements of the call were
6 approved, with additional requirements specified in *BCO* 8-7 and *BCO* 20-1
7 for out-of-bounds calls. 45-0-0

- 8
9 q. Remind Presbyteries that *RONR* [12th ed.] 48:15 provides a procedure for
10 correcting old minutes by the motion to Amend Something Previously
11 Adopted. 45-0-0

- 12
13 5. Encourage presbytery stated clerks to attend the annual presbytery clerks' meeting in
14 December. 45-0-0

- 15
16 6. Amend *RAO* 16-3.e.6):

17 Minutes of presbytery relating to ministerial calls shall record that the specific
18 arrangements (*BCO* 20-1, and *BCO* 8-7 as applicable) ~~and~~ of the call were found to be
19 in order. The call document need not be attached to the minutes. 45-0-0

- 20
21 7. Amend *RAO* 16-3.e.5):

22 Minutes of presbytery relating to examinations must list all specific requirements and
23 trials for licensure and/or ordination which have been accomplished, including that
24 each candidate being examined for ordination was required to "state the specific
25 instances in which he may differ with the *Confession of Faith* and Catechisms in any
26 of their statements and/or propositions" (*BCO* 19-2; 21-4). This does not mean that a
27 separate vote on each item must be recorded. Presbytery minutes shall record
28 ministers' and ministerial candidates' stated differences with our Standards in their
29 own words. Each presbytery shall also record whether:

- 30 a) the candidate stated that he had no differences; or
31 b) the court judged the stated difference(s) to be merely semantic; or
32 c) the court judged the stated difference(s) to be more than semantic, but "not out of
33 accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine" (*BCO* 19-2; 21-4); or
34 d) the court judged the stated difference(s) to be "out of accord," that is, "hostile to
35 the system" or "strick[ing] at the vitals of religion" (*BCO* 19-2; 21-4). 45-0-0

- 36
37 8. Amend *RAO* 16-3.e.8):

38 Minutes of presbytery dealing with judicial cases shall not be dealt with by Committee
39 on Review of Presbytery Records (~~*BCO* 40-3~~) when notice of appeal or complaint has
40 been given the lower court (~~*BCO* 40-3~~), ~~but still~~ Nevertheless, minutes of judicial
41 cases must always be submitted for review as part of the record of of presbytery. 45-0-0

- 42
43 9. Amend *RAO* 16-10.a):

44 Presbyteries shall be advised of exceptions of form; however, they shall take note in
45 their minutes of exceptions of substance taken by the Assembly, together with their

1 responses adopted by the presbytery to these exceptions. These responses should
 2 normally be adopted by Presbytery in the same calendar year as the exceptions were
 3 taken by the Assembly. Regardless, responses must be filed ~~no less than one month~~
 4 ~~prior to General Assembly~~ in accordance with RAO 16-4.d. 45-0-0
 5

6 **VI. Report Concerning the Minutes of Each Presbytery:**

- 7
- 8 1. That the Minutes of **Arizona** Presbytery: 54-0-1
- 9 a. Be approved without exception: **None.**
- 10 b. Be approved with exception of form: **Directory; Jan 28, 2022; Apr 29, 2022; May 26,**
 11 **2022; Jun 16, 2022; Aug 26, 2022.**
- 12 c. Be approved with exception of substance:
- 13 1. **Exception: Jan 28, 2022; Apr 29, 2022; May 26, 2022; Jun 16, 2022; Aug 26,**
 14 **2022 (BCO 8-7)** – No record of annual report(s) of TE(s) laboring out of bounds.
- 15 2. **Exception: Apr 29, 2022; Jun 16, 2022; Aug 26, 2022 (BCO 20-1)** – No record
 16 of call to a definite work.
- 17 3. **Exception: Apr 29, 2022 (BCO 20-1)** – No record of the reasons why Presbytery
 18 considers an out-of-bounds work to be a valid Christian ministry.
- 19 4. **Exception: Apr 29, 2022 (BCO 8-7)** – No record that the Presbytery is assured
 20 that an out-of-bounds TE will have full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine
 21 of our Church.
- 22 5. **Exception: Apr 29, 2022 (BCO 8-7)** – No record that out-of-bounds TE is engaged
 23 in preaching and teaching the Word.
- 24 6. **Exception: Apr 29, 2022 (BCO 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5)** – Incomplete record of
 25 ordination exam.
- 26 7. **Exception: Apr 29, 2022 (BCO 13-6)** – Incomplete record of examination of TE
 27 transferring into Presbytery.
- 28 8. **Exception: Apr 29, 2022; Aug 26, 2022 (BCO 15-2)** – Presbytery’s
 29 “Administrative Commission” does not meet the minimum requirement for a
 30 commission.
- 31 9. **Exception: Apr 29, 2022; Aug 26, 2022 (RONR (12th ed.) 8:1-10; 9:31-36;**
 32 **Standing Rules)** – Presbytery’s “Administrative Commission” conducted business
 33 and effectively approved a summary of multiple electronic videoconference
 34 sessions over a several month span, but without adhering to the rules of an official
 35 meeting.
- 36 10. **Exception: Apr 29, 2022; Aug 26, 2022 (BCO 15-1)** – No record of quorum for
 37 commission meetings.
- 38 11. **Exception: May 26, 2022; Jun 16, 2022 (BCO 13-12; RAO 16-3.c.1)** – Purpose
 39 of called meeting not recorded verbatim in the minutes.
- 40 12. **Exception: May 26, 2022 (BCO 13-6; 21-4)** – Incomplete record of exam for
 41 minister seeking admission from another denomination.
- 42 13. **Exception: Jun 16, 2022 (BCO 13-6; 21-4)** – Incomplete record of exam for
 43 minister seeking admission from another denomination.
- 44 14. **Exception: Aug 26, 2022 (BCO 15-2)** – Commission appointed to respond to
 45 CRPR report does not meet the minimum requirement for a commission.

1 **15. Exception: Aug 26, 2022** (*RAO* 16-10.a) – No record in minutes of exceptions
2 taken by GA.

3 **16. Exception: Aug 26, 2022** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – Incomplete record of
4 ordination exam.

5 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**

6 **Exception: Apr 22, 2021; Aug 20, 2021; Nov 11, 2021** (*Standing Rules*) – No record
7 of $\frac{2}{3}$ vote to amend *Standing Rules*.

8 **Response:** We were negligent to not record the $\frac{2}{3}$ vote to amend our Standing Rules
9 in the minutes. Actions ratified at January 2023 Presbytery by $\frac{2}{3}$ votes: page 67.

10 **Exception: General** (*BCO* 13-9.b; 40-1) – Incomplete record of review of records of
11 church Sessions.

12 **Response:** We directed mandatory reporting at our August Presbytery meeting and
13 appointment of a committee to review. Monitoring progress.

14 **Exception: Jan 23-24, 2020** (*BCO* 13-11; *RAO* 16-3.e.7) – Minutes of executive
15 session not included.

16 **Response [2022]:** We apologize that minutes for this executive session were not
17 taken and no record of these minutes can be found. We will improve this behavior and
18 be more watchful in the future.

19 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to summarize the action that was taken during
20 Executive Session (*RONR* 9:26, 27) and record it in their minutes.

21 **Response [2023]:** Minutes of Executive Session summarized and recorded in August
22 2022 Presbytery minutes: page 68.

23 **Exception: Jan 23-24, 2020** (*BCO* 13-6; 21-4) – Incomplete record of transfer exam
24 from another denomination for TE [name omitted].

25 **Response [2022]:** We did not specify in our minutes that TE [name omitted] had been
26 examined on all requirements for transfer. However, we are certain that these
27 requirements for transfer were met by the candidate and approved by presbytery. We
28 apologize for not providing a full and accurate record and will be more watchful going
29 forward.

30 **Rationale [2022]:** No record that Presbytery corrected its records (*RAO* 16-10.b.1).

31 **Response [2023]:** Record corrected at August 2022 Presbytery: page 68.

32 **Exception: Jan 23-24, 2020** (*BCO* 13-6; 21-4) – Incomplete record of transfer exam
33 for TE [name omitted].

34 **Response [2022]:** We did not specify in our minutes that TE [name omitted] had
35 been examined on all requirements for transfer, including Sacraments and church
36 government. However, we are certain that these requirements for transfer were met by
37 the candidate and approved by presbytery. We apologize for not providing a full and
38 accurate record and will be more watchful going forward.

39 **Rationale [2022]:** No record that Presbytery corrected its records (*RAO* 16-10.b.1).

40 **Response [2023]:** Error on transfers IAW *BCO* 13-6 noted at January 2023 Presbytery
41 meeting. Note: TE is no longer in Presbytery and part of PCA, transferred to EPC.

42 **Exception: Apr 24, 2020** (*BCO* 13-12) – Business transacted outside the purpose of
43 called meeting.

1 **Response [2022]:** We humbly admit that we conducted business that was outside of
2 the stated purpose of the called meeting. We will be more diligent to conduct only
3 stated business going forward.

4 **Rationale [2022]:** In a called meeting any action taken outside the stated purpose of
5 that called meeting is invalid and unconstitutional and must be readdressed
6 appropriately at a subsequent meeting. The Presbytery needs to produce records of the
7 extraneous business having been ratified at a subsequent meeting (*BCO* 13-12).

8 **Response [2023]:** Extraneous business of called meeting of Ordination Team outside
9 called purpose noted at January 2023 Presbytery meeting where purpose was changed
10 and ratified to include extraneous business of changes to Standing Rules.

11 **Exception: Apr 24, 2020** (*Standing Rules*) – No bylaw/standing rule provision for
12 electronic meetings.

13 **Response [2022]:** [1] On August 20, 2021, Presbytery approved an amendment to the
14 Standing Rules of the Arizona Presbytery as follows:

15 C. 1.

16 a) While matters of Presbytery are generally understood to take place in person,
17 Presbytery may authorize a meeting to be conducted by electronic means, such as
18 videoconferencing or teleconference, when necessary or preferred due to matters
19 of health and safety, including pandemics or dangerous weather conditions.

20 b) If a meeting is done by electronic means, such as videoconferencing or
21 teleconference, the meeting must be conducted by a technology that allows all
22 persons participating to hear each other at the same time (and, if a videoconference,
23 to see each other as well).

24 c) The right to vote in meetings done by videoconferencing or teleconference is
25 limited to the members who are actually present on the call (or video) at the time
26 the vote is taken.

27 d) All voting members must be participating in the same method of attendance.

28 **Rationale [2022]:** No record that Presbytery corrected its records (*RAO* 16-10.b.1).
29 (Ratification of actions at proper meeting would be satisfactory).

30 **Response [2023]:** Ratification at January 2023 Presbytery.

31 **Exception: General 2020** (*BCO* 13-9.b) – No annual review of records of church
32 Sessions.

33 **Response [2022]:** Annual review did not take place. Presbytery will be diligent to
34 establish a program of regular review of records of church Sessions. This will be
35 assigned to our administrative commission and we will conduct a proper review going
36 forward.

37 **Rationale [2022]:** No record that Presbytery corrected its records (*RAO* 16-10.b.1).
38 Session minutes from 2020 must be reviewed.

39 **Response [2023]:** Direction given to all churches at August Presbytery and
40 appointment of a committee to review minutes from 2020-2021.

41 **e. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore**
42 **new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

43 **Exception: Aug 20, 2020** (*BCO* 38-1) – Full *BCO* 38-1 statement not recorded in
44 minutes.

1 **Response:** We were negligent to not record the statement in the minutes. We will be
2 more watchful in the future.

3 **Rationale:** No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery
4 has not yet submitted the full *BCO* 38-1 statement.

5 **Exception: Jan 21, 2021** (*BCO* 19-2.b.3) – Candidate licensed after *BCO* exam
6 expressly not sustained.

7 **Response:** We were negligent to not record the candidate’s eventual passage of all
8 aspects of his exam, including on the *BCO*, in the minutes. We will be more watchful
9 in the future. As a note, the then-candidate is no longer part of the Presbytery.

10 **Rationale:** No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1).

11 **Exception: Jun 15, 2021** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – Stated differences not recorded
12 in the minister’s own words.

13 **Response:** We were negligent to not record his own words in the minutes. We will be
14 more watchful in the future.

15 **Rationale:** No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery
16 has not submitted the candidate’s stated differences in his own words for review.

17 **Exception: Nov 11, 2021** (*Standing Rules* I.C.1; *BCO* 13-12; *RAO* 16-3.c.1) –
18 Meeting improperly classified as stated instead of called; purpose of called meeting
19 not recorded verbatim in the minutes.

20 **Response:** We were negligent to improperly classify this meeting. We will be more
21 watchful in the future and explicit in our purposes for called meetings.

22 **Rationale:** No record that Presbytery corrected its actions (*RAO* 16-10.b.1).
23 Presbytery has not recorded the purpose verbatim and ratified the work of the meeting.

24 **Exception: Jun 15, 2021** (*BCO* 13-6) – Incomplete record of examination of TE
25 transferring into Presbytery.

26 **Response:** We failed to observe the requirements of *BCO* 13-6 for transfers and will
27 correct going forward. Many apologies.

28 **Rationale:** No indication that Presbytery corrected its record or its actions (*BCO* 13-
29 6; *RAO* 16-10.b.1).

30
31 2. That the Minutes of **Ascension** Presbytery: *52-0-1*

32 a. Be approved without exception: **Jan 29, 2022; Jan 29, 2022 ES; April 30, 2022; July**
33 **30, 2022.**

34 b. Be approved with exception of form: **None.**

35 c. Be approved with exception of substance:

36 **1. Exception: April 23, 2022** (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) – Minutes of commission
37 not entered in Presbytery minutes.

38 **2. Exception: Nov 5, 2022** (*BCO* 38-3.a.) – Presbytery may not permit TE to
39 withdraw if he is not in good standing; furthermore, it may not “withdraw from
40 him all authority to exercise his office” if the Presbytery does not judge the branch
41 the TE has affiliated with “as failing to maintain the Word and Sacraments in their
42 fundamental integrity” (*BCO* 38-3.b.).

43 **d. No response to previous assemblies required.**
44
45

- 1 3. That the Minutes of **Blue Ridge** Presbytery: 54-0-0
2 a. Be approved without exception: **Sep 27, 2022.**
3 b. Be approved with exception of form: **Jan 28-29, 2022; May 25, 2022; Aug 13, 2022;**
4 **Nov 4-5, 2022.**
5 c. Be approved with exception of substance:
6 **1. Exception: Jan 29, 2022; Apr 22-23, 2022 (BCO 23-1)** – No record that
7 congregation concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.
8 **2. Exception: Apr 22-23, 2022 (BCO 18-2)** – No record of endorsement by
9 candidates’ Session.
10 **3. Exception: Apr 22-23, 2022 (BCO 18-2)** – No record of six-months membership
11 for candidates.
12 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**
13 **Exception: Apr 23-24, 2021 (BCO 34-10)** – No record of divested ministers receiving
14 and responding to notice of divestiture.
15 **Response:** The Stated Clerk of Blue Ridge Presbytery notified Mr. [name omitted] by
16 email and USPS of his notice of divestiture. Mr [name omitted] chose not to respond to
17 Presbytery. Presbytery will be careful to note the notice of divestiture in the minutes.
18 **Exception: Apr 23-24, 2021; Nov 5-6, 2021 (BCO 23-1)** – No record that
19 congregation was cited to appear by its commissioners to give a statement about
20 pastor’s resignation.
21 **Response:** Presbytery agrees with the exception and will seek to be more careful in
22 the future.
23 **Exception: Apr 23-24, 2021 (BCO 13-10)** – No record of transfer of membership
24 from dissolved church.
25 **Response:** Blue Ridge Presbytery disagrees with this exception as the only mention
26 of dissolution on page 8 is for a TE and [church name omitted] Church.
27 **Exception: Apr 23-24, 2021 (BCO 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5)** – Stated differences not
28 recorded in the candidate’s own words.
29 **Response: Please see the following from page 8:**
30 *“Mr. [name omitted] was asked to state his exceptions to the Westminster Standards.*
31 *Mr. [name omitted] stated that the church and the kingdom are conflated in the*
32 *Standards, but he holds the kingdom is greater and larger than the church. M/S that*
33 *the difference is merely semantic. M/S/P to amend the motion that the exception is*
34 *more than semantic but is not out of accord with any fundamental of our system of*
35 *doctrine. The new motion passed.”*
36 These were Mr. [name omitted]’s own words. Presbytery respectively disagrees
37 with the exception of substance.
38 **Exception: Jun 8, 2021 (BCO 13-12)** – Notice for called meeting not in order; 10-
39 day notice, verbatim meeting call, etc., not indicated/recorded.
40 **Response:** Notice of the Called Meeting was sent out May 25, 2021. The Clerk will
41 be careful to attach the call of the meeting to the minutes. Presbytery agrees with the
42 exception.
43
44 4. That the Minutes of **Calvary** Presbytery: 49-0-1
45 a. Be approved without exception: **Jul 23, 2022; Oct 27, 2022.**

1 b. Be approved with exception of form: **Jan 22, 2022; Apr 28, 2022.**

2 c. Be approved with exception of substance: **None.**

3 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**

4 **Exception: Jan 23, 2021** (*BCO* 21-5.8; 21-9) – No record of commission to install
5 TE [name omitted] in change of call from assistant to associate pastor.

6 **Response:** We agree that an installation commission was not recorded. Though
7 presbytery advised the congregation to submit an installation commission and hold
8 the service for the TE in his role as Associate Pastor, this step was never taken.
9 Therefore, TE [name omitted], in effect, remained installed as Assistant Pastor. He
10 was then elected Senior Pastor of the church on June 11 and was duly installed on
11 August 22, 2021. Therefore, this final action would take precedence over the one in
12 question. The presbytery regrets this oversight and will be more careful in the future
13 regarding changes of call.

14 **Exception: Apr 22, 2021** (*BCO* 13-4) – No record of quorum for installation.

15 **Response:** We would argue that this is an exception of form, not of substance. While
16 the record doesn't explicitly state that a quorum for the installation was met, the
17 presence of 2 TEs and 2 REs does meet the quorum threshold of *BCO* 15-1.

18 **Exception: Jul 24, 2021** (*BCO* 23-1) – No record of $\frac{4}{5}$ majority vote of congregation
19 or $\frac{3}{4}$ majority vote of Presbytery for change in call for TE [name omitted] from
20 associate to senior pastor.

21 **Response:** We agree with these exceptions of substance. The clerk of session has
22 provided written testimony that TE [name omitted]' election was unanimous. This
23 should have been recorded in the minutes and they were amended to reflect that the
24 $\frac{4}{5}$ majority was attained per *BCO* 23-1 at the October 27, 2022 meeting of presbytery.
25 The presbytery also testifies that our approval of TE [name omitted]'s call was without
26 objection and the minutes have been amended to reflect the $\frac{3}{4}$ majority per *BCO* 23-1
27 at the October 27, 2022 meeting of presbytery.

28 **Exception: Jul 24, 2021** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – Stated differences not recorded
29 in minister's own words.

30 **Response:** The presbytery is confused by this exception because the candidate's views
31 are recorded in the July 24 docket on p. 18. The minutes for this meeting, including
32 Mr. [name omitted]'s differences, were approved at the Oct. 28 meeting of presbytery.
33 Therefore, we ask that this exception of substance be removed.

34 **Exception: Jul 24, 2021** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – Stated differences not recorded
35 in minister's own words. Dr. [name omitted]'s own words are not present.

36 **Response:** The presbytery is confused by this exception because the candidate's views
37 are recorded in the July 24 docket on p. 24. The minutes for this meeting, including
38 Dr. [name omitted]'s differences, were approved at the Oct. 28 meeting of presbytery.
39 Therefore, we ask that this exception of substance be removed.

40 **Exception: Oct 28, 2021 [p. 14]** (*BCO* 34-8) – No record of $\frac{3}{4}$ vote of presbytery to
41 remove censure of deposition.

42 **Response:** We agree with this exception of substance. Though the motion passed
43 unanimously, it was not recorded as required by *BCO* 34-8. The minutes were
44 amended to reflect the $\frac{3}{4}$ majority at the October 27, 2022 meeting. We regret this
45 error and will be more careful in the future.

1 **Exception: Oct 28, 2021 [p.13]** (*BCO* 13-11; *RAO* 16-3.e.7) – Presbytery did not
2 have authority to approve as satisfactory [church name omitted]'s reason to not turn in
3 executive session minutes.

4 **Response:** Presbytery agrees with the exception of substance. The Calvary Presbytery
5 Sessional Records Committee reviewed the minutes and found no exceptions at the
6 Autumn meeting of Calvary presbytery.

7

8 5. That the Minutes of **Canada West** Presbytery: 53-0-0

9 a. Be approved without exception: **Mar 4, 2022 ES; Sep 30, 2022 ES.**

10 b. Be approved with exception of form: **Directory; Mar 3, 2022.**

11 c. Be approved with exception of substance:

12 **1. Exception: Mar 3, 2022** (*BCO* 19-2.d, f) – Incomplete record of licensure exam.

13 **2. Exception: Mar 3, 2022; Sep 30, 2022** (*BCO* 21-4.c (2) and (3)) – Incomplete
14 record of ordination exam.

15 **3. Exception: Sep 30, 2022** (*RAO* 16-10.a) – Responses to CRPR by the presbytery
16 not included in the minutes.

17 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**

18 **Exception: Mar 5-6, 2021** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – All specific requirements of
19 ordination exam not recorded (Christian experience).

20 **Response:** The Candidate was examined during the previous Presbytery in October
21 of 2020 when he was approved for Licensure which did include his reporting on, and
22 being examined in, his Christian Experience. In the March 2021 Presbytery meeting
23 the Presbytery was reminded of this and the details of his Christian Experience and he
24 did give a summary of the same once more, however the Clerk did not record that this
25 issue was revisited at the March 2021 meeting. The Clerk regrets the oversight and
26 apologizes for not being thorough in recording all the necessary information and will
27 endeavor to ensure it does not happen again.

28 **Exception: Oct 1, 2021** (*BCO* 13-11; *RAO* 16-3.e.7) – Two sets of minutes of
29 executive sessions not included.

30 **Response:** This was an oversight by the Clerk. I think the “hard” copies sent in to
31 RPR did include these Minutes but were inadvertently excluded in the electronic
32 submission uploaded to the portal. These sets of Minutes are attached with this
33 response and will also be uploaded if possible to the portal. The Clerk apologizes for
34 the administrative oversight.

35 **Exception: Oct 1, 2021** (*BCO* 21-4) – No record of requiring statement of differences
36 with our Standards.

37 **Response:** The Candidate examined had no stated differences with the confession.
38 This element was reported on by the Chair of the Credentials Committee and affirmed
39 by the Candidate however the Clerk neglected to record this vital piece of information
40 in the Minutes. The Clerk regrets and apologizes for the oversight and will endeavor
41 to ensure all elements of examination are accurately recorded in the Minutes in the
42 future.

43 **Exception: Oct 1, 2021** (*BCO* 13-9.b; 40-3) – Results of review of records of church
44 Sessions not stated.

1 **Response:** The results of the Review of Session Records was reported by the
2 Administrative Sub-Committee at the meeting as having no exceptions of substance
3 but all churches having some exceptions of form. The Clerk apologizes for the error
4 in only reporting that the review was completed and not what the results of the review
5 were. The Clerk is sufficiently reminded that these results are to be recorded for future
6 Minutes.

7 **Exception: Standing Rules** (*BCO* 20; Preliminary Principle 6) – The *BCO* doesn’t
8 provide for a second vote to confirm the election of a pastor after Presbytery
9 deliberations. *BCO* 20-10 states in part: “The Presbytery, having heard all the parties,
10 may, upon viewing the whole case, either recommend them to desist from prosecuting
11 the call; or may order it to be delivered to the minister to whom it is addressed.”

12 **Response:** The Presbytery will review its Standing Rules and amend them such that
13 they are in compliance with the *BCO*. The Presbytery will hold this clause as “out of
14 order” until it has had the opportunity to address and approve the necessary change
15 and will have a clause that is in compliance with the *BCO* in its 2023 submission of
16 its court records.

17 **Exception: Sep 18, 2020** (*BCO* 21-4.d) – Reason for use of extraordinary clause not
18 explained.

19 **Response [2022]:** The use of the “extraordinary clause” was used only for the issue
20 of PCA church governance. As the TE being examined was for the purposes of Stated
21 Supply and would not be made a part of nor be attending Session meetings or
22 moderating or attending any official church governance functions, it was felt that this
23 particular issue could be exempted from the examination under this clause. The
24 Presbytery apologizes for not making this distinction at the time of original writing.

25 **Rationale [2022]:** Ordination does not include different classes of ordinands such as,
26 for example, one type who will serve as a pastor of a church and another who will
27 serve as stated supply. The Presbytery’s rationale for omitting parts of the exam was
28 stated in their response as “for the issues of PCA church governance” and that the TE
29 “would not be made a part of nor be attending Session meetings or moderating or
30 attending any official church governance functions, it was felt that this particular issue
31 could be exempted from the examination under this clause.” However, the rationale
32 from the Presbytery is an improper reason for omitting parts of the trial for ordination.

33 **Response [2023]:** Rev. [name omitted] is an ordained TE in the Orthodox
34 Presbyterian Church and was being examined for Licensure to serve as Stated Supply
35 in one of the churches. The Presbytery confused the requirements for Licensure and
36 Ordination in the examination in the area of church government and sought to exempt
37 him from the examination requirement found in *BCO* 21-4 c) (1) h) requiring “a
38 careful examination as to...the principles and rules of the government and discipline
39 of the church” which would require having a full and substantial demonstrated
40 knowledge of church government. However, that examination requirement is for
41 Ordination and not Licensure. As part of a Licensure examination the need was to
42 examine him as per *BCO* 19-2 b) “3. basic knowledge of the government of the
43 Presbyterian Church in America as defined in *The Book of Church Order*.” He has
44 this basic knowledge and demonstrated it sufficiently to the Credentials Committee
45 and the Presbytery as a whole to be approved for Licensure but it did (does) not meet

1 the requirements for Ordination. However, since he was only going for Licensure the
 2 Presbytery had no need to seek the exemption. The Clerk apologizes for the confusion
 3 and the errors made, including on the PCA Web Portal in which the Candidate was
 4 listed as “TE- Stated Supply” when he should have been listed as “Other” since he is
 5 a TE in another denomination and only licensed for our Presbytery. I have corrected
 6 the Portal information and the Candidate does not require any examination exemption
 7 since he was not and is not being put forward for Ordination. Our Presbytery regrets
 8 the error and will endeavor to be more precise and correct with our process in the
 9 future.

10 e. **That the following response to the 50th GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore a**
 11 **new response shall be submitted to the following GA:**

12 **Exception: Mar 5-6, 2021** (BCO 21-4.f; 40-2) – Presbytery granted a doctrinal
 13 exception that may be hostile to our system of doctrine (WCF 1.1-10). More
 14 information or clarity is needed on the exception.

15 **Response:** The Candidates expressed view is that, the gifts of tongues and prophecy,
 16 though no longer normative, still occur in a manner that can be defined by such terms.
 17 There have been individuals who have reportedly received, in a miraculous manner,
 18 the gift of knowing (speaking and/or reading) a language they have had no previous
 19 experience or training in. He believes these gifts can be given as a means of grace
 20 from God and would categorize this in the realm of the “gift of tongues”. Also,
 21 individuals may at times be blessed with extraordinary insight on a certain issue for
 22 which they may have not previously demonstrated any particular knowledge, expertise
 23 or have no training in. The Candidate defines such situations as being in the realm of
 24 the “gift of prophecy”, using its wider definition. “Prophecy” being looked at as per
 25 1 Corinthians 14:3-4 as speaking to people for their upbuilding and encouragement
 26 and consolation... (to) build up the church.” It would be defined as: “the gift of
 27 communicating and enforcing revealed truth”. Though such situations could also
 28 come under the definition of being gifts of “wisdom”, “knowledge”, and/or
 29 “discernment”, the definition of “prophecy” as an over-arching term for such is also
 30 acceptable for such circumstances. The Candidate agrees that “prophecy” defined as
 31 new revelation from God to a person that is “extra-Biblical” or outside of God’s
 32 revealed and complete Word, does not exist.

33 **Rationale:** Presbytery does not acknowledge any biblical support for the continuation
 34 of such gifts, nor does it provide any rationale as to how a person can meaningfully
 35 differentiate between modern day “prophecy” and Scripture.

37 6. That the Minutes of **Catawba Valley** Presbytery: 48-0-2

- 38 a. Be approved without exception: **Sep 27, 2022.**
- 39 b. Be approved with exception of form: **Directory.**
- 40 c. Be approved with exception of substance:
 - 41 **1. Exception: Jan 22, 2022** (BCO 43-8) – Four timely and orderly complaints
 - 42 dismissed without a hearing.
 - 43 **2. Exception: May 24, 2022** (BCO 46-8) – No record that divested minister was
 - 44 assigned to a particular church.

45 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**

1 **Exception: Jan 23, 2021; May 25, 2021** (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) – Minutes of
2 commission not entered into Presbytery minutes.

3 **Response:** We assume these exceptions refer to the Minutes of the Commission
4 Acting as the Session for the [church name omitted] Mission, which met 14 times
5 from 9/24/19 to 5/15/21.

6 [Minutes of the Commission were submitted as part of Presbytery’s response and are
7 omitted in the report to the 50th GA.]

8 Also, it is noted that in the 5/23/21 minutes, Presbytery did not formally receive the
9 entire [church name omitted] Commission report or approve its minutes on motion.
10 CVP corrected this error on 9/27/22 by approving a motion that the entire report and
11 minutes of this Commission are received as actions of presbytery.

12 **Exception: Sep 28, 2021** (*BCO* 13-11) – No record of complaint sent to Presbytery
13 (clerk states case will be adjudicated in 2022).

14 **Response:** While CVP found this complaint to be in order and assigned it to a
15 Commission (Minutes of 9/28/21, Admin Committee Recommendation H.), we
16 assume that the RPR/GA finds this explanation not to be a full account of the
17 proceedings as required by *BCO* 13-1, presumably expecting CVP to print the
18 Complaint in the Minutes (although there is no explicit requirement to do so in *BCO*
19 43). Due to the sensitive matter of the complaint, it was assigned to a Commission,
20 which adjudicated it until it was withdrawn by the complainant. At the stated meeting
21 of Sept 24, 2022, it will be recommended that CVP receive the Complaint in executive
22 session and print it in sealed minutes so as to give a full account of our proceedings.
23

24 7. That the Minutes of **Central Carolina** Presbytery: *51-0-1*

25 a. Be approved without exception: **Feb 26, 2022; Nov 15, 2022.**

26 b. Be approved with exception of form: **May 24, 2022; Aug 27, 2022.**

27 c. Be approved with exception of substance:

28 **1. Exception: May 24, 2022** (*BCO* 21-4) – $\frac{3}{4}$ vote for ordination candidate sermon
29 given to committee not recorded.

30 d. **No response to previous assemblies is required.**

31
32 8. That the Minutes of **Central Florida** Presbytery: *52-0-1*

33 a. Be approved without exception: **Jan 25, 2022 ES.**

34 b. Be approved with exception of form: **Directory; General 2022; Jan 25, 2022; Apr**
35 **26, 2022; Aug 23, 2022; Nov 15, 2022.**

36 c. Be approved with exception of substance:

37 **1. Exception: General 2022** (*BCO* 8-7) – No record that the Presbytery is assured
38 that out-of-bounds TEs will be engaged in preaching and teaching the Word and
39 will have full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of our Church.

40 **2. Exception: General 2022** (*BCO* 8-7) – No record of annual report from some TEs
41 laboring out of bounds.

42 **3. Exception: Jan 25, 2022; Apr 26, 2022; Aug 23, 2022; Nov 15, 2022** (*BCO* 18-
43 2) – No record of endorsement by candidate’s Session or six-months membership
44 for candidate.

- 1 **4. Exception: Jan 25, 2022; Apr 26, 2022; Aug 23, 2022; Nov 15, 2022 (BCO 19-**
2 **9) – No record that Presbytery received statement of inward call to the ministry of**
3 **the Word from internship applicants.**
- 4 **6. Exception: Jan 25, 2022; Apr 26, 2022 (BCO 15-3) – Presbytery did not vote to**
5 **approve judgments of judicial commissions.**
- 6 **7. Exception: Apr 26, 2022 (BCO 39-2; 45-1) – Protest admitted by a member who**
7 **did not have a right to vote in a case.**
- 8 **8. Exception: Apr 26, 2022 (BCO 21-4) – ¾ vote for extraordinary clause for**
9 **ordination candidate not recorded.**
- 10 **9. Exception: Apr 26, 2022 ES (BCO 31-8) – Presbytery policy that accusations**
11 **from a specific communing member be “automatically denied” on the basis of**
12 **BCO 31-8 exceeds the scope “great caution” permitted.**
- 13 **10. Exception: Aug 23, 2022 (BCO 5-2; 13-1; 13-9) – Presbytery assigned oversight**
14 **of mission churches within its bounds to a different Presbytery.**
- 15 **11. Exception: Aug 23, 2022 (BCO 5-9) – All specific requirements of**
16 **particularization of church not recorded.**
- 17 **12. Exception: Nov 15, 2022 (BCO 25-11; Preliminary Principle 6) – Presbytery**
18 **approved the withdrawal of a church from the PCA, when withdrawal is not**
19 **conditional on Presbytery approval.**

20 **d. That the following response to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**
21 **Exception: Jan 26, 2021 (BCO 13-6) – No record of examination of TE transferring**
22 **into Presbytery.**
23 **Response:** We agree and acknowledge our error in not conducting a full exam of an
24 Honorably Retired brother. Subsequently, we have assurance that HR [name
25 omitted]’s Christian experience, his views on theology, the Sacraments and church
26 government are in order.
27 He has stated: *“I totally subscribe to the Westminster Confession and have no*
28 *exceptions. I also have not changed any of my views since my Ordination.”*
29 To correct the record the following motion was M/S/C at the 186th Stated Meeting
30 November 15, 2022.
31 M/S/C That the Presbytery approve the Clerk’s “Responses to Exceptions of the 49th
32 General Assembly” as circulated with the docket on November 8, 2022, which
33 includes the following statement by HR TE [name omitted], which will be inserted as
34 a notation in the Minutes of January 26, 2021
35 *I totally subscribe to the Westminster Confession and have no exceptions.*
36 *I also have not changed any of my views since my Ordination.*
37 HR [name omitted]’s Christian experience, his views on theology, the Sacraments and
38 church government were found in order.

- 39
- 40 9. That the Minutes of **Central Georgia** Presbytery: 48-0-0
- 41 a. Be approved without exception: **Jan 21-22, 2022; Sep 13, 2022.**
- 42 b. Be approved with exception of form: **None.**
- 43 c. Be approved with exception of substance:
- 44 **1. Exception: General 2022 (BCO 13-9.b; 40-1) – No record of review of records**
45 **of church sessions.**

1 **2. Exception: May 10, 2022** (*BCO* 21-4) – No record of requiring statement of
2 differences with our Standards.

3 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**

4 **Exception: Apr 9, 2021** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – Stated differences not judged
5 with the prescribed categories.

6 **Response:** The Presbytery agrees with RPR Committee that, although the minutes
7 stated the exception was deemed acceptable, they did not cite the prescribed category
8 per *RAO* 16-3.e5.

9 The Presbytery apologizes for the error and will correct the minutes to state that *RAO*
10 16-3.e5(c) applies: “The stated difference is more than semantic, but not out of accord
11 with any fundamental of our system of doctrine.” The Presbytery promises to be more
12 careful in the future.

13 **Exception: May 11, 2019** (*BCO* 22-3) – Terms of call do not specify the pastoral
14 relation.

15 **Response:** The Presbytery respectfully disagrees with RPR. RPR cites *BCO* 22-3 as
16 the violated rule; however, the Presbytery’s minutes comply with this provision. The
17 minutes state clearly that the pastoral relation for each of the candidates is assistant
18 pastor and the minutes name the churches which issued their calls.

19 **Exception: Sep 14, 2021** (*RONR* 15:5) – No record of $\frac{2}{3}$ majority vote to limit debate.

20 **Response:** The Presbytery agrees with RPR and apologizes for the error. The
21 presbytery promises to be more careful in the future.
22

23 10. That the Minutes of **Central Indiana** Presbytery: *49-0-1*

24 a. Be approved without exception: **Feb 11, 2022 ES; Mar 9, 2022; Apr 7, 2022; May**
25 **13, 2022; May 13, 2022 ES; May 25, 2022.**

26 b. Be approved with exception of form: **Feb 11, 2022; May 23, 2022; Dec 9, 2022.**

27 c. Be approved with exception of substance:

28 **1. Exception: Sep 9, 2022** (*BCO* 13-11; *RAO* 16-3.e.7) – Minutes of executive
29 session not included (Rationale: Stated Meeting Minutes reflect actions taken in
30 executive session. No executive session minutes recording those actions were
31 submitted.)

32 **d. That the following response to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**

33 **Exception: Jan 8, 2021; Mar 5, 2021; Jun 22, 2021; Jul 7, 2021; Jul 12, 2021; Jul**
34 **30, 2021; Oct 21, 2021** (*BCO* 13-12) – Notice for called meeting not in order; 10-day
35 notice not reported.

36 **Response:** The presbytery acknowledges that it did not include the 10-day notice in
37 its minutes. The presbytery affirms after review that all meetings did in fact occur with
38 proper notice. Presbytery was unaware that meeting notice was required within the
39 minutes, and understands that this has been disputed among various members of the
40 Review of Presbytery Records. Presbytery will be diligent in the future to include
41 mention of meeting notice as a notation in its minutes.

42 **Exception: Feb 14, 2020** (*BCO* 15-1) – The full record of the minutes of a
43 commission are not included in the Presbytery minutes.

44 **Response [2022]:** We apologize for the oversight. We will be sure to enter the minutes
45 of future commissions into Presbytery minutes.

- 1 **Rationale [2022]:** The minutes of the commission must be submitted for review.
2 **Response [2023]:** We acknowledge this error and have attached these commission
3 minutes as requested. Minutes of the commission were taken and approved; they were
4 mistakenly omitted in our submission.
5 **Exception: Jul 10, 2020** (*BCO* 13-11; *RAO* 16-3.e.7) – Complaint sent to Presbytery
6 not recorded in minutes.
7 **Response [2022]:** We acknowledge this error and will be sure to include any future
8 complaints within the minutes of the meeting where they are presented.
9 **Rationale [2022]:** Complaints must be submitted for review.
10 **Response [2023]:** We acknowledge this error and have attached these commission
11 minutes as requested. Minutes of the commission were taken and approved; they were
12 mistakenly omitted in our submission.
13 **Exception: General** (*BCO* 13-9.b) – No record of reviewing session minutes.
14 **Response [2020]:** We acknowledge and apologize for our tardiness in reviewing
15 session minutes for 2018. We have recently changed our process for reviewing session
16 records, hoping this will produce a more timely review.
17 **Response [2022]:** We apologize for not remedying this in 2020. A committee has
18 begun a review of session records from 2018-2020. This committee will give a partial
19 report on their review progress at our February 2022 Stated Meeting.
20 **Rationale [2022]:** The presbytery has still not begun the process of reviewing
21 sessional records. Although there is a committee to work on it, it has made no progress.
22 **Response [2023]:** Central Indiana Presbytery acknowledges its error in allowing the
23 review of Session records to lapse. Presbytery formed a new Standing Team, which
24 has completed a review of ten churches in presbytery, which is included as an
25 attachment to this response; the report regarding the remaining four churches is
26 docketed for discussion and approval at our next Stated Meeting.
27 **Exception: General 2020** (*BCO* 13-9.b *Bylaws* III.B.i) – No record of review of
28 records of church Sessions.
29 **Response [2022]:** We apologize for not reviewing session records in 2020. A
30 committee has begun a review of session records from 2018-2020. This committee
31 will give a partial report on their review progress at our February 2022 Stated Meeting.
32 **Rationale [2022]:** The presbytery has still not begun the process of reviewing
33 sessional records. Although there is a committee to work on it, it has made no progress.
34 **Response [2023]:** Central Indiana Presbytery acknowledges its error in allowing the
35 review of Session records to lapse. Presbytery formed a new Standing Team, which
36 has completed a review of ten churches in presbytery, which is included as an
37 attachment to this response; the report regarding the remaining four churches is
38 docketed for discussion and approval at our next Stated Meeting.
39 **e. The following responses to the 50th GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore new**
40 **responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**
41 **Exception: Feb 8, 2019** (*BCO* 29-1; 31-2) – A committee of Presbytery gave a report
42 concerning the Christian character of a TE without the Presbytery initiating a *BCO*
43 31-2 investigation or determining whether a strong presumption of the guilt existed.
44 **Response [2022]:** We apologize for the error. We have amended our bylaws to
45 formalize a new process to handle any allegations concerning the Christian character

1 of a TE. This new process requires the formation of a 31-2 investigative committee
2 with a time limit for how long such an investigation can take.

3 **Rationale [2022]:** The Presbytery needs to indicate how it disposed of the report
4 concerning the TE's Christian character.

5 **Response [2023]:** The presbytery acknowledges its error, again. The presbytery
6 disposed of this report through pastoral conversations with the teaching elder, who
7 remains without call after his pastoral relationship with the church in question was
8 dissolved. Our Leadership Development and Pastoral Care teams have been and
9 continue to follow up with this teaching elder regularly.

10 **Rationale [2023]:** No explanation of the use of 31-2 investigation committee in
11 follow-up reporting.

12 **Exception: Feb 8, 2019; May 10, 2019** (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) – Minutes of
13 commission not entered into Presbytery minutes.

14 **Response [2022]:** We apologize for the oversight. We will be sure to enter the minutes
15 of future commissions into Presbytery minutes.

16 **Rationale [2022]:** Minutes of commission must be submitted for review.

17 **Response [2023]:** We acknowledge this error and have attached these commission
18 minutes as requested. Minutes of the commission were taken and approved; they were
19 mistakenly omitted in our submission.

20 **Rationale [2023]:** Minutes of commission must be submitted for review.

21
22 11. That the Minutes of **Chesapeake** Presbytery: 53-0-0

23 a. Be approved without exception: **May 10, 2022; Jul 23, 2022.**

24 b. Be approved with exception of form: **Jan 18, 2022; Mar 8, 2022; Nov 8, 2022.**

25 c. Be approved with exception of substance:

26 **1. Exception: Sep 13, 2022** (*BCO* 19-2.d; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – Incomplete record of
27 licensure exam.

28 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**

29 **Exception: Jan 12, 2021; Mar 13, 2021** (*BCO* 13-9.b; 40-1) – Incomplete record of
30 review of records of church Sessions. (In General, 2019 records were reviewed but
31 many were not, and only a few 2020 minutes were reviewed).

32 **Response:** Chesapeake Presbytery apologetically acknowledges this deficiency and
33 is earnestly working to remediate the situation. As of November 2022, only three sets
34 of 2020 minutes and one full and one partial set of 2019 minutes remained
35 unreviewed. The remaining partial set of 2019 minutes is not recoverable due to an
36 abrupt loss of a pastor and an entire session due to a serious and untimely church crisis
37 (*i.e.*, no elders are available to reconstruct the proceedings of a portion of its 2019
38 business and all efforts have been made to track them down). At the direction of
39 Chesapeake Presbytery at its 93rd Stated Meeting, under the *General Review and*
40 *Control* provisions of *BCO* 40-1, the Stated Clerk was directed to send citation letters
41 to the remaining three delinquent churches. Moreover, Chesapeake Presbytery will be
42 providing more careful oversight to resolve the outstanding delinquencies now and in
43 the future.

44 **Exception: Feb 13, 2021; Jul 10, 2021** (*BCO* 13-12; *RAO* 16-3.c.1) – Purpose of
45 called meetings not recorded verbatim in the minutes.

1 **Response:** The Stated Clerk apologizes for this unintended oversight and has
 2 corrected pp. 716 and 734 of the Feb. 13, 2021 and Jul. 10, 2021 minutes to provide a
 3 verbatim purpose of the called meetings, respectively as follows:

4 In the Feb. 13, 2021 minutes (p. 716), the minutes have been corrected as follows:
 5 [Minutes of called meeting were submitted by Presbytery as part of their response and
 6 have been omitted from the report to the 50th GA].

7 **Exception: Mar 13, 2021 (RAO 16- 3.e.1)** – Reason for a moderator’s ruling on a
 8 point of order not given.

9 **Response:** The Stated Clerk has updated section 11.B on p. 722 of the Mar. 13, 2021
 10 minutes to, in accordance with RAO 16-3.e.1, reflect the Moderator’s reasoning as
 11 follows:

12 B. During floor debate, a presbyter attempted to speak without being recognized by
 13 the Moderator while RE [name omitted] was speaking. RE [name omitted] continued
 14 his speech. Another presbyter raised a point of order, was recognized by the
 15 Moderator, and alleged that RE [name omitted] was using intemperate language. The
 16 Moderator ruled against the point of order since, in the Moderator’s opinion, RE
 17 [name omitted]’s speech was pointed but not intemperate. RE [name omitted]
 18 requested that his objection to the allegation of intemperate speech be recorded in the
 19 minutes.
 20

21 12. That the Minutes of **Chicago Metro** Presbytery: 48-1-1

- 22 a. Be approved with exception: **None.**
- 23 b. Be approved with exception of form: **Feb 16, 2022; Feb 16, 2022 ES; May 18, 2022;**
 24 **Aug 17, 2022; Nov 16, 2022.**
- 25 c. Be approved with exception of substance:
 - 26 1. **Exception: Jan 19, 2022; Sept 29, 2022 (BCO 13-12)** – Notice for called meeting
 27 not in order (no record of 10-day notice, no verbatim meeting call).
 - 28 2. **Exception: Feb 16, 2022 (BCO 19-2)** – Use of extraordinary clause for licensure
 29 candidate not explained.
 - 30 3. **Exception: Feb 16, 2022 ES (BCO 18-2)** – Use of extraordinary clause for
 31 licensure candidate not explained.
 - 32 4. **Exception: May 18, 2022 (BCO 19-2.e; 19-2.f)** – Ordination candidate’s stated
 33 difference appears to make a separation between the Old Testament Sabbath and
 34 the Lord’s Day that seems to be out of accord with our system of doctrine. Further
 35 clarification is needed.
 - 36 5. **Exception: May 18, 2022 (BCO 20-1)** – No record of the reasons why Presbytery
 37 considers an out-of-bounds work to be a valid Christian ministry.
 - 38 6. **Exception: May 18, 2022 (BCO 38-3.b)** – Presbytery erred when they invoked
 39 38-3.a to divest without censure a TE pursuing membership at Holy Cross
 40 Antiochian Church of Grand Rapids, MI.
 - 41 7. **Exception: Aug 17, 2022 (BCO 18-2)** – No record of endorsement by the
 42 candidate’s Session.
 - 43 8. **Exception: Aug 17, 2022 (BCO 18-2)** – Use of extraordinary clause for individual
 44 taken under care not explained.

1 **9. Exception: Aug 17, 2022 (BCO 13-10)** – No record of transfer or dismissal of
2 members upon dissolving a church.

3 **10. Exception: Aug 17, 2022 (BCO 19-2.e; 19-2.f)** – Presbytery granted an exception
4 for a stated difference on the grounds that the stated difference was more than
5 semantic but not out of accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine.
6 Candidate’s stated difference with WLC 109 claims that it “can be spiritually
7 helpful for our children in particular, to allow God the Son to be represented for
8 the purpose of illustration.” Presbytery needs to provide further clarification as to
9 how the quoted material is not hostile to our system of doctrine.

10 **11. Exception: Aug 17, 2022; Nov 16, 2022 (BCO 23-1)** – No record that Session
11 concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.

12 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**

13 **Exception: Feb 17, 2021 (RAO 16-3.e.1)** – Reason for a chair’s ruling on a point of
14 order not given.

15 **Response:** The chair ruled the point of order not well taken on the grounds that he
16 believed the election was valid. We failed to record the chair’s exact wording, and it
17 has been 18 months since that meeting, but to our best recall the chair ruled that the
18 election had been a replacement for the earlier election and thus not in conflict. The
19 ruling was challenged and overturned by a majority of the assembly. The confusion
20 stemmed in part from the cancellation of the 2020 General Assembly. We erred in not
21 recording the reasons for the chair’s ruling and will be mindful to record such rulings
22 in the future.

23 **Exception: Feb 17, 2021 (BCO 18-2)** – Use of extraordinary clause for candidate not
24 explained.

25 **Response:** We erred in not recording the explanation for the use of the extraordinary
26 clause in 8.1.4.5. As noted in 8.1.4.1.2. and 8.1.4.2.2., the candidates had not been
27 members of their churches for at least six months but were both endorsed by their
28 sessions as well as their previous presbyteries. As noted in 8.1.4.3.2., the candidate
29 was not a member of a PCA church but had been endorsed by a session of Chicago
30 Metro Presbytery. He had previously been a member of a PCA church prior to
31 relocating to the area for doctoral studies. A Chicago Metro Presbytery pastor was
32 willing to mentor him. Requiring six months of membership would have unduly
33 delayed their ability to move forward in the ordination process. We will be more
34 careful to note the reasons for using the extraordinary clause in the future.

35 **Exception: May 19, 2021 (BCO 21-4.f; 40-2)** – Presbytery granted a doctrinal
36 exception that may be hostile to our system of doctrine (candidate claims a stated
37 difference with the Westminster Larger Catechism 109 but does not explain what
38 exactly that stated difference is). More information or clarity is needed on the
39 exception.

40 **Response:** The candidate had stated his difference with WLC 109, but we erred in not
41 including it in the minutes and will now include them in the record. The candidate’s
42 full statement of differences was this:

43 *I take exception to the Larger Catechism’s statement that one of the sins of the second*
44 *command is: representing any of the persons of the Trinity, inwardly in the mind or*
45 *outwardly in any kind of image.*

1 *Inward Representation*

2 *I do not think that it can be expected of Christians, nor should their consciences be*
 3 *bound against, brief visualizations of the incarnate Jesus Christ in their minds when*
 4 *reading the Scriptures. For example, it is quite difficult to read the Crucifixion*
 5 *accounts of Matthew 27 or John 19 without an image of our Lord’s broken and*
 6 *crucified body coming to mind. This, in my estimation, is not a sin. It is not wise to*
 7 *meditate on, pray to, or worship a visualized image of Christ. This could, perhaps, be*
 8 *called a sin. But I take exception to calling any internal representation of Christ in*
 9 *our minds a sin.*

10 *Outward Representation*

11 *I wholeheartedly agree with our Standard’s prohibition of any representations of God*
 12 *for the purposes of worship. This is why I prefer the language of the Shorter Catechism*
 13 *on this, ‘The second commandment forbiddeth the worshiping of God by images, or*
 14 *any other way not appointed in his Word.’ (Q. 51) It is clear from Scripture that God*
 15 *is invisible (John 1:18), and he forbids us from worshiping him by images (Exodus*
 16 *20:4-6; Deuteronomy 5:8-10). With this being said, I do not believe that it is a sin,*
 17 *and, rather, can be spiritually helpful for our children in particular, to allow God the*
 18 *Son to be represented for the purpose of illustration. A children’s Bible such as the*
 19 *Jesus Storybook Bible, or others, that are not used in worship, can be a helpful tool in*
 20 *illustrating the fact that God became man in Jesus Christ.*

- 21 **e. That the following response to the 50th GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore a**
 22 **new response shall be submitted to the following GA:**

23 **Exception: Aug 18, 2021 (BCO 19-2.e; 19-2.f)** – Licensure candidate’s stated
 24 difference makes a separation between the Old Testament Sabbath and the Lord’s Day
 25 that seems to be hostile to our system of doctrine.

26 **Response:** The Presbytery respectfully disagrees. While we agree that the candidate’s
 27 position is indeed a difference with our standards, we interpret the candidate’s position
 28 to be consistent with the Continental or Calvinistic view of the Sabbath (as expressed
 29 in the Heidelberg Catechism Q&A.103, which the candidate affirms) and do not
 30 believe this view is hostile to the system or strikes at the vitals of religion.

31 **Rationale:** Presbytery stated how they believed that this view was consistent with
 32 other confessional traditions but not how it was consistent with our doctrinal
 33 standards.-Candidate’s stated difference appears to make a separation between the Old
 34 Testament Sabbath and the Lord’s Day that seems to be out of accord with our system
 35 of doctrine. Further clarification is needed. (BCO 19-2.e; 19-2.f)

- 36 **f. That a response shall be submitted to the following GA as no response was**
 37 **received in 2023:**

38 **Exception: Aug 18, 2021 (BCO 21-4.f; 40-2)** Presbytery granted a doctrinal
 39 exception that may be hostile to our system of doctrine. More information or clarity
 40 is needed on the exception, wherein the candidate expresses his belief that images of
 41 Christ may be suitable “for purposes of instruction and (with great care) **public**
 42 **worship**” (emphasis added).

- 43
 44 13. That the Minutes of **Columbus Metro** Presbytery: 48-0-2
 45 a. Be approved without exception: **Mar 15, 2022.**

- 1 b. Be approved with exception of form: **Nov 15, 2022.**
- 2 c. Be approved with exception of substance:
- 3 1. **Exception: Directory** (RAO 16-4.c.1) – No Directory provided.
- 4 2. **Exception: Standing Rules** (RAO 16-4.c.2) – No *Standing Rules* provided.
- 5 3. **Exception: General 2022** (BCO 13-9.b; 40-1) – No record of review of records
- 6 of church Sessions.
- 7 4. **Exception: May 17, 2022; Aug 18, 2022** (BCO 13-11; RAO 16-3.e.7) – Minutes
- 8 of executive session not included.
- 9 5. **Exception: Aug 18, 2022** (BCO 13-11) – Minutes of called meeting not included.
- 10 6. **Exception: Nov 15, 2022** (BCO 15-1; RAO 16-3.e.4) – Minutes of commission
- 11 not entered in Presbytery minutes.
- 12 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**
- 13 **Exception: Apr 20, 2021; May 18, 2021** (RONR 25:10; 40:6-10) – Quorum was not
- 14 present – by declaration of the moderator. By failing to immediately adjourn, and
- 15 instead to continue to conduct business without a quorum, the Presbytery put itself at
- 16 risk that a future meeting would fail to ratify their actions. Actions taken at a meeting
- 17 without a quorum are by themselves null and void.
- 18 **Response:** We agree with this exception and will improve our conduct. We do note
- 19 that the actions of these meetings were reviewed and ratified at the next stated meeting
- 20 at which a quorum was present.
- 21 **Exception: Apr 20, 2021; May 18, 2021** (BCO 13-4) – *Standing rules* cannot be
- 22 suspended without quorum, cannot suspend *BCO* requirements for quorum.
- 23 **Response:** We agree with this exception and will improve our conduct. We do note
- 24 that the actions of these meetings were reviewed and ratified at the next stated meeting
- 25 at which a quorum was present.
- 26 **Exception: Jan 15, 2019; Nov 19, 2019** (BCO 38-2; 46-8) – *BCO* 38-2 requires two
- 27 meetings. The presbytery acted at the first meeting based on a letter. There was no
- 28 motion to assign membership per 46-8.
- 29 **Response:** We agree with the exception to Presbytery’s acceptance of TE [name
- 30 omitted]’s request for resignation on receipt of his letter, without waiting for the
- 31 subsequent stated meeting of April 2, 2019. While we cannot undo that action, we
- 32 note that TE [name omitted] had already relocated for work at time of our January
- 33 2019 action and we do not believe any deleterious effects resulted. We will improve
- 34 our process in the future.
- 35 We note with respect to actions concerning TE [name omitted] at the November 19,
- 36 2019, meeting that the minutes reflect:
- 37 3.5. Motion: to divest TE [name omitted] without censure, in accordance with *BCO*
- 38 38-2. This is second Stated Meeting in which TE [name omitted] has presented this
- 39 request (per *BCO* 38-2). After deliberation, the Columbus Metro Presbytery voted to
- 40 divest him of his office without censure. Mr. [name omitted] approached the front and
- 41 prayers were offered for him and his family.
- 42 Approved 12-0-0
- 43 **Exception: Apr 2, 2019** (BCO 19-16) – Presbytery committee recommended
- 44 approving previous experience as equivalent to internship; however, no motion or vote
- 45 to do so is recorded (requires 3/4).

1 **Response:** Our review of minutes from April 2, 2019, indicates that no actions
2 concerning candidates occurred at this meeting.

3 In reviewing all of the minutes from 2019 we note in the September 17, 2019, minutes,
4 in a licensure examination, that “Dr. [name omitted]’s internship experience is
5 attached. The committee moves that the Presbytery receive and approve Dr. [name
6 omitted]’s experience as having met the standard for internship in accordance with
7 *BCO* 19-7...” and that the vote was not recorded.

8 Presbytery asserts that the next unanimous vote recorded in the minutes was intended
9 to be inclusive of the internship requirement. In the event that this was the excepted
10 action noted by RPR in 2019, we agree with the exception and have improved our
11 minutes. If this is not the excepted event, we invite further clarification and at the same
12 time are grateful to improve our minutes from September 17, 2019.

13 **Exception: Sep 18, 2018** (*BCO* 13-6; 21-4) – Incomplete record of transfer exam.

14 **Response [2021]:** [Adopted, 12-0-0] The description of this exception is unclear to
15 Presbytery. The record of the exam is included below, and after further review—to
16 the eyes of Presbytery—the exam is in fact complete in accordance with *BCO* 13-6
17 and 21-4. The transfer exam from outside of our denomination included knowledge,
18 views and exceptions as required by these two articles in the *BCO*.

19 1. Transfer/Ordination Exam, *BCO* 13-6 with 21-4

- 20 • TE [name omitted] invited Rev. [name omitted] ([church name omitted]) to
21 introduce himself to the men of presbytery and share his sense of call and
22 experience of Christian religion
- 23 • TE [name omitted] then proceeded to ask the Rev. [name omitted] questions
24 about any exceptions he might have with the Westminster Confession and the
25 Catechisms, and then his views in theology, the Sacraments, and church
26 government, in accordance with the examination requirements set forth in
27 *BCO* 13-6
- 28 • Rev. [name omitted] Exception: [name omitted] declared his exception with
29 *WLC* 109 that “the use of images of Jesus contained in pedagogical resources
30 is not in conflict with this doctrinal statement.” In regard to Rev. [name
31 omitted]’s exception on *WC* 109, the court judged the stated difference(s) to
32 be more than semantic, but “not out of accord with any fundamental of our
33 system of doctrine” (*BCO* 21-4).

34 2. TE [name omitted] continued the examination by asking questions of the candidate
35 in his knowledge and views as set forth and required in *BCO* 21-4, as stated in 13-
36 6.

37 3. TE [name omitted] opened the examination to receive questions from the floor of
38 Presbytery.

39 4. Motion: to arrest the exam and dismiss the ordinand. MSA

40 5. Motion: to sustain Rev. [name omitted]’s examination. MSA

41 TEs [names omitted] and Rev. [name omitted] were invited to the floor. TE [name
42 omitted] read the questions from 21-5 to the three men and each answered in the
43 affirmative. TE [name omitted] then prayed for the men and the right hand of
44 fellowship was offered to each by the members of presbytery.

1 **Rationale [2021]:** Clarification: *RAO* 16-3.e.5 specifies: “Minutes of presbytery
2 relating to examinations must *list all specific requirements* and trials for licensure
3 and/or ordination which have been accomplished, ...” The minutes should list out the
4 various areas of examination, not just reference the overarching *BCO* sections.

5 **Response [2022]:** [Adopted, 12-0-0] The description of this exception is unclear to
6 Presbytery. The record of the exam is included below, and after further review—to the
7 eyes of Presbytery—the exam is in fact complete in accordance with *BCO* 13-6 and
8 21-4.

9 The CMP submits this response to the 2022 RPR Committee to be received as
10 satisfactory:

11 Having done a full review of the minutes of September 18, 2018, the Presbytery
12 affirms that the TE in question was in fact examined by both Committee and
13 Presbytery by touching on his views in theology, the Sacraments, and church
14 government (*BCO* 13-6).

15 In addition, the Presbytery affirms again—after full review of the minutes of
16 September 18, 2018—that the candidate for transfer, [name omitted], was in fact
17 examined by both Committee and Presbytery for ordination in accordance with *BCO*
18 21-4, *specifically* in the areas of:

- 19 1) his Christian experience, personal character and family management
- 20 2) his knowledge of the Greek and Hebrew languages; (see exception below)
- 21 3) English Bible
- 22 4) Theology, including basic knowledge of Bible content as described in
 - 23 a) the Westminster Confession of Faith and
 - 24 b) the Larger and Shorter Catechisms
- 25 5) the Sacraments
- 26 6) History of the Church
- 27 7) History of the PCA
- 28 8) The principles and rules of the government of the church: the Book of Church
29 Order, and the government of the PCA
- 30 9) He shall prepare a thesis on some theological topic assigned by Presbytery.
31 (see exception below)
- 32 10) The candidate shall prepare an exegesis on an assigned portion of Scripture,
33 requiring the use of the original language or languages. (see exception below)
- 34 11) He shall further be required to preach a sermon before the Presbytery or
35 committee thereof, upon three-fourths (3/4) vote. (see exception below)
- 36 12) **Exception:** In regard to the requirements listed in 21-4.c.2-4, the Columbus
37 Metro Presbytery voted unanimously to grant an exception to [name omitted]’s
38 requirement for knowledge of Greek and Hebrew, theological paper,
39 exegetical paper and sermon preached with regard of his many years in
40 pastoral ministry.
- 41 13) CMP asked if Rev. [name omitted] had any exceptions to the Standards in
42 regard to *BCO* 21-4.f. The candidate for transfer, [name omitted], declared his
43 exception with WLC 109 that “the use of images of Jesus contained in
44 pedagogical resources is not in conflict with this doctrinal statement.”

1 14) In regard to Rev. [name omitted]’s exception on WC 109, the court judged
 2 the stated difference(s) to be more than semantic, but “not out of accord with
 3 any fundamental of our system of doctrine” (*BCO* 21-4).

4 The Columbus Metro Presbytery requests that the 2022 RPR Committee finds this
 5 answer sufficient and satisfactory. [Adopted: 13-0-0]

6 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery has not demonstrated that their minutes are in
 7 conformity with *RAO* 16-3.e.5, either by showing where in the minutes these “specific
 8 requirements” are shown to have been individually listed or by amending their minutes
 9 to list the specifically required areas of examination. Section 2.3 indicates that the
 10 candidate was examined “in his knowledge of and views as set forth and required in
 11 *BCO* 21-4, as stated in 13-6,” but the minutes do not list these requirements
 12 individually as required by *RAO* 16-3.e.5. Furthermore, the September 18, 2018
 13 minutes of Columbus Metro Presbytery do not contain any record of a motion to “grant
 14 an exception to [name omitted]’s requirement for knowledge of Greek and Hebrew,
 15 theological paper, exegetical paper and sermon preaching with regard of his many
 16 years in pastoral ministry.”

17 **Response [2023]:** Columbus Metro Presbytery identifies that Rev. [name omitted],
 18 already ordained as a teaching elder in the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church,
 19 was examined in accordance with *BCO* 13-6 and 21-4:

- 20 1. TE [name omitted] introduced Rev. [name omitted], ordained in the Associate
 21 Reformed Presbyterian Church, as a candidate for the pastoral ministry at [church
 22 name omitted].
- 23 2. Because Rev. [name omitted] was already ordained, TE [name omitted] moved
 24 that Presbytery grant an exception to the required examination for knowledge in
 25 Greek and Hebrew, theological paper, exegetical paper, and sermon preached in
 26 view of Rev. [name omitted]’s seminary degree and long tenure in ministry.
 27 MSA, unanimously.
- 28 3. TE [name omitted] invited Rev. [name omitted] (Associate Reformed Presbyterian
 29 Church) to introduce himself to the men of presbytery and share his sense of call
 30 and experience of Christian religion (*BCO* 21-4.c.1a).
- 31 4. TE [name omitted] continued the examination by asking questions of the candidate
 32 in his knowledge and views as set forth and required in *BCO* 21-4, as stated in 13-
 33 6. The areas of examination included questions in the following topic areas:
 34
 - 35 1. Bible Content
 - 36 2. Theology
 - 37 3. The Sacraments
 - 38 4. Church history
 - 39 5. PCA history
 - 40 6. Principles of government and discipline. Rev. [name omitted] identified
 41 several differences between ARP polity and PCA polity.
 42 MSA to arrest the views exam. **Approved unanimously**
- 43 5. TE [name omitted] then proceeded to ask the Rev. [name omitted] questions about
 44 any exceptions he might have with the Westminster Confession and the
 45 Catechisms.
 Rev. [name omitted]’s exception, in his words:

1 Rev. [name omitted] stated one difference with *WLC* 109: “the use of images
2 of Jesus contained in pedagogical resources is not in conflict with this
3 doctrinal statement.”

4 **By unanimous vote**, The court judged Rev. [name omitted]’s stated difference(s)
5 to be more than semantic, but “not out of accord with any fundamental of our
6 system of doctrine” (*BCO* 21-4).

7 6. TE [name omitted] opened the examination to receive questions from the floor of
8 Presbytery.

9 7. Motion: to arrest the exam as a whole and dismiss the candidate.. MSA,
10 unanimous.

11 **e. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore**
12 **new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

13 **Exception: Apr 20, 2021** (*BCO* 13-12) – Requirements for called meeting not shown
14 to have been met.

15 **Response:** We agree with this exception. We reviewed minutes and electronic
16 correspondence. We identified that the call for the meeting was issued at the March
17 16, 2021 meeting, with the concurrence of the 3 TEs and 3 REs from four churches.
18 This action was one month prior to the actual called meeting. We will improve our
19 record keeping.

20 **Rationale:** No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery
21 has not provided proof of correction of minutes clarifying that requirements were met.

22 **Exception: Apr 20, 2021; Jun 8, 2021** (*BCO* 23-1) – No record of congregational
23 vote to dissolve pastoral relationship.

24 **Response:** We agree with this exception. With respect to the April 20, 2021, meeting,
25 no action to dissolve a pastoral relationship was taken at this meeting. With respect to
26 the June 8, 2021, meeting, please see below: “Session representatives from [church
27 name omitted] verbally present... We will improve our record keeping in the future.”

28 **Rationale:** No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery
29 has not provided proof of corrected minutes.

30 **Exception: Jun 8, 2021** (*BCO* 13-12) – Notice for called meeting not in order; 10-
31 day notice, verbatim meeting call, etc., not indicated/recorded.

32 **Response:** We agree with this exception. We reviewed electronic communications.
33 We note that a request for a called meeting from the stated clerk was emailed on May
34 28, 2021, and that the request was supported by three teaching and ruling elders from
35 three churches.

36 The notice of the call issued by the Moderator follows:

37 “On behalf of [church name omitted] Church, I request a Called Meeting of the
38 Columbus Metro Presbytery on June 8 for the following business:

- 39 • Motion to dissolve TE [name omitted]’s relationship with [church name
40 omitted].
- 41 • Motion to approve TE [name omitted]’s request to labor out of bounds.
- 42 • Motion to approve TE [name omitted]’s call and terms of call by 3/4 vote
43 contingent upon [church name omitted]’s 4/5 affirmation.

- 1 • Motion to form a CMP Commission for TE [name omitted]’s Installation as
 2 Pastor of [church name omitted] on TBD contingent upon [church name
 3 omitted]’s affirming vote.”

4 Session representatives from [church name omitted] verbally presented the results of
 5 the congregational meeting to dissolve TE [name omitted]’s pastoral relationship. The
 6 vote was unanimous to dissolve the relationship. We regret that the minutes of the June
 7 8, 2021, meeting do not reflect that. The call for the meeting included matters relative
 8 to TE [name omitted], but these matters were not discussed at the June 8, 2021,
 9 meeting. We will improve our record keeping in the future.

10 **Rationale:** No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery
 11 has not provided proof of concurrence of call for meeting from 3 TEs and 3 REs from
 12 at least three different churches (*BCO* 13-12).

- 13 **f. That responses shall be submitted to the following GA as no responses were**
 14 **received in 2023:**

15 **Exception: Sep 4, 2021** (*BCO* 20-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.6) – Specific arrangements of call
 16 not shown to be approved.

17 **Exception: General** (*BCO* 13-9.b; 40-1) – No record of review of records of church
 18 Sessions.

19

- 20 14. That the Minutes of **Covenant** Presbytery: 50-0-0

21 a. Be approved without exception: **June 22, 2022.**

22 b. Be approved with exception of form: **Directory; Feb 1, 2022; May 17, 2022; Oct 4,**
 23 **2022.**

24 c. Be approved with exception of substance:

25 **1. Exception: Feb 1, 2022; May 17, 2022** (*BCO* 23-1) – No record that
 26 Congregation/Session concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.

27 **2. Exception: Feb 1, 2022** (*BCO* 15-1) – Commission must consist of at least two
 28 TEs and two REs.

29 **3. Exception: May 17, 2022** (*BCO* 8-7) – No record that the Presbytery is assured
 30 that an out-of-bounds TE will have full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine
 31 of our Church.

32 **4. Exception: October 4, 2022** (*BCO* 21-4.f.; *RAO* 16.3.e.5) – Candidate did not
 33 state the specific instances in which he may differ with the Confession of Faith and
 34 Catechisms in any of their statements and/or propositions.

35 **5. Exception: October 4, 2022** (*BCO* 15-1) – Committee acted as commission
 36 without authorization.

- 37 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**

38 **Exception: May 18, 2021** (*BCO* 19-16) – $\frac{3}{4}$ vote for waiving internship requirement
 39 not recorded. Candidate’s internship was approved after 3.5 months with no citation
 40 of extraordinary circumstances or a recorded $\frac{3}{4}$ vote.

41 **Response:** Covenant Presbytery acknowledges that it failed to report the unanimous
 42 vote to allow the candidate’s previous work on the mission field combined with the
 43 3.5 month formal internship to count towards the completion of the internship
 44 requirements per *BCO* 19-6.a-c. The minutes have been corrected with 152-16.6 now
 45 reading “The motion was seconded and unanimously approved that [name omitted]’s

1 previous work experience on the mission field combined with his formal internship
2 training in Covenant Presbytery be approved as fulfilling the internship requirements
3 of *BCO* 19-16.”

4 **Exception: May 21, 2019** (*BCO* 23-1) – No record of congregation/session meeting
5 requesting Presbytery to dissolve the call of TE [name omitted] with [church name
6 omitted].

7 **Response [2022]:** Covenant Presbytery acknowledges the exceptions of substance
8 noted in the RPR report regarding the minutes for May 21, 2019, and will endeavor to
9 comply with *BCO* requirements.

10 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery has not corrected their minutes to address the exception
11 and submitted for review (*RAO* 16-10.b).

12 **Response [2023]:** Covenant Presbytery acknowledges the exception of substance
13 noted in the RPR report regarding the minutes of May 21, 2019: the failure to comply
14 with *BCO* 23-1. The minutes have been corrected with the notation after 146-18.4 as
15 follows: [Note – These minutes failed to properly report the request of TE [name
16 omitted] to have the pastoral relationship dissolved and the concurrence of the
17 congregation of [church name omitted], Cleveland, MS, per their action at a duly
18 called congregational meeting on April 28, 2019]. In the future we will strive to be
19 more careful to record in our minutes that the requirements of *BCO* 23-1 have been
20 met.

21 Covenant Presbytery acknowledges the exception of substance noted in the RPR
22 report regarding the minutes of May 21, 2019: the failure to comply with *BCO* 23-1.
23 The minutes have been corrected with the notation after 146-18.5 as follows: [Note –
24 These minutes failed to properly report the request of TE [name omitted] to have the
25 pastoral relationship dissolved and the concurrence of the congregation of [church
26 name omitted] PC, per their action at a duly called congregational meeting on May
27 26, 2019]. In the future we will strive to be more careful to record in our minutes that
28 the requirements of *BCO* 23-1 have been met.

29 **Exception: Oct 1, 2019** (*BCO* 23-1) – No record of congregation/session meeting
30 requesting Presbytery to dissolve the call of TE [name omitted] with [church name
31 omitted].

32 **Response [2022]:** Covenant Presbytery acknowledges the two exceptions of
33 substance noted in the RPR report regarding the minutes for October 1, 2019 and will
34 endeavor to comply with *BCO* requirements.

35 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery has not corrected their minutes to address the exception
36 and submitted for review (*RAO* 16-10.b).

37 **Response [2023]:** – Covenant Presbytery acknowledges the exception of substance
38 noted in the RPR report regarding the minutes of October 1, 2019: the failure to
39 comply with *BCO* 23-1. The minutes have been corrected with the notation after 147-
40 20.3 as follows: [Note – These minutes failed to properly report the request of TE
41 [name omitted] to have the pastoral relationship dissolved and the concurrence of the
42 Session of [church name omitted] Church per their action at a duly called session
43 meeting.] In the future we will strive to be more careful to record in our minutes that
44 the requirements of *BCO* 23-1 have been met.

1 Covenant Presbytery acknowledges the exception of substance noted in the RPR
 2 report regarding the minutes of October 1, 2019: the failure to comply with *BCO* 23-
 3 1. The minutes have been corrected with the notation after 147-20.4 as follows: [Note
 4 – These minutes failed to properly report the request of TE [name omitted] to have the
 5 pastoral relationship dissolved and the concurrence of the Session of [church name
 6 omitted] Church, Cleveland, MS per their action at a duly called session meeting.] In
 7 the future we will strive to be more careful to record in our minutes that the
 8 requirements of *BCO* 23-1 have been met.

9 **Exception: May 19, 2020** (*BCO* 38-2; 46-8) – No record of TE divested of offices
 10 (at his request) being assigned to membership in some particular church, subject to
 11 the approval of the Session of that church.

12 **Response [2022]:** Covenant Presbytery acknowledges the exceptions of substance
 13 noted in the RPR report regarding the minutes for May 19, 2020 and will endeavor to
 14 comply with *BCO* requirements.

15 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery has not corrected their minutes to address the exception
 16 and submitted for review (*RAO* 16-10.b).

17 **Response [2023]:** - Covenant Presbytery acknowledges the exception of substance
 18 noted in the RPR report regarding the minutes of May 19, 2020: the failure to comply
 19 fully with *BCO* 38-2 and 46-8. The minutes have been corrected with the notation
 20 after 149-16.3 as follows: [Note – These minutes failed to properly report that TE
 21 [name omitted]’s membership was assigned to [church name omitted] Church in
 22 Tuscaloosa, AL pending reception]. In the future we will strive to be more careful to
 23 record in our minutes that the requirements of *BCO* 38-2 and 46-8 have been met.

24 **Exception: Feb 4, 2020** (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) – No record of ordination
 25 commission report for candidate.

26 **Response [2022]:** Covenant Presbytery acknowledges the exceptions of substance
 27 noted in the RPR report regarding the minutes for February 4, 2020, and will endeavor
 28 to comply with *BCO* requirements.

29 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery has not corrected their minutes to address the exception
 30 and submitted for review (*RAO* 16-10.b).

31 **Response [2023]:** Covenant Presbytery acknowledges the exception of substance
 32 noted in the RPR report regarding the minutes of February 4, 2020: the failure to
 33 properly document the report of the ordination commission for TE [name omitted].
 34 The report is on file with the Stated Clerk’s office but was unintentionally left out of
 35 the whitebook. The commission report was noted at the October 2022 meeting for the
 36 record and the minutes of February 4, 2020 were corrected with a notation after 148-
 37 17.2.15 as follows: [Note – The commission report noting these actions failed to be
 38 recorded in the 2020 minutes. The report was received and noted on October 4, 2022.]

39 **Exception: Oct 6, 2020** (*BCO* 21-4) – No record of two ordination candidates stating
 40 their differences with the Standards.

41 **Response [2022]:** Covenant Presbytery acknowledges the exceptions of substance
 42 noted in the RPR report regarding the minutes for October 6, 2020, and will endeavor
 43 to comply with *BCO* requirements.

44 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery has not corrected their minutes to address the exception
 45 and submitted for review (*RAO* 16-10.b).

1 **Response [2023]:** Covenant Presbytery does not believe it erred in failing to record
2 candidates stating that they had no differences with the Standards. These minutes
3 recorded that both candidates were licensed in Covenant Presbytery (150-16.2). The
4 recorded differences to the standards, of which there were none, were properly
5 recorded at the time of their respective licensure exams in 2018 (144-16.2.3) and 2019
6 (145-17.3.3). Covenant Presbytery does acknowledge that it failed to indicate in the
7 minutes that the candidate’s views had

- 8 **e. That the following response to the 50th GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore a**
9 **new response shall be submitted to the following GA:**

10 **Exception: Oct 1, 2019** (*BCO* 13-11; *RAO* 16-3.e.7) – Complaint sent to Presbytery
11 not recorded in minutes (“full and accurate record”).

12 **Response [2022]:** Covenant Presbytery acknowledges the two exceptions of
13 substance noted in the RPR report regarding the minutes for October 1, 2019 and will
14 endeavor to comply with *BCO* requirements.

15 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery has not corrected their minutes to address the exception
16 and submitted for review (*RAO* 16-10.b).

17 **Response [2023]:** Covenant Presbytery acknowledges the exception of substance
18 noted in the RPR report regarding the minutes of October 1, 2019: the failure to note
19 a complaint being sent to Presbytery. The complaint was sent to the judicial
20 commission hearing the complaint on behalf of presbytery on October 10, 2019,
21 posted to the members only page of Presbytery’s website prior to the meeting on
22 October 1, 2019, and available to any.

23 **Rationale [2023]:** No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1).
24 Presbytery has not submitted the complaint for review (*BCO* 13-11).

- 25
26 15. That the Minutes of **Eastern Canada** Presbytery: *53-0-1*

27 a. Be approved without exception: **Feb 25, 2022.**

28 b. Be approved with exception of form: **Oct 21, 2022.**

29 c. Be approved with exception of substance:

30 **1. Exception: Apr 22, 2022** (*BCO* 13-12; *RAO* 16-3.c.1) – Purpose of called meeting
31 not recorded verbatim in the minutes.

32 **2. Exception: Apr 22, 2022** (*RAO* 16-3.e.1) – Reasons for a chair’s ruling on a point
33 of order not given.

34 **3. Exception: Jun 3, 2022** (*BCO* 18) – Potential candidate not a member of PCA
35 church; presbytery voted to “waive” requirement, but *BCO* 18 makes no such
36 provision for waiving this requirement.

37 **4. Exception: Jun 3, 2022** (*BCO* 8-7; 20-1) – No record that the Presbytery is
38 assured that an out-of-bounds TE will have full freedom to maintain and teach the
39 doctrine of our Church; presbytery approved a call not from a church, Presbytery,
40 or General Assembly without making “a record of the reasons why it considers the
41 work to be a valid Christian ministry.”

- 42 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**

43 **Exception: Feb 26, 2021** (*BCO* 20-1) – Presbytery approved a call not from a church,
44 Presbytery, or General Assembly without making “a record of the reasons why it
45 considers the work to be a valid Christian ministry.”

1 **Response:** We failed to record the fact that we did consider the call and found that it
 2 was a legitimate and valid call, because it assured that TE [name omitted] would have
 3 the full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrines of our church, according to *BCO*
 4 8-7 and 20-1. We will correct the minutes

5 **Exception: Nov 19, 2021** (*BCO* 38-1) – In a case without process under *BCO* 38, the
 6 minutes do not record that the statement of facts was approved by the accused as
 7 required by *BCO* 38-1.

8 **Response:** We agree. Our minutes failed to record that the accused approved the
 9 statement of facts. We confirm that the statement of facts was indeed approved and
 10 signed by the accused. We will correct the minutes.

11 **Exception: Nov 19, 2021** (*BCO* 21-5; 27-1, 5) – Presbytery erred in instructing a
 12 Session that “they may not impose discipline of any sort upon a TE” when the
 13 constitution of the church defines discipline to include “the whole government,
 14 inspection, training, guardianship and control which the church maintains over its
 15 members, its officers and its courts”, cites scripture to specify steps of discipline such
 16 as admonishment and instruction in the Word prior to judicial process, and requires
 17 teaching elders to vow to submit to their brethren.

18 [Following an event where a church Session reprimanded a pastor, recommended
 19 coaching, and recommended a week of time off from preaching and pastoring for
 20 reflection Presbytery incorrectly instructed the Session of [church name omitted]
 21 Church that they “may not impose discipline of any sort upon a TE.” *BCO* 27-1 makes
 22 clear that the term “discipline” has two senses. *BCO* 27-5 demonstrates that discipline
 23 includes steps prior to judicial process such as admonishment and instruction in the
 24 Word. *BCO* 21-5 requires a vow for teaching elders to submit to their brethren in the
 25 Lord. Together these requirements illustrate that while Sessions may not enter formal
 26 process or issue formal censures on Teaching Elders, it is incorrect to say that they
 27 may not impose discipline of any sort on teaching elders. Ruling elders may instruct
 28 a teaching elder in the Word, admonish him, and call witnesses, but they may not
 29 proceed into formal judicial process (*BCO* 27-5). Sessions are charged with
 30 maintaining the spiritual discipling of the church (*BCO* 12-5) and thus have some
 31 authority over the work of pastors as their employers. They may direct a teaching elder
 32 to pursue training or to devote a week to additional study. Previous communication
 33 with the PCA Stated Clerk’s office supports this interpretation Roy Taylor, 4/17/2019
 34 email: “Pastors, associate pastors, and assistant pastors are civil employees of the
 35 church they serve. So, for example, if a minister spends more time on his hobby than
 36 time on his job, the Session may require him to devote himself to his pastoral work
 37 more. If it gets to the point that the Session believes that the minister is violating his
 38 ordination vow to be faithful and diligent in the exercise of his duties (*BCO* 21-5 q.
 39 7), the Session may refer the matter to Presbytery for discipline. So there is an
 40 overlapping of employer-employee relationships by the Session and ecclesiastical
 41 oversight by the Presbytery regarding ministers.”

42 Bob Hornick, 8/25/2018 email: *Must the church continue to employ the assistant*
 43 *pastor until Presbytery dissolves the pastoral relation? In my opinion the answer is*
 44 *yes. The minister’s call continues until presbytery takes action. From BCO 23-1*
 45 *“ . . .the minister must not physically leave the field until the presbytery or its*

1 *commission empowered to handle uncontested requests for dissolution has dissolved*
2 *the relationship” ... Must the church provide ongoing meaningful work commensurate*
3 *with the office of assistant pastor until Presbytery dissolves the pastoral relation? In*
4 *my opinion, the Session has the authority to alter his duties or place the assistant*
5 *pastor on administrative leave until presbytery takes action on the request.]*

6 **Response:** We agree that we erred when we made the statement, “the Session may
7 not impose discipline of any sort upon a teaching elder.” We should have written “the
8 Session may not impose formal discipline upon a teaching elder.” When the review
9 committee reviewed the minutes of the [church name omitted] Session, it determined
10 that the Session did indeed impose formal censure upon TE [name omitted] in the
11 form of an admonition. And it was this act that the Presbytery took exception to. We
12 will re-issue an instruction to the Session of [church name omitted] Church in light of
13 the RPR exception.

- 14 **e. That the following response to the 50th GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore a**
15 **new response shall be submitted to the following GA:**

16 **Exception: Jun 4, 2021 (BCO 19-1)** – Presbytery permits a church’s pulpit to be
17 regularly filled by an unlicensed minister from another denomination.

18 **Response:** We agree; we failed to uphold this particular mandate. We will assign a
19 pastoral committee to investigate the nature of the relationship between [church name
20 omitted] Church, [name omitted], and the Presbytery

21 **Rationale:** Presbytery has not yet demonstrated that it has remedied this situation.
22

- 23 16. That the Minutes of **Eastern Carolina** Presbytery: 55-0-0

24 a. Be approved without exception: **Mar 26, 2022; Jul 16, 2022; Oct 15, 2022.**

25 b. Be approved with exception of form: **Jan 22, 2022; Apr 23, 2022.**

26 c. Be approved with exception of substance:

27 **1. Exception: Apr 23, 2022 (WCF 29-4; BCO 58-3, 4)** – Error to conclude that
28 celebration of Lord’s Supper by the Session of [church name omitted] Church
29 without congregation present was not an exception of substance.

- 30 **d. That the following response to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**

31 **Exception: Apr 17, 2021 (BCO 13-9.b, 40-1)** – Incomplete record of review of
32 records of church Sessions.

33 **Response:** The Presbytery agrees that we failed to record the review status for [church
34 name omitted] Church (Mission). A notation will be added to the April 17, 2021
35 Minutes that reads: “There were no minutes received from [church name omitted] for
36 2020. The Provisional Session for [church name omitted] Church was not established
37 until October 17, 2020 and it did not meet until 2021, so there were no minutes for
38 2020.”
39

- 40 17. That the Minutes of **Eastern Pennsylvania** Presbytery: 54-0-1

41 a. Be approved without exception: **Apr 26, 2022.**

42 b. Be approved with exception of form: **None.**

43 c. Be approved with exception of substance:

44 **1. Exception: General 2022 (BCO 13-9.b; 40-1)** – No record of review of records
45 of church sessions.

- 1 **2. Exception: February 12, 2022** (*BCO* 19-1) – All specific requirements of
- 2 licensure exam not recorded.
- 3 **3. Exception: February 12, 2022 [p. 3-4]** (*BCO* 21-4) – Incomplete record of
- 4 ordination exam.
- 5 **4. Exception: September 10, 2022 [p.40]** (*RONR* 9-34) – Presbytery conducted
- 6 business via email, which does not constitute a deliberative body.
- 7 **5. Exception: November 15, 2022 [p.75]** (*RONR* 9-34) – Presbytery approved a
- 8 change in standing rules to allow for “non-controversial” business to be done via
- 9 email, which does not constitute a deliberative body.

10 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**

11 **Exception: Feb 13, 2021** (*BCO* 19-2; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – All specific requirements of

12 licensure exam not listed.

13 **Response:** All the requirements for licensure, including the preaching of licensure

14 sermon were completed. The minutes of the Feb 13, 2021 will be amended to

15 specifically state this, and care will be taken in future minutes to ensure that they fully

16 reflect the actions of Presbytery regarding exams

17 **Exception: Apr 20, 2021; Sep 11, 2021; Nov 16, 2021** (*BCO* 13-6; 21-4) –

18 Incomplete record of transfer exam for minister from another denomination (no record

19 of individual items or that his knowledge as well as views were examined).

20 **Response:** All the requirements for the transfer exams cited were met. The minutes

21 of the Apr 20, 2021 and Nov 16, 2021 will be amended to specifically state this, and

22 care will be taken in future minutes to ensure that they fully reflect the actions of

23 Presbytery regarding exams.

24 **e. That the following response to the 50th GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore a**

25 **new response shall be submitted to the following GA:**

26 **Exception: Sep 11, 2021; Nov 16, 2021** (*RONR* 9:34) – Motion approved at assembly

27 lacking opportunity for simultaneous aural communication (minimum requirement

28 for a deliberative meeting, not met by email).

29 **Response:** We agree that business requiring deliberation should not be conducted via

30 email. There are however noncontroversial matters that arise which require no

31 discussion. When such matters arise and require timely action by the Presbytery, it has

32 been our practice to attempt a vote by email. Presbyters are informed that a single “no”

33 vote or a request for discussion will nullify the process and demand a face to face

34 meeting. Since there is no provision for this practice in *RONR*, we will amend our

35 Standing Rules to formally adopt this practice for our presbytery.

36 **Rationale:** Every motion by its nature requires a deliberative meeting, which an email

37 vote does not permit. The Presbytery continued the practice of e-mail voting in 2022

38 and made changes to their Standing Rules to permit email voting. This cannot correct

39 the error of not allowing a deliberative meeting.

40

41 18. That the Minutes of **Evangel** Presbytery: 55-0-0

- 42 a. Be approved without exception: **Aug 9, 2021 ES; Nov 9, 2021 ES; Aug 9, 2022 ES;**
- 43 **Nov 15, 2022.**
- 44 b. Be approved with exception of form: **May 10, 2022.**
- 45 c. Be approved with exception of substance:

- 1 **1. Exception: General 2022** (*BCO* 13-9.b; 40-1) – No record of review of records
2 of church Session [Mentioned in 2/8/22, but nothing noted that it was completed.]
- 3 **2. Exception: Feb 8, 2022** (*BCO* 21-4.a.1; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – Incomplete record of
4 ordination exam.
- 5 **3. Exception: Mar 31, 2022** (*BCO* 13-12) – Notice for called meeting not in order
6 (10-day notice)
- 7 **3. Exception: Mar 31, 2022** (*BCO* 13-12; *RAO* 16-3.c.1) – Purpose of called
8 meeting not recorded verbatim in the minutes.
- 9 **5. Exception: Aug 9, 2022** (*BCO* 21-4) – No record of requiring statement of
10 differences with our Standards.

11 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**

12 **Exception: General 2019** (*BCO* 13-9.b) – Session minutes not reviewed by
13 Presbytery (committee only).

14 **Response [2022]:** The presbytery agrees with this exception. While the minutes were
15 reviewed by the committee as required in *BCO* 13-9.b, those actions were not reported
16 to and approved by the presbytery. The presbytery will correct this action in the
17 future.

18 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to approve its review of Session records and
19 report its action to the Assembly.

20 **Response [2023]:** The presbytery agrees with this exception. At the 176th Stated
21 Meeting (Feb 14, 2023), presbytery approved the Administrative Committee of
22 Evangel Presbytery’s review of presbytery records for 2019.

23 **Exception: General 2020** (*BCO* 13-9.b) – Minutes of church session not reviewed by
24 Presbytery (committee only).

25 **Response [2022]:** The presbytery agrees with this exception. While the minutes were
26 reviewed by the committee as required in *BCO* 13-9.b, those actions were not reported
27 to and approved by the presbytery. The presbytery will correct this action in the
28 future.

29 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to approve its review of Session records and
30 report its action to the Assembly.

31 **Response [2023]:** The presbytery agrees with this exception. At the 176th Stated
32 Meeting (Feb 14, 2023), presbytery approved the Administrative Committee of
33 Evangel Presbytery’s review of presbytery records for 2020

34 **Exception: Aug 10, 2021; Nov 9, 2021** (*BCO* 13-11; *RAO* 16-3.e.7) – Minutes of
35 executive session not included.

36 **Response:** The presbytery agrees with this exception. Minutes of executive session
37 will be included in submission of 2022 presbytery records to the Stated Clerk of the
38 General Assembly

39 **Exception: Nov 9, 2021** (*BCO* 9.b; 40-1) – Incomplete record of review of session
40 records.

41 **Response:** The presbytery agrees with this exception. The motion was approved but
42 the minutes did not reflect that approval. The minutes have been amended to
43 accurately reflect presbytery’s actions

44 **e. That the following response to the 50th GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore a**
45 **new response shall be submitted to the following GA:**

1 **Exception: Sep 14, 2021** (*BCO* 13-12) – Minutes of called meeting not submitted (see
 2 Nov 9, 2021 [2.1.c.ii]).

3 **Response:** The presbytery agrees with this exception. We approved the minutes of the
 4 Sept 14, 2021 called meeting at our November 2021 stated meeting but neglected to
 5 submit those minutes to RPR.

6 **Rationale:** Minutes were not submitted and need to be submitted for review (Sep 14,
 7 2021).
 8

9 19. That the Minutes of **Fellowship** Presbytery: 53-0-1

10 a. Be approved without exception: **Feb 5, 2022; Mar 10, 2022.**

11 b. Be approved with exception of form: **General 2022; Apr 23, 2022.**

12 c. Be approved with exception of substance:
 13 **1. Exception: Sep 22, 2022** (*BCO* 15-1, 15-2; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) – No record that
 14 congregation/session concurred with the dissolution of the pastoral relationship.

15 **d. That the following response to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**

16 **Exception: Sep 23, 2021** (*BCO* 19-1) – Candidate “regularly fills pulpits in
 17 Fellowship Presbytery” while not being licensed.

18 **Response:** Fellowship Presbytery acknowledges that its Stated Meeting Minutes of
 19 September 23, 2021 recorded that “[candidate] ... regularly fills pulpits in Fellowship
 20 Presbytery.” It is the practice of some of the churches of presbytery to invite
 21 presbytery’s ministerial candidates and interns to fill their pulpits when their own
 22 pastors are on vacation or need to be absent. The candidate was, from time to time,
 23 being invited to serve in such a capacity. Presbytery recognizes that *BCO* 19-1 requires
 24 that anyone preaching “regularly” must be licensed by presbytery but does not
 25 consider that this candidate’s occasional service as pulpit supply was so frequent as to
 26 require licensure. Presbytery regrets its use of the term “regularly” and has amended
 27 its September 23, 2021 Minutes to say “occasionally.”
 28

29 20. That the Minutes of **Georgia Foothills** Presbytery: 54-0-1

30 a. Be approved without exception: **None.**

31 b. Be approved with exception of form: **Directory; General 2022; Jan 22, 2022; Sep**
 32 **20, 2022.**

33 c. Be approved with exception of substance:
 34 **1. Exception: General 2022** (*BCO* 8-7) – No record of annual reports of TEs
 35 laboring out of bounds.

36 **2. Exception: Jan 22, 2022** (*BCO* 21) – No record of appointment of commission to
 37 install (which later reported).

38 **3. Exception: Jan 22, 2022; Apr 19, 2022** (*BCO* 5-2.c; 13-10) – No record of
 39 transferal or dismissal of members upon dissolving a church.

40 **4. Exception: Jun 10, 2022** (*BCO* 13-12; *RAO* 16-3.c.1) – Purpose of called meeting
 41 not recorded verbatim in the minutes, nor a record of 10-day notice.

42 **5. Exception: Jun 10, 2022** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – Stated differences not
 43 judged according to prescribed categories [Some language is present; some is
 44 missing].

1 **6. Exception: Sep 20, 2022** (*Preliminary Principle 6*) – No record that members of
2 provisional session were approved by the congregation.

3 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**

4 **Exception: Apr 20, 2021; Sep 21, 2021** (*BCO 13-9.b; 40-1*) – Incomplete record of
5 review of records of church Sessions. [Less than half reviewed or noted].

6 **Response:** The Clerk and the Chair of the Review of Sessional Records Committee
7 have exhorted our churches to bring their minutes for review. I believe we have done
8 some catch up but several of our churches are behind in getting the minutes to the
9 Committee.

10 **Exception: Sep 21, 2021** (*BCO 13-10*) – No record of transfer or dismissal of
11 members upon dissolving a church; no record of 60-day notice to the local church.

12 **Response:** The Clerk failed to record this information. The Chair of the Church
13 Planting Committee (the Committee providing oversight to this mission) did confirm
14 that the Committee followed *BCO 13-10* when handling the dissolution of this
15 mission.

16 **Exception: General** – No record that Presbytery’s responses to the 49th GA were
17 approved by the Presbytery.

18 **Response:** The clerk failed to include our responses in the minutes. The clerk will
19 endeavor to do this moving forward.

20 **Exception: General 2019** (*RAO 16-10a*) – No record in minutes of exceptions taken
21 by GA.

22 **Response:** The clerk sent the Response to Exceptions to the 48th General Assembly
23 as an email to the Stated Clerk’s office but failed to include the Response to
24 Exceptions in the complete minutes sent to RPR. Here was the response: *The clerk*
25 *takes responsibility for this mistake. Given that the only “Response to Exceptions” in*
26 *2019 was a clerical error, I didn’t bring it before the Presbytery. The clerk will*
27 *endeavor to follow RAO 16-10a*

28 **Exception: Jan 26, 2019; Sep 17, 2019** (*BCO 13-11, 14-6.c, 40-1; RAO 16-3.e.7*) –
29 Minutes of executive session not included.

30 **Response:** The clerk sent the Response to Exceptions to the 48th General Assembly
31 as an email to the Stated Clerk’s office but failed to include the Response to
32 Exceptions in the complete minutes sent to RPR. Here was the response: *In both*
33 *situations, the clerk failed to execute the appropriate process associated for taking*
34 *minutes in Executive Session. The clerk made the evaluation that since the actions*
35 *taken during the executive session were reported in the regular minutes, then minutes*
36 *of the executive session were not needed. The clerk has since realized this error and*
37 *is generating minutes for all executive sessions.*

38 **Exception: General 2020** (*BCO 13-9b*) – No record of review of records of church
39 Sessions.

40 **Response:** The clerk sent the Response to Exceptions to the 48th General Assembly
41 as an email to the Stated Clerk’s office but failed to include the Response to
42 Exceptions in the complete minutes sent to RPR. Here was the response: *The clerk*
43 *apologizes for not communicating the events of 2020 that caused us to not be able to*
44 *review the session records. Our Spring Meeting of 2020 was cancelled due to Covid*
45 *recommendations at the time for large gatherings in the state of Georgia. Session*

1 records for 2019 and 2020 were reviewed in 2021 and that is communicated in our
 2 minutes.

3 **Exception: Sep 15, 2020** (BCO 25-11) – No record of congregational vote to
 4 withdraw from the PCA.

5 **Response:** The clerk sent the Response to Exceptions to the 48th General Assembly
 6 as an email to the Stated Clerk’s office but failed to include the Response to
 7 Exceptions in the complete minutes sent to RPR. Here was the response: *The clerk*
 8 *received a letter from the Stated Clerk of the Church and it was placed it into the*
 9 *September 15, 2020 minutes [p. 13] where the stated clerk said: “the congregation of*
 10 *[church name omitted] Church voted unanimously to withdraw affiliation with the*
 11 *PCA”*

12 e. **That the following response to the 50th GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore a**
 13 **new response shall be submitted to the following GA:**

14 **Exception: Jun 11, 2019; Sep 17, 2019** (BCO 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5) – Stated
 15 differences not judged with prescribed categories.

16 **Response:** The clerk sent the Response to Exceptions to the 48th General Assembly
 17 as an email to the Stated Clerk’s office but failed to include the Response to
 18 Exceptions in the complete minutes sent to RPR. Here was the response: *The clerk*
 19 *acknowledges his mistake and will record the Presbytery’s evaluation of the difference*
 20 *using the exact language of RAO 16-3.*

21 **Rationale:** Still no record of presbytery’s evaluation being made, or being recorded
 22 in minutes.

23

24 21. That the Minutes of **Grace** Presbytery: 59-0-0

25 a. Be approved without exception: **May 10, 2022; Jun 13, 2022.**

26 b. Be approved with exception of form: **Jan 11, 2022; Sep 13, 2022.**

27 c. Be approved with exception of substance:

28 1. **Exception: Jan 11, 2023** (BCO 21-6) – In ordination/installation of assistant
 29 pastor, vows propounded to congregation instead of to session.

30 2. **Exception: Sep 13, 2022** (BCO 21-1) – No record that congregation concurred
 31 with dissolution of pastoral relations.

32 d. **No response to previous assemblies required.**

33 e. **That the 50th General Assembly:**

34 Find that the March 10, 2023 letter from TE [name omitted] et al. (referred to CRPR
 35 on decision of the SJC, Case No. 2023-03) is not a “credible report” of an “important
 36 delinquency or grossly unconstitutional proceedings” (BCO 40-5).

37 **Rationale:** The 40-5 letter from the Session of [church name omitted], is premature.
 38 The letter concerns ongoing judicial cases being tried by that Session. The presbytery
 39 has also appointed both a committee and a commission to address issues involving
 40 this church. The Session takes issue with actions of the Presbytery commission. The
 41 underlying issues are complex, but they need not overly concern us at this point.
 42 Simply put, the Session’s 40-5 letter is premature because other avenues of redress
 43 remain available. The presbytery as a whole can address its commission’s actions, if
 44 it so chooses. No such pathway has been pursued by the [church name omitted]
 45 Session. Furthermore, the commission’s minutes will be submitted to CRPR for

1 review, at which point the General Assembly will have an opportunity to address the
2 commission's actions via CRPR. It is also possible for future appeals and/or
3 complaints to be filed regarding the currently underway judicial process, if the Session
4 or its members believe that justice is not served. For these reasons, the [church name
5 omitted] Session's 40-5 letter is premature, and the GA should not cite Grace
6 Presbytery to appear before the SJC.

7
8 22. That the Minutes of **Great Lakes Presbytery:** 53-0-1

- 9 a. Be approved without exception: **Jan 8, 2022; Jun 4, 2022.**
10 b. Be approved with exception of form: **None.**
11 c. Be approved with exception of substance:
12 **1. Exception: Apr 30, 2022; Sep 15-16, 2022 (BCO 13-6; 21-4)** – Incomplete record
13 of transfer exam for minister from another denomination.
14 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**
15 **Exception: May 1, 2021 (BCO 13-6; 21-4)** – Incomplete record of transfer exam for
16 minister from another denomination.
17 **Response:** Presbytery agrees with the exception, corrects its records, and will strive
18 to more carefully document these exams in the future. Note: the candidate did receive
19 the full transfer examination which was sustained in its entirety.
20 **Exception: General (BCO 13-9.b)** – Incomplete record of review of records of church
21 Session.
22 **Response:** Presbytery agrees with the exception and will strive to sufficiently review
23 and record yearly the records from every church Session within its bounds moving
24 forward.

25
26 23. That the Minutes of **Gulf Coast Presbytery:** 50-0-0

- 27 a. Be approved without exception: **Mar 1, 2022.**
28 b. Be approved with exception of form: **General 2022; Feb 7-8, 2022; Mar 15, 2022;**
29 **May 10, 2022; Oct 11, 2022.**
30 c. Be approved with exception of substance:
31 **1. Exception: General 2022 (BCO 15-1)** – No reports of commissions, including
32 commissions to install.
33 **2. Exception: Feb. 7, 2022; May 10, 2022 (BCO 18-7; 46-6)** – TEs and a candidate
34 are received from other PCA presbyteries but no evidence of action of other
35 Presbytery.
36 **3. Exception: Feb. 7, 2022 (BCO 18-2)** – No record of endorsement by candidate's
37 Session nor of six-months membership for candidate.
38 **4. Exception: Feb. 7, 2022; March 1, 2022; March 15, 2022 (BCO 32-3, 4, 5)** – No
39 evidence of an indictment, no copy of a citation to the man being charged, and no
40 verification that the indictment and citation were delivered to the individual.
41 **5. Exception: May 10, 2022 (BCO 8-7; 13-2; 13-5; 20-1; 21-1)** – Presbytery accedes
42 to a request from another PCA Presbytery that a TE member of the other
43 Presbytery be allowed to labor in the bounds of Gulf Coast Presbytery in a non-
44 PCA work. There is nothing in the minutes about why this arrangement is
45 necessary. No record that the Presbytery is assured that the TE will have full

- 1 freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of our Church. No record of the reasons
2 why Presbytery considers an out-of-bounds work to be a valid Christian ministry.
- 3 **6. Exception: May 10, 2022; Oct. 11, 2022** (*BCO* 23-1; 46-6) – The minutes record
4 that a man has been transferred to another Presbytery. No record that congregation
5 concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations, that Presbytery dissolved the
6 pastoral relation, nor that Presbytery voted to release the TE to a different
7 Presbytery.
- 8 **7. Exception: Oct. 11, 2022** (*BCO* 23-1) – The minutes report that a pastoral
9 relationship is dissolved. There is no evidence that either a commission or the
10 Presbytery voted on this, nor that Presbytery heard from the Session the man was
11 serving.
- 12 **8. Exception: Oct. 11, 2022** (*BCO* 13-2) – No evidence of annual reports for TEs
13 without call.
- 14 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**
- 15 **Exception: Feb 9, 2021** (*BCO* 13-10) – No record of transfer or dismissal of members
16 upon dissolving a church.
- 17 **Response:** Gulf Coast Presbytery acknowledges with regret our failure to ensure a
18 record of formal dismissal and transfer of the members of [church name omitted]
19 Church. Upon review, over an extended period of time the Sessions of nearby PCA
20 congregations have shepherded willing members into other congregations
- 21 **Exception: May 11, 2021** (*BCO* 13-11) – Presbytery recorded the particularization of
22 a church while the previous meeting’s minutes indicate the motions to particularize
23 were not approved. (Feb 9, 2021 [p. 5, 21-10, Items A, B, and C] – No record items
24 A, B, and C were approved by the Presbytery. “Not approved today” suggests that
25 these motions did not carry.)
- 26 **Response:** Gulf Coast Presbytery Response to Exception Noted Regarding
27 Particularization of [church name omitted] Church in Minutes of May 11, 2021, and
28 Feb 9, 2021.
- 29 We regret the ambiguity of the “not approved today” language in the February 9, 2021
30 minutes. A better wording would have been “approved pending the anticipated
31 decently and in order congregational vote of [church name omitted]”. Note that on the
32 same page (p.5) of the February 9, 2021, minutes, the Executive Committee was
33 appointed to serve as a commission to act on the pending actions of the [church name
34 omitted] congregation.
- 35 The [church name omitted] congregation did meet and vote on February 21, 2021. The
36 particularization service was conducted on February 28, 2021, with a representative
37 of Gulf Coast Presbytery serving as the Moderator.
- 38 We regret that these intervening actions were not detailed in the May 11, 2021,
39 minutes.
- 40 **Exception: Jun 22, 2021** (*BCO* 13-12) – Business transacted other than that named
41 in the notice of call meeting (minutes of a commission found in order and printed in
42 the minutes).
- 43 **Response:** Gulf Coast Presbytery acknowledges an exception of substance in its
44 minutes of June 22, 2021, regarding its failure to state the purpose of said called

1 meeting. The presbytery regrets this error of omission and determines going forward
2 to be more circumspect in this regard,

3 **Exception: Oct 12, 2021 (BCO 18-3)** – All specific requirements of a candidate exam
4 not recorded (no mention of examination on experiential religion or call).

5 **Response:** We regret not being more detailed in the recording of the examination of
6 Mr. [name omitted] and Mr. [name omitted], both of which were examined according
7 to (BCO)18-3 regarding their motives for seeking a call and experiential religion.

8 Note: the minutes from Oct 12, 2021, reads: “That Gulf Coast Presbytery examine
9 [name omitted] and [name omitted] according to BCO 18-3 to come under care of Gulf
10 Coast Presbytery as candidates of the gospel ministry. Both were examined and
11 approved.”
12

13 24. That the Minutes of **Gulfstream** Presbytery: 51-0-0

14 a. Be approved without exception: **Apr 26, 2022.**

15 b. Be approved with exception of form: **General 2022; Jan 18, 2022; Oct 18, 2022.**

16 c. Be approved with exception of substance:

17 **1. Exception: General 2022 (BCO 8-4)** No record of annual reports received from
18 TEs doing work needful to the Church.

19 **2. Exception: General 2022 (BCO 13-9.b; 40-1)** – Incomplete record of review of
20 records of church Sessions.

21 **3. Exception: General 2022 (BCO 13-2)** – No record of annual reports received from
22 TEs without call.

23 **4. Exception: General 2022 (BCO 15-1; RAO 16-3.e.4)** – Minutes of commission
24 not entered in Presbytery minutes.

25 **5. Exception: Jan 18, 2022 (BCO 19-2; RAO 16-3.e.5)** – All specific requirements
26 of licensure exam not recorded.

27 **6. Exception: Jan 18, 2022 (BCO 18-2)** – No record of six-months membership for
28 candidate.

29 **7. Exception: Jan 18, 2022 (BCO 22-4)** – No record of request from congregation
30 to a change of call from assistant pastor to associate pastor.

31 **8. Exception: Oct 18, 2022 (BCO 23-1)** – No record that Congregation/Session
32 concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.

33 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**

34 **Exception: General (BCO 13-9.b; 40-1)** – Incomplete record of review of records of
35 church sessions.

36 **Response:** Gulfstream Presbytery regrets its incomplete record of review of records
37 and church sessions. The Administrative Committee has tried to gather these records,
38 but some churches in our presbytery have failed to submit their records. We will
39 continue to pursue them

40 **Exception: General (BCO 13-9b; 40-3)** – Results of review of records of church
41 sessions not stated.

42 **Response:** Gulfstream Presbytery regrets its incomplete record of review of records
43 and church sessions and results. The Administrative Committee has tried to gather
44 these records, but some churches in our presbytery have failed to submit their records.
45 We will continue to pursue them.

1 **Exception: Standing Rules 6-8; 6-5** (*BCO* 15-2, *RAO* 16-3.e.4) – Power of
 2 commission not constitutionally prescribed for Credentials Committee to allow TEs
 3 to move onto field prior to presbytery approval. Quorum of commission must be 2
 4 more than half membership AND at least 2 TEs and 2 REs. Criteria not met by rules
 5 for committee and so cannot act with power of commission.

6 **Response:** *BCO* 15-2 notes the requirements of a commission “shall consist of at least
 7 two teaching elders and two ruling elders, and the quorum shall be one more than half
 8 its membership unless otherwise determined by the Presbytery.

9 By-law 6-5 is Gulfstream Presbytery of determining otherwise the quorum and power
 10 of commission for its Credentials Committee

11 *BCO* 15-2 also lists some matters that are among those which may be properly
 12 executed, but it does not seem to restrict the power of commission to those matters
 13 only.

14 **Exception: Apr 20, 2021** (*BCO* 21-4.f) – Presbytery did not require the candidate to
 15 state specific instances in which he may differ from the Westminster Confession and
 16 Catechisms. (Unclear how recreations are permitted if “men...are taken up, the whole
 17 time, in the public and private exercises of his worship, and in the duties of necessity
 18 and mercy.” Exception should be taken to *WLC* 117 and 119 *WSC* 60 and 61 as well.)

19 **Response:** Presbytery did ask the candidate to share how he may differ from the
 20 Westminster Confession and Catechisms, as we do with all candidates. The minutes
 21 show the candidate’s response.

22 Presbyters asked questions about specific instances in which his exception may apply,
 23 as is our custom. Having read his response and heard his explanations, the court
 24 deemed his exception more than semantic, but not out of accord.

25 **Exception: Apr 20, 2021** (*BCO* 24-6; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – Presbytery approves candidate
 26 exception whose stated difference with *WCF* 24.3. appears to be “out of accord,” that
 27 is, “hostile to our system” or “stik[ing] at the vitals of religion” by stating that “In
 28 regard to the Biblical prohibitions on marriage, I believe the standards go too far in
 29 forbidding marriage to ‘Papists’.” More specificity is needed from the candidate
 30 regarding the future practice of the potential spouse, the raising of children, and family
 31 worship.

32 **Response:** Presbyters asked questions about specific instances in which his exception
 33 may apply, as is our custom. In this specific instance, the candidate defined papists as
 34 “anyone belonging, even nominally, to a Roman Catholic church.”

35 Having read his response and heard his explanations, the court deemed his exception
 36 more than semantic, but not out of accord

37 **Exception: Oct 19, 2021** (*BCO* 23-1) – No record that congregation concurred with
 38 dissolution of pastoral relations.

39 **Response:** TE [name omitted] was an assistant pastor to a mission church, [church
 40 name omitted] in PSL. Thus, his dissolution was approved by the governing session
 41 of [church name omitted]

42 **Exception: Oct 19, 2021** (*BCO* 23-3) – No provision for elder emeritus in case of TE.
 43 Only “pastor emeritus” for TE (*BCO* 23-3) or “elder emeritus” for RE (*BCO* 24-10).

44 **Response:** Gulfstream Presbytery acknowledges the semantic error and has amended
 45 its minutes to designate TE [name omitted] as Pastor Emeritus.

1 **Exception: General 2020:** (*BCO* 13-9.b) – No record of review of church session.

2 **Response [2022]:** Gulfstream agrees that there was no review of church session
3 records during 2020. Sadly, some important activities were not achieved in the midst
4 of the pandemic. Gulfstream has begun to catch up on the review of minutes. We
5 acknowledge that CRPR will want to see progress in this activity before this exception
6 is cleared, however, we do request your patience as we move forward

7 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to correct the inadequacy in their minutes and
8 submit for review.

9 **Response [2023]:** Gulfstream agrees that there was no review of church session
10 records. We are endeavoring to correct this.

11 **e. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore**
12 **new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

13 **Exception: Jan 19, 2021** (*BCO* 34-10, 38-2) – No record of 2/3 vote and requires two
14 stated meetings.

15 **Response:** [name omitted] was notified and given a written letter according to *BCO*
16 34-10 and this was noted in previous minutes.

17 **Rationale:** No mention of whether a 2/3 vote was recorded at the previous meeting.
18 Review of the October 20, 2020 meeting minutes (previous stated meeting) does in
19 fact record there was a motion passed, however there is no record there of a 2/3 vote.

20 **Exception: Jan 19, 2021** (*BCO* 34-10, 38-1, 38-3.b) – The court did not make full
21 record of the matter and did not notify the offender of its action.

22 **Response:** TE [name omitted] was given an opportunity to “be heard in his own
23 defense,” but chose no to do so and even made an effort to note to the court that he
24 does not object in any way.

25 **Rationale:** Presbytery should have treated this as a case without process (*BCO* 38-1,
26 38-3.b) and does not indicate whether the church the TE transferred to maintains Word
27 and Sacrament in fundamental unity.

28 **Exception: Jan 19, 2021** (*BCO* 19-2.d, 21-4.c.(4)) – Candidate is required to preach
29 a sermon before the Presbytery or committee thereof, upon $\frac{3}{4}$ vote.

30 **Response:** This motion does not negate the *BCO* requirement of a candidate to preach
31 a sermon before the presbytery or a committee of the presbytery. This motion ensures
32 the presbytery hears and reads a sermon prior to the meeting.

33 **Rationale:** Distributing recordings of a candidate’s sermon prior to the meeting of
34 presbytery in order to evaluate it contradicts the *BCO* requirement to preach a sermon
35 in the presence of the presbytery or a committee thereof.

36 [The motion, as worded “to evaluate the sermon of candidates before the presbytery”
37 implies the sermons will only be evaluated based on the recordings. If it were worded
38 along the lines of “Motion to *help* evaluate the sermon of candidates *before being*
39 *presented before the presbytery...*” that would seem to not contradict the *BCO*
40 requirement.

41 *BCO* 19-2.d “Provide his written sermon on an assigned passage of Scripture
42 embodying both explanation and application, and present orally his sermon or
43 exhortation before Presbytery or before a committee of Presbytery.”

44 *BCO* 21-4.c.4 “He shall further be required to preach a sermon before the Presbytery
45 or committee thereof, upon three-fourths ($\frac{3}{4}$) vote.”

1 *BCO 21-4.c* “No Presbytery shall omit any of these parts of trial for ordination except
2 in extraordinary cases, and then only with three-fourths (3/4) approval of Presbytery.”
3 **Minutes text was:** “Motion to evaluate the sermon of candidates before the presbytery
4 by distributing a written manuscript along with an audio and/or video recording of the
5 whole sermon to the presbytery (*BCO 19-2-d; 21-4-c-(4)*). APPROVED”]
6 **Exception: Oct 19, 2021** (*BCO 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5*) – Unclear record of ordination
7 exam.
8 **Response:** Gulfstream Presbytery regrets this omission from its records. The
9 candidate did complete a written exam, which was disseminated to the presbytery for
10 review, as well as an oral examination of all areas noted in *BCO 21-4*. The minutes
11 have been amended accordingly.
12 **Rationale:** Minutes of presbytery relating to examinations must list all specific
13 requirements and trials for licensure and/or ordination which have been accomplished,
14 including that each candidate being examined for ordination was required to “state the
15 specific instances in which he may differ with the Confession of Faith and Catechisms
16 in any of their statements and/or propositions” (*BCO 21-4*).
17 **Exception: Oct 19, 2021** (*BCO 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5*) – All specific requirements of
18 ordination exam not recorded.
19 **Response:** Gulfstream Presbytery regrets this omission from its records. The
20 candidate did complete an ordination exam that covered all areas noted in *BCO 21-4*.
21 The minutes have been amended accordingly.
22 **Rationale:** Minutes of presbytery relating to examinations must list all specific
23 requirements and trials for licensure and/or ordination which have been accomplished,
24 including that each candidate being examined for ordination was required to “state the
25 specific instances in which he may differ with the Confession of Faith and Catechisms
26 in any of their statements and/or propositions” (*BCO 21-4*).
27 **Exception: Oct 19, 2021** (*BCO 21-4*) – Use of extraordinary clause for ordination
28 candidate not explained.
29 **Response:** Gulfstream Presbytery regrets this omission from its records. Presbytery
30 noted this irregularity and discussed the reason for it, but it was not noted in the
31 minutes. The minutes have been amended accordingly.
32 **Rationale:** Minutes of presbytery relating to examinations must list all specific
33 requirements and trials for licensure and/or ordination which have been accomplished,
34 including that each candidate being examined for ordination was required to “state the
35 specific instances in which he may differ with the Confession of Faith and Catechisms
36 in any of their statements and/or propositions” (*BCO 21-4*).
37 **Exception: Jan 21, 2020** (*BCO 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5*) – All specific requirements for
38 ordination exam not recorded; seminary degree, thesis paper/ examination on
39 knowledge of Greek and Hebrew; did not preach a sermon.
40 **Response [2022]:** Gulfstream regrets the inadequacy of its minutes. In preparing its
41 minutes, Gulfstream has always relied upon *Form 039- Checklist for Ordination*, as
42 found in the Clerks Handbook. The specific omissions named in this exception have
43 always been examined as part of the preliminary checklist, and may not have been
44 included in the minutes. Nor have some other elements of the preliminary checklist.
45 Gulfstream will endeavor to include these details in future minutes.

1 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to correct the inadequacy in their minutes and
2 submit for review.

3 **Response [2023]:** Gulfstream has amended its minutes accordingly.

4 **Rationale [2023]:** Minutes of presbytery relating to examinations must list all specific
5 requirements and trials for licensure and/or ordination which have been accomplished,
6 including that each candidate being examined for ordination was required to “state the
7 specific instances in which he may differ with the Confession of Faith and Catechisms
8 in any of their statements and/or propositions” (*BCO* 21-4).

9 **Exception: Oct 20, 2020** (*BCO* 19-2.d) – Licensure exam with no mention of written
10 sermon.

11 **Response [2022]:** Gulfstream regrets the inadequacy of its minutes. Gulfstream will
12 endeavor to include this detail in future minutes.

13 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to correct the inadequacy in their minutes and
14 submit for review.

15 **Response [2023]:** Gulfstream has amended its minutes accordingly.

16 **Rationale [2023]:** Minutes of presbytery relating to examinations must list all specific
17 requirements and trials for licensure and/or ordination which have been accomplished,
18 including that each candidate being examined for ordination was required to “state the
19 specific instances in which he may differ with the Confession of Faith and Catechisms
20 in any of their statements and/or propositions” (*BCO* 21-4).

21 **Exception: Oct 15, 2019** (*BCO* 13-6; 21-4.c.2-3) – Incomplete record of transfer
22 exam for minister from another denomination. No record of thesis, no record of
23 exegetical paper.

24 **Response [2022]:** Gulfstream regrets the inadequacy of its minutes. In preparing its
25 minutes, Gulfstream has always relied upon *Form 041- Checklist for Reception of*
26 *Minister From Another Denomination*, as found in the Clerks Handbook. The two
27 specific omissions have not previously been itemized on the checklist form.
28 Gulfstream will endeavor to include these details in future minutes.

29 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to correct the inadequacy in their minutes and
30 submit for review.

31 **Response [2023]:** Gulfstream has amended its minutes accordingly.

32 **Rationale [2023]:** Minutes of presbytery relating to examinations must list all specific
33 requirements and trials for licensure and/or ordination which have been accomplished,
34 including that each candidate being examined for ordination was required to “state the
35 specific instances in which he may differ with the Confession of Faith and Catechisms
36 in any of their statements and/or propositions” (*BCO* 21-4).

37
38 25. That the Minutes of **Heartland** Presbytery: *51-0-1*

39 a. Be approved without exception: **Mar 26, 2022.**

40 b. Be approved with exception of form: **Apr 22-23, 2022.**

41 c. Be approved with exception of substance:

42 **1. Exception: Apr 22-23, 2022; Nov 4-5, 2022** (*BCO* 18-2) – No record of six-
43 months membership for candidates.

44 **2. Exception: Nov 4-5, 2022** (*BCO* 18-7) – Insufficient reason given for removing
45 candidate from the roll.

- 1 **d. No response to previous assemblies required.**
 2
- 3 26. That the Minutes of **Heritage** Presbytery: 50-0-1
 4 a. Be approved without exception: **Sep 10, 2022; Nov 19, 2022.**
 5 b. Be approved with exception of form: **May 10, 2022.**
 6 c. Be approved with exception of substance:
 7 **1. Exception: Feb 4, 2022 (BCO 13-12)** – Notice for called meeting not in order.
 8 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**
 9 **Exception: Jan 30, 2021; May 11, 2021 (BCO 25-11)** – Record unclear as to when
 10 congregation withdrew from the PCA and whether 30-day notice was given.
 11 **Response:** [church name omitted] Church withdrew from the Heritage Presbytery,
 12 and PCA, at their Congregational Meeting on March 31, 2019 and notified us in a
 13 letter dated June 18, 2019. In all of the communications from [church name omitted]
 14 Church, we were not informed whether the 30-day notice was given by the [church
 15 name omitted] Session. I reached out Rev. [name omitted] at [church name omitted]
 16 Church, for documentation by email on 11/4/22, and followed up by text on 11/8/22.
 17 In a phone conversation he said the congregation had a two-week notice in his
 18 recollection. He said he would research and get back to me. As of the Heritage
 19 Presbytery 131st Stated Meeting on 1/28/23 and the acceptance of this response,
 20 [name omitted] has not responded again to our requests.
 21 [church name omitted] Church withdrew from the Heritage Presbytery, and PCA, at
 22 their Congregational Meeting on March 14, 2021. The current pastor at [church name
 23 omitted] Church reported that the announcement for the March 15, 2021
 24 Congregational Meeting was provided to the congregation more than 30 days prior to
 25 the meeting. Below is the documentation the he sent to verify this timeline was met.
 26 **e. That the following response to the 50th GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore a**
 27 **new response shall be submitted to the following GA:**
 28 **Exception: May 11, 2021 (BCO 38-3)** – No determination of a judgment by
 29 presbytery as to the withdrawal of a minister from the PCA to another body.
 30 **Response:** The Heritage Presbytery moved/seconded and approved the motion [p.1]
 31 to accept the resignation of then TE [name omitted], at the May 11, 2021 (124th Stated
 32 Meeting). This action was predicated on the email we received from the TE
 33 documented on page 18 of the approved Minutes from the May 11, 2021, 124th Stated
 34 Meeting, resigning from the Heritage Presbytery and the PCA.
 35 This report was approved at the 131st Heritage Presbytery Meeting on January 28,
 36 2023.
 37 **Rationale:** Presbytery needs to judge the matter under *BCO* 38-2 or the appropriate
 38 section of *BCO* 38-3.
 39
- 40 27. That the Minutes of **Highlands** Presbytery: 53-0-2
 41 a. Be approved without exception: **Aug 6, 2022; Dec 15, 2022.**
 42 b. Be approved with exception of form: **Directory.**
 43 c. Be approved with exception of substance:
 44 **1. Exception: Feb 26, 2022 (BCO 21-4)** – No record of requiring a statement of
 45 differences with our Standards.

- 1 **2. Exception: Feb 26, 2022 (BCO 20-1)** – No record of the reasons why Presbytery
2 considers an out-of-bounds work to be a valid Christian ministry.
3 **3. Exception: May 3, 2022 (BCO 23-10)** – No record that the Congregation/Session
4 concur with dissolution of pastoral relations.
5 **4. Exception: May 3, 2022; Nov 1, 2022 (RAO 16-3.e.1)** – Reasons for chair’s ruling
6 on a point of order not given.

7 **d. That the following response to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**

8 **Exception: Jan 13, 2021 (BCO 13-12)** – Notice for called meeting not in order; 10-
9 day notice not indicated or recorded.

10 **Response:** At its November 1, 2022, Stated Meeting, the Highlands Presbytery took
11 the following action:

12 MSC: Respond to the Review of Presbytery Records Committee regarding the
13 exception of substance from the Jan 13, 2021, minutes as follows:

14 *The Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets not including the notice for*
15 *called meeting. The notice was properly sent on December 23, 2020, but regretfully*
16 *not included in the minutes. Presbytery will be more careful in the future.*

17
18 28. That the Minutes of **Hills and Plains** Presbytery: 53-0-0

- 19 a. Be approved without exception: **None.**
- 20 b. Be approved with exception of form: **General 2022; Directory; May 10, 2022; Oct**
21 **1, 2022.**
- 22 c. Be approved with exception of substance:
- 23 **1. Exception: General 2022 (BCO 12-7; 40-1)** – No evidence of review of Session
24 records in 2022 or from outstanding sessional records from 2017 to present.
25 **Exception: Feb 25, 2022; May 10, 2022 (BCO 19-9)** – All specific requirements
26 of internship not recorded (inward call to the ministry of the Word).
- 27 **2. Exception: Mar 5, 2022; Dec 10, 2022 (BCO 13-12)** – Notice for called meeting
28 not in order (10-day notice not recorded).
- 29 **3. Exception: Mar 5, 2022; May 10, 2022; Oct 11, 2022 (BCO 15-1; RAO 16-3.e.4)**
30 – Minutes of commissions not entered in Presbytery minutes.
- 31 **4. Exception: May 10, 2022 (Standing Rules, 6-2.b; RONR [12th ed.] 23:6.(e);**
32 **25:10)** – Rule protecting fundamental rights of absentees suspended (requirement
33 of notice for amendment to standing rules).
- 34 **5. Exception: May 10, 2022 (BCO 18-2; 18-3)** – All specific requirements of coming
35 under care not recorded (six-months membership; experiential religion and
36 motives for seeking the ministry).
- 37 **6. Exception: May 10, 2022 (BCO 13-6)** – Incomplete record of examinations of
38 TEs transferring into Presbytery (views in theology, the Sacraments, and church
39 government).
- 40 **7. Exception: May 10, 2022 (BCO 21-1)** – Unclear whether call had been finalized
41 (“pending changes”) when approved by Presbytery.
- 42 **8. Exception: Oct 11, 2022 (BCO 15-2)** – Membership and scope of authority for
43 commission not recorded.
- 44 **9. Exception: Oct 11, 2022 (BCO 19-2; RAO 16-3.e.5)** – All specific requirements
45 of licensure exam not recorded (inward call to preach the gospel).

- 1 **10. Exception: Dec 10, 2022** (*BCO* 13-12) – Business conducted that exceeded the
2 scope of notice (appointment of temporary Session commission).
- 3 **11. Exception: Dec 10, 2022** (Preliminary Principle 6) – Temporary Session
4 appointed over a congregation without record of consent of congregation.
- 5 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**
- 6 **Exception: Oct 1, 2019** (*BCO* 13-6; 21-4.f) No record that candidate for transfer from
7 another denomination was required to state his differences with the Westminster
8 Standards in his own words.
- 9 **Response:** The presbytery respectfully disagrees. There was no candidate transferring
10 denominations on Oct 1, 2019, and every candidate who was transferring PCA
11 presbyteries had their exceptions recorded in their own words in the minutes and
12 approved. In one instance a candidate’s stated difference was lacking quotation marks,
13 an error on the part of the stated clerk, so it is possible RPR did not recognize that as
14 Mr. [name omitted]’s own words.
- 15 **Exception: Mar 26, 2019** (*BCO* 15-3; 31-2; 32-2, 3) – The Presbytery received a
16 report from the Judicial Commission that had been formed to “investigate” a matter
17 per *BCO* 31-2. There was, at the point this commission was formed, no “judicial case”
18 per *BCO* 15-3 for it to adjudicate (i.e., no charges had been laid, no prosecutor has
19 been appointed, etc.).
- 20 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery acknowledges that the minutes where these charges
21 were laid, etc. have been lost. This is a grave oversight that is irremediable. However,
22 there is a thorough email and other paper trail that shows charges were made,
23 prosecutors appointed, and the case was handled decently and in order. The presbytery
24 vows to never let such a grave oversight occur again.
- 25 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to record in their minutes the specific matters of
26 the judicial procedure such as the charges that were filed, who the prosecutor was,
27 what the outcome was. (See *RONR*, 12th Ed., 48:15)
- 28 **Response [2023]:** As noted above, Charges were brought by the Pastoral Care
29 committee of Hills and Plains Presbytery on behalf of the session of [church name
30 omitted] Church and a *BCO* 15-3 commission was formed to adjudicate the case.
31 The charges had been made by the staff and a deacon of [church name omitted] Church
32 originally, and the commission formed then assigned prosecutors as indicated in the
33 executive session minutes and commission report, however the accused, TE [name
34 omitted], confessed guilt before a trial ever ensued, also contained within the report.
- 35 **Exception: Feb 13, 2021; May 4, 2021; Oct 12, 2021** (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) –
36 Minutes of commission not entered in Presbytery minutes.
- 37 **Response:**
- 38 Meeting Dates: Feb 13, 2021 - The missing minutes of the commission are attached.
39 Meeting Dates: May 4, 2021 - The missing minutes of the commission are attached.
40 Meeting Dates: Oct 12, 2021 - The missing minutes of the commission are attached.
- 41 **Exception: Feb 13, 2021** (*BCO* 13-6) – All specific requirements of transfer exam
42 not recorded for honorably retired TE.
- 43 **Response:** On February 13, 2021 TE [name omitted] was received as a minister
44 honorably retired (*BCO* 13-5) after being examined on Christian experience, and also

1 touching their views in theology, the Sacraments, and church government. (*BCO* 13-
2 6)

3 **Exception: Oct 12, 2021** (*BCO* 23-1) – No record of congregational concurrence in
4 the dissolution of pastoral relationship.

5 **Response:** The stated clerk received a request of the congregation of [church name
6 omitted] (including the minutes of the congregational vote) to dissolve the pastoral
7 relations between [church name omitted] and TE [name omitted] on August 29, 2021
8 by email.

9 **Exception: Oct 12, 2021** (*BCO* 21-2; 18-2) – No approval of completed internship
10 for ordination candidate.

11 **Response:** Mr. [name omitted]’s internship was approved by the presbytery for
12 ordination. (*BCO* 21-2; 18-2)

13 **Please see the additional PDF attachments that are mentioned.**

14 **Exception: Feb 9, 2019** (*BCO* 13-6; 21-4.c.1) – No record of all of the parts of
15 examination having been conducted for a man transferring in from another
16 denomination.

17 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery acknowledges this was not recorded and the record will
18 be amended.

19 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to take action to approve the amendment(s), and
20 either resubmit those minutes or include a motion in its current minutes “all
21 information required to construct an accurate record of the actions taken at the earlier
22 meeting.” (*RONR*, 12th Ed., 48:15)

23 **Response [2023]:** At the presbytery meeting of Feb 9, 2019, TE [name omitted] was
24 examined in the areas of:

- 25 (a) his acquaintance with experiential religion, especially his personal character
26 and family management (based on the qualifications set out in 1 Timothy 3:1-
27 7, and Titus 1:6-9),
- 28 (b) his knowledge of the Greek and Hebrew languages,
- 29 (c) Bible content,
- 30 (d) theology,
- 31 (e) the Sacraments,
- 32 (f) Church history,
- 33 (g) the history of the Presbyterian Church in America, and
- 34 (h) the principles and rules of the government and discipline of the church. (*BCO*
35 21-4.c.1) and the examination was sustained for transfer into the presbytery
36 from the ARP (*BCO* 13-6).

37 **Exception: Feb 9, 2019; Oct 1, 2019** (*BCO* 13-6; 21-4.f) – No record that candidate
38 for transfer from another denomination was required to state his differences with the
39 *Westminster Standards* in his own words.

40 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery acknowledges this was not recorded and the record will
41 be amended.

42 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to take action to approve the amendment(s), and
43 either resubmit those minutes or include a motion in its current minutes “all
44 information required to construct an accurate record of the actions taken at the earlier
45 meeting.” (*RONR*, 12th Ed., 48:15)

1 **Response [2023]:** At the presbytery meeting of Feb 9, 2019, in order to transfer from
2 the ARP (BCO 13-6) TE [name omitted] was required to state his stated differences
3 with the Westminster Standards in his own words, as follows (BCO 21-4.f):

4 *“I hold to a “continental” view, holding that certain forms of recreations are*
5 *permissible. I stated that Isaiah 58:13, “doing your pleasure on my holy day” is*
6 *referring to business dealings – that is seeking business profit on the Sabbath.”*

7 The court judged the stated difference(s) to be more than semantic, but “not out of
8 accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine” (BCO 21-4).

9 **Exception: Feb 9, 2019** (BCO 19-2) – No record of all of the parts of a licensure exam
10 having been conducted.

11 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery acknowledges this was not recorded and the record will
12 be amended.

13 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to take action to approve the amendment(s), and
14 either resubmit those minutes or include a motion in its current minutes “all
15 information required to construct an accurate record of the actions taken at the earlier
16 meeting.” (RONR, 12th Ed., 48:15).

17 **Response [2023]:** On February 9, 2019, [name omitted] was examined in all areas
18 required for licensure in BCO 19-2, and the examinations were sustained for the
19 following:

- 20 a. Give a statement of his Christian experience and inward call to preach the Gospel
21 in written form and/or orally before the Presbytery (at the discretion of the
22 Presbytery):
- 23 b. Be tested with a written and/or oral examination by the Presbytery (at the
24 discretion of the Presbytery) for his:
 - 25 1. basic knowledge of Biblical doctrine as outlined in the Confession of Faith and
26 Larger and Shorter Catechisms of the Presbyterian Church in America.
 - 27 2. practical knowledge of Bible content.
 - 28 3. basic knowledge of the government of the Presbyterian Church in America as
29 defined in The Book of Church Order.

30 **Exception: Feb 9, 2019; May 4, 2019; Oct 1, 2019** (BCO 19-2.f) – Candidate for
31 licensure’s stated differences not recorded in his own words.

32 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery acknowledges this was not recorded and the record will
33 be amended.

34 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to take action to approve the amendment(s), and
35 either resubmit those minutes or include a motion in its current minutes “all
36 information required to construct an accurate record of the actions taken at the earlier
37 meeting.” (RONR, 12th Ed., 48:15)

38 **Response [2023]:** Feb 9, 2019 (TE [name omitted]) (BCO 19-2.f) TE [name omitted]
39 did state his differences with the Westminster Standards as follows:

40 *“WCF 4.1 – “space of six days”: I suppose this may not be a difference, but as noted*
41 *above, I understand “the space of six days” to be a general framework, which is an*
42 *acceptable view according to the PCA’s Creation Study Committee.*

43 *WCF 21.8 – Sabbath requires public and private worship “the whole time”: Perhaps*
44 *it depends upon how one defines worship. If worship is all our lives (as Paul indicates*
45 *in Rom 12.1-2), then I am fine with the language. But if something more explicit and*

1 *specific is in mind, then I take an exception. I believe rest (which can occur in a number*
2 *of ways: nap, playing Uno, or ball) can be a legitimate way of honoring God on the*
3 *Sabbath (who rested on the seventh day).*

4 *WLC 109 – No representation of any person of the Trinity. I believe that no*
5 *representation of the Trinity should be worshipped, however, it seems that the New*
6 *Testament (1 John 1.1ff, eg) actually invites us to represent Jesus (at least in our*
7 *minds) for teaching purposes or non-worship purposes.”*

8 The court judged the stated difference(s) to be more than semantic, but “not out of
9 accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine” (BCO 21-4).

10 May 4, 2019 (TE [name omitted]) (BCO 19-2.f) TE [name omitted] did state his
11 differences with the Westminster Standards as follows:

12 *“WCF 21.8, WLC 117, 119, WSC 61, 62 the language of rest all the day, from works*
13 *and recreation go beyond the guidelines given in scripture in Exodus 20:8-11 and*
14 *Deuteronomy 5:12-15 celebrated in our day on the Lord’s day should be a*
15 *combination of worship, rest, and mercy. It should be noted that in taking this view I*
16 *still hold a high view of Sabbath marked by preparation, worship, rest and mercy. My*
17 *objection to excluding recreation from the Sabbath I view from scripture does not take*
18 *away from the other important function of the sabbath day. The sabbath recreation I*
19 *am in favor of should be limited, simple in form (example pickup games) and avoid*
20 *interference with corporate worship. Club and organized sports should still be*
21 *avoided but a simple pick up game or shooting some hoops does not in my view*
22 *dishonor the sabbath.*

23 *WLC 109 According to the second commandment it is a sin to make any representation*
24 *of God, or of any of the three persons, either inwardly in our mind, or outwardly in*
25 *any kind of image or likeness of any creature whatsoever. I believe the second*
26 *commandment Ex 20:4 forbids the making of idols or images to which we would bow*
27 *down and worship. The Scriptures speak of the form of Jesus e.g. Isaiah 53 which is*
28 *why I believe that the Catechism goes beyond the prohibitions of Scripture on this*
29 *point.”*

30 The court judged the stated difference(s) to be more than semantic, but “not out of
31 accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine” (BCO 21-4).

32 Oct 1, 2019 (BCO 19-2.f) The presbytery respectfully disagrees. There were several
33 candidates that day, and all of their exceptions were recorded in their own words in
34 the minutes, though in a couple of cases the Stated Clerk failed to apply quotation
35 marks clearly demarcating this.

36 **Exception: Feb 9, 2019** (BCO 15-3; 31-2) – Presbytery formed a commission (which
37 it calls a ‘Council’) to conduct a 31-2 investigation (referencing both 31-2 and 15-3)
38 of a TE regarding whom the minutes state that a committee of Presbytery has met with
39 “many parties” and “believe there is a ‘strong presumption of guilt.” This is in
40 contradiction to both 15-3 (which establishes a judicial commission to adjudicate a
41 trial) and 31-2 (the purpose of which is to determine if there is a strong presumption
42 of guilt).

43 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery acknowledges that this was not recorded correctly and
44 will amend the minutes to rightly reflect the actions taken.

1 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to take action to approve the amendment(s), and
2 either resubmit those minutes or include a motion in its current minutes “all
3 information required to construct an accurate record of the actions taken at the earlier
4 meeting.” (*RONR*, 12th Ed., 48:15)

5 **Response [2023]:** On Feb 9, 2019, a *BCO* 15-3 commission was formed to try a case
6 against TE [name omitted] that was requested by the pastoral care committee of Hills
7 and Plains Presbytery on behalf of some staff and a deacon of [church name omitted]
8 PCA who had made accusations against TE [name omitted] (*BCO* 31-2) which
9 warranted an investigation. The staff and a deacon of [church name omitted] PCA had
10 made accusations and brought charges against TE [name omitted], which led the PCC
11 to request a trial and the presbytery then formed the *BCO* 15-3 commission to
12 adjudicate the trial.

13 **Exception: Feb 9, 2019** (*BCO* 13-11) – No record of the moderator having appointed
14 the “Special Judicial Council”.

15 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery acknowledges to oversight in recording this, and the
16 record will be amended.

17 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to take action to approve the amendment(s), and
18 either resubmit those minutes or include a motion in its current minutes “all
19 information required to construct an accurate record of the actions taken at the earlier
20 meeting.” (*RONR*, 12th Ed., 48:15)

21 **Response [2023]:** The moderator appointed the following to the *BCO* 15-3
22 commission re: [name omitted]: TE [name omitted], TE [name omitted], TE [name
23 omitted], RE [name omitted], RE [name omitted], RE [name omitted], RE [name
24 omitted]

25 **Exception: Mar 26, 2019** (*BCO* 13-11) – Per the purpose of the called meeting, a
26 “full statement of the case and the judgment rendered” not attached to the Executive
27 Session minutes.

28 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery acknowledges this was not included and will amend.

29 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to take action to approve the amendment(s), and
30 either resubmit those minutes or include a motion in its current minutes “all
31 information required to construct an accurate record of the actions taken at the earlier
32 meeting.” (*RONR*, 12th Ed., 48:15)

33 **Response [2023]:** The judgment rendered is attached to the email that contained these
34 responses (original response said “attached to the 2022 minutes, but that became
35 confusing and so I made an administrative decision that it would be more prudent to
36 attach them with this email).

37 **Exception: Mar 26, 2019** (*BCO* 15-3; 32-15) – Presbytery approved of the judgment
38 of its commission without there being any declaration of guilt on the part of the
39 accused.

40 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery acknowledges that the declaration of guilt was not
41 recorded correctly. The party did plead guilty.

42 **Rationale [2022]:** Minutes need to be amended and approved by Presbytery to reflect
43 this declaration of guilt and resubmitted.

44 **Response [2023]:** As indicated in the missing commission report (attached to this
45 email (originally said “attached to the 2022 minutes” for reason cited above) the

1 accused party confessed guilt on March 7, 2019. This is recorded in the report, as
2 noted above.

3 **Exception: May 4, 2019** (*BCO* 19-2.a) – No record of candidate for licensure giving
4 a statement of his Christian experience and inward call to preach the Gospel (written
5 or oral).

6 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery acknowledges this was not recorded and will amend the
7 record.

8 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to take action to approve the amendment(s), and
9 either resubmit those minutes or include a motion in its current minutes “all
10 information required to construct an accurate record of the action taken at the earlier
11 meeting.” (*RONR*, 12th Ed., 48:15)

12 **Response [2023]:** Mr. [name omitted] appeared before the Presbytery in person, and
13 was examined by the Presbytery on experiential religion and on his motives for
14 seeking the ministry. (*BCO* 18-3)

15 Mr. [name omitted] answered affirmatively to the questions of *BCO* 18-3:

- 16 1. Do you promise in reliance upon the grace of God to maintain a becoming
17 Christian character, and to be diligent and faithful in making full preparation for
18 the sacred ministry?
- 19 2. Do you promise to submit yourself to the proper supervision of the Presbytery in
20 matters that concern your preparation for the ministry?

21 RE [name omitted] examinations were arrested and approved for licensure and
22 ordination in the areas of:

- 23 (a) his acquaintance with experiential religion, especially his personal character
24 and family management (based on the qualifications set out in 1 Timothy 3:1-
25 7, and Titus 1:6-9),
- 26 (b) his knowledge of the Greek and Hebrew languages,
- 27 (c) Bible content,
- 28 (d) theology,
- 29 (e) the Sacraments,
- 30 (f) Church history,
- 31 (g) the history of the Presbyterian Church in America, and
- 32 (h) the principles and rules of the government and discipline of the church.

33 Also given were his a statement of his Christian experience and inward call to preach
34 the Gospel (*BCO* 19-2.a)

35 Mr. [name omitted]’s examinations were arrested and approved for licensure and
36 ordination in the areas of:

- 37 (a) his acquaintance with experiential religion, especially his personal character
38 and family management (based on the qualifications set out in 1 Timothy 3:1-
39 7, and Titus 1:6-9),
- 40 (b) his knowledge of the Greek and Hebrew languages,
- 41 (c) Bible content,
- 42 (d) theology,
- 43 (e) the Sacraments,
- 44 (f) Church history,
- 45 (g) the history of the Presbyterian Church in America, and

1 (h) the principles and rules of the government and discipline of the church.
2 Also given were his a statement of his Christian experience and inward call to preach
3 the Gospel (*BCO* 19-2.a)

4 **Exception: May 4, 2019** (*BCO* 21-4.c.1) – No record of examination of a candidate
5 for ordination in Bible content or theology.

6 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery acknowledges this was not recorded and will amend the
7 record.

8 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to take action to approve the amendment(s), and
9 either resubmit those minutes or include a motion in its current minutes “all
10 information required to construct an accurate record of the action taken at the earlier
11 meeting.” (*RONR*, 12th Ed., 48:15)

12 **Response [2023]:** Mr. [name omitted] was examined in the following areas:

13 (a) his acquaintance with experiential religion, especially his personal character
14 and family management (based on the qualifications set out in 1 Timothy 3:1-
15 7, and Titus 1:6-9),

16 (b) his knowledge of the Greek and Hebrew languages,

17 (c) Bible content,

18 (d) theology,

19 (e) the Sacraments,

20 (f) Church history,

21 (g) the history of the Presbyterian Church in America, and

22 (h) the principles and rules of the government and discipline of the church.

23 The examinations were sustained and approved

24 **Exception: May 4, 2019; Oct 1, 2019** (*BCO* 21-4.g) – No record that Presbytery
25 appointed a day for ordination.

26 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery acknowledges this was not recorded and will amend the
27 record.

28 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to take action to approve the amendment(s), and
29 either resubmit those minutes or include a motion in its current minutes “all
30 information required to construct an accurate record of the action taken at the earlier
31 meeting.” (*RONR*, 12th Ed., 48:15)

32 **Response [2023]:** May 4, 2019 (TE [name omitted]) – The moderator appointed a
33 commission of TE [name omitted], RE [name omitted], TE [name omitted], RE [name
34 omitted] TE [name omitted], RE [name omitted], TE [name omitted], TE [name
35 omitted] to proceed with the ordination and installation at [church name omitted]
36 Church on May 19.

37 Oct 1, 2019 ([name omitted]) – The moderator appointed a commission of TE [name
38 omitted], TE [name omitted], TE [name omitted], REs: [name omitted], [name
39 omitted], and [name omitted] for the ordination and installation service of [name
40 omitted] on September 8, 2019.

41 **Exception: Oct 1, 2019** (*BCO* 21-4.c.1) – No record of examination of a candidate
42 for ordination in Theology, knowledge of Greek/Hebrew, or Polity.

43 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery acknowledges this was not recorded and will amend the
44 record.

1 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to take action to approve the amendment(s), and
2 either resubmit those minutes or include a motion in its current minutes “all
3 information required to construct an accurate record of the action taken at the earlier
4 meeting.” (*RONR*, 12th Ed., 48:15)

5 **Response [2023]:** Mr. [name omitted] was examined in the following areas:

- 6 (a) his acquaintance with experiential religion, especially his personal character
7 and family management (based on the qualifications set out in 1 Timothy 3:1-
8 7, and Titus 1:6-9),
- 9 (b) his knowledge of the Greek and Hebrew languages,
- 10 (c) Bible content,
- 11 (d) theology,
- 12 (e) the Sacraments,
- 13 (f) Church history,
- 14 (g) the history of the Presbyterian Church in America, and
- 15 (h) the principles and rules of the government and discipline of the church.

16 The examinations were sustained and approved

17 **Exception: Oct 1, 2019** (*BCO* 13-6) – No record of all parts of a transfer exam of a
18 man ordained in the PCA.

19 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery acknowledges this was not recorded and will amend the
20 record.

21 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to take action to approve the amendment(s), and
22 either resubmit those minutes or include a motion in its current minutes “all
23 information required to construct an accurate record of the action taken at the earlier
24 meeting.” (*RONR*, 12th Ed., 48:15)

25 **Response [2023]:** TE [name omitted] was examined for transfer from Platte Valley
26 Presbytery on Christian experience, and also touching his views in theology, the
27 Sacraments, and church government. (*BCO* 13-6). His examinations were sustained
28 and approved

29 **Exception: Feb 8, 2020; Jun 30, 2020** (*BCO* 21-4.f; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – Stated
30 differences not recorded in the candidate’s own words.

31 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery acknowledges this was not recorded and will amend the
32 record.

33 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to take action to approve the amendment(s), and
34 either resubmit those minutes or include a motion in its current minutes “all
35 information required to construct an accurate record of the action taken at the earlier
36 meeting.” (*RONR*, 12th Ed., 48:15)

37 **Response [2023]:** TE [name omitted] did state his differences with the Westminster
38 Standards as follows:

39 “I have a stated difference with Chapter 21 Section 8 of the Westminster Confession
40 of Faith.

41 Specifically, I believe that recreation is allowed on the Sabbath, rather than the whole
42 day being taken up with the exercise of worship and the duties of necessity and mercy.

- 43 1. Colossians 2:16 – “Therefore let no one pass judgement on you in questions of
44 food and drink, or with regard to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath.”

1 2. Romans 14:5 – “One person esteems one day as better than another, while another
2 esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. The
3 one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats
4 in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains,
5 abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God.””

6 The court judged the stated difference(s) to be more than semantic, but “not out of
7 accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine” (*BCO* 21-4).

8 **Exception: Feb 8, 2020; Jun 30, 2020** (*BCO* 21-2; 18-2) – No approval of candidate
9 for ordination’s completed internship.

10 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery acknowledges this was not recorded and will amend the
11 record.

12 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to take action to approve the amendment(s), and
13 either resubmit those minutes or include a motion in its current minutes “all
14 information required to construct an accurate record of the action taken at the earlier
15 meeting.” (*RONR*, 12th Ed., 48:15)

16 **Response [2023]:** Feb 8, 2020 – Mr. [name omitted]’s internship was approved by the
17 presbytery for ordination. (*BCO* 21-2; 18-2)

18 Jun 30, 2020 – Mr. [name omitted]’s internship was approved by the presbytery for
19 ordination. (*BCO* 21-2, 18-2)

20 **Exception: Feb 8, 2020; Jun 30, 2020** (*BCO* 21-4.g) – No record that Presbytery
21 appointed a day for ordination and/or installation or established a commission for
22 ordination and/or installation.

23 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery acknowledges this was not recorded and will amend the
24 record.

25 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to take action to approve the amendment(s), and
26 either resubmit those minutes or include a motion in its current minutes “all
27 information required to construct an accurate record of the action taken at the earlier
28 meeting.” (*RONR*, 12th Ed., 48:15)

29 **Response [2023]:** (For [name omitted]) Feb 8, 2020 – The moderator appointed a
30 commission of TEs [name omitted], [name omitted], and [name omitted], REs [name
31 omitted], [name omitted], and [name omitted] to proceed with the ordination and
32 installation at [church name omitted] on 2020.3.15 at 6 PM.

33 ([name omitted]) Jun 30, 2020 – The moderator appointed a commission of Rev.
34 [name omitted], Rev. [name omitted], Rev. [name omitted], Elder [name omitted],
35 Elder [name omitted], Elder [name omitted] to proceed with the ordination and
36 installation at [church name omitted] on August 2, 2020.

37 **Exception: Feb 8, 2020** (*BCO* 13-11) – Individual is examined and preaches a sermon
38 with no indication in the minutes as to what he was examined for or why his sermon
39 was arrested and sustained. (Individual is listed as a candidate and an intern, but not
40 as a licentiate).

41 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery acknowledges this was not recorded and will amend the
42 record.

43 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to take action to approve the amendment(s), and
44 either resubmit those minutes or include a motion in its current minutes “all

1 information required to construct an accurate record of the action taken at the earlier
2 meeting.” (RONR, 12th Ed., 48:15)

3 **Response [2023]:** Mr. [name omitted] was examined for licensure according to *BCO*
4 19-2.a-b:

5 The examination for licensure shall be as follows:

6 a. Give a statement of his Christian experience and inward call to preach the Gospel
7 in written form and/or orally before the Presbytery (at the discretion of the
8 Presbytery):

9 b. Be tested with a written and/or oral examination by the Presbytery (at the
10 discretion of the Presbytery) for his:

11 1. basic knowledge of Biblical doctrine as outlined in the Confession of Faith and
12 Larger and Shorter Catechisms of the Presbyterian Church in America.

13 2. practical knowledge of Bible content.

14 3. basic knowledge of the government of the Presbyterian Church in America as
15 defined in The Book of Church Order. (*BCO* 13-11)

16 **Exception: Feb 8, 2020; Jun 30, 2020** (*BCO* 18-3) – Man is received as a candidate
17 without being examined on experiential religion or his motives for seeking the gospel
18 ministry.

19 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery acknowledges this was not recorded and will amend the
20 record.

21 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to take action to approve the amendment(s), and
22 either resubmit those minutes or include a motion in its current minutes “all
23 information required to construct an accurate record of the action taken at the earlier
24 meeting.” (RONR, 12th Ed., 48:15)

25 **Response [2023]:** Feb 8, 2020 – Mr. [name omitted] was examined with regards to
26 his experiential religion and his motives for seeking the gospel ministry, and so
27 received as a candidate under care. (*BCO* 18-3). The candidate answered in the
28 affirmative to the questions of *BCO* 18-3:

29 1. Do you promise in reliance upon the grace of God to maintain a becoming
30 Christian character, and to be diligent and faithful in making full preparation for
31 the sacred ministry?

32 2. Do you promise to submit yourself to the proper supervision of the Presbytery in
33 matters that concern your preparation for the ministry?

34 Having given testimony to his inward call to ministry, he was also received as an
35 intern.

36 Jun 30, 2020 – Mr. [name omitted] was examined with regards to his experiential
37 religion and his motives for seeking the gospel ministry, and so received as a candidate
38 under care. (*BCO* 18-3). The candidate answered in the affirmative to the questions of
39 *BCO* 18-3:

40 1. Do you promise in reliance upon the grace of God to maintain a becoming
41 Christian character, and to be diligent and faithful in making full preparation for
42 the sacred ministry?

43 2. Do you promise to submit yourself to the proper supervision of the Presbytery in
44 matters that concern your preparation for the ministry?

1 Having given testimony to his inward call to ministry, he was also received as an
2 intern.

3 **Exception: Feb 8, 2020; Jun 30, 2020 (BCO 19-9)** – Man is received as an intern
4 without giving statement regarding his inward call to the ministry.

5 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery acknowledges this was not recorded and will amend the
6 record.

7 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to take action to approve the amendment(s), and
8 either resubmit those minutes or include a motion in its current minutes “all
9 information required to construct an accurate record of the actions taken at the earlier
10 meeting.” (*RONR*, 12th Ed., 48:15)

11 **Response [2023]:** Feb 8, 2020 – Mr. [name omitted] was examined with regards to
12 his experiential religion and his motives for seeking the gospel ministry, and so
13 received as a candidate under care. (*BCO* 18-3). The candidate answered in the
14 affirmative to the questions of *BCO* 18-3:

15 1. Do you promise in reliance upon the grace of God to maintain a becoming
16 Christian character, and to be diligent and faithful in making full preparation for
17 the sacred ministry?

18 2. Do you promise to submit yourself to the proper supervision of the Presbytery in
19 matters that concern your preparation for the ministry?

20 Having given testimony to his inward call to ministry, he was also received as an
21 intern.

22 Jun 30, 2020 – Mr. [name omitted] was examined with regards to his experiential
23 religion and his motives for seeking the gospel ministry, and so received as a candidate
24 under care. (*BCO* 18-3). The candidate answered in the affirmative to the questions of
25 *BCO* 18-3:

26 1. Do you promise in reliance upon the grace of God to maintain a becoming
27 Christian character, and to be diligent and faithful in making full preparation for
28 the sacred ministry?

29 2. Do you promise to submit yourself to the proper supervision of the Presbytery in
30 matters that concern your preparation for the ministry?

31 Having given testimony to his inward call to ministry, he was also received as an
32 intern.

33 **Exception: Jun 30, 2020 (BCO 18-3)** – Charge not given to candidate for ministry.

34 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery acknowledges this was not recorded and will amend the
35 record.

36 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to take action to approve the amendment(s), and
37 either resubmit those minutes or include a motion in its current minutes “all
38 information required to construct an accurate record of the action taken at the earlier
39 meeting.” (*RONR*, 12th Ed., 48:15)

40 **Response [2023]:** A charge was given to the candidate by TE [name omitted]

41 **Exception: Jun 30, 2020 (BCO 23-1)** – Presbytery approves a new call for a TE
42 within the same presbytery without first dissolving the previous call by following the
43 steps in *BCO* 23-1.

44 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery acknowledges this was not recorded correctly and will
45 amend the record.

1 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to take action to approve the amendment(s), and
2 either resubmit those minutes or include a motion in its current minutes “all
3 information required to construct an accurate record of the action taken at the earlier
4 meeting.” (*RONR*, 12th Ed., 48:15)

5 **Response [2023]:** A request to dissolve the pastoral relations (assistant pastor)
6 between [church name omitted] (the session) and TE [name omitted]. TE [name
7 omitted]’s call to [church name omitted] was dissolved. The session was cited to
8 appear and did appear. (*BCO* 23-1)

9 **Exception: Jun 30, 2020** (*BCO* 21-3) – Presbytery ordains a man to the gospel
10 ministry without a call to a specific work (the man is listed as an assistant pastor in
11 the next meeting’s roll).

12 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery acknowledges this was not recorded correctly and will
13 amend the record.

14 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to take action to approve the amendment(s), and
15 either resubmit those minutes or include a motion in its current minutes “all
16 information required to construct an accurate record of the action taken at the earlier
17 meeting.” (*RONR*, 12th Ed., 48:15)

18 **Response [2023]:** RE [name omitted] was approved for ordination and his call as
19 associate pastor of [church name omitted] was approved. The moderator appointed a
20 commission of Rev. [name omitted], Rev. [name omitted], Rev. [name omitted], Elder
21 [name omitted], Elder [name omitted], Elder [name omitted] to proceed with the
22 ordination and installation at [church name omitted] on August 2, 2020.

23 **Exception: Jun 30, 2020** (*BCO* 23-1) – Presbytery dissolves the call of a TE without
24 following the steps in *BCO* 23-1.

25 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery acknowledges this was not recorded correctly and will
26 amend the record.

27 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to take action to approve the amendment(s), and
28 either resubmit those minutes or include a motion in its current minutes “all
29 information required to construct an accurate record of the action taken at the earlier
30 meeting.” (*RONR*, 12th Ed., 48:15)

31 **Response [2023]:** The presbytery received a request from both TE [name omitted]
32 and the session of [church name omitted] to dissolve the pastoral relationship between
33 them. The session was cited to appear. The dissolution of the relationship was
34 approved. (*BCO* 23-1)

35 **Exception: Jun 30, 2020** (*BCO* 13-9.c) – TE is approved as a “planting Pastor” of a
36 mission work without the approval of a new call to that work and without approving
37 the specific terms of the call.

38 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery acknowledges this was not recorded correctly and will
39 amend the record.

40 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to take action to approve the amendment(s), and
41 either resubmit those minutes or include a motion in its current minutes “all
42 information required to construct an accurate record of the action taken at the earlier
43 meeting.” (*RONR*, 12th Ed., 48:15)

44 **Response [2023]:** TE [name omitted]’s call and terms of call was received, reviewed,
45 and approved by the presbytery. (*BCO* 13-9.c)

1 **Exception: Aug 4, 2020 (BCO 23-1)** – Pastoral relation is dissolved without citing
2 the church to appear.

3 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery acknowledges this was not recorded and will amend the
4 record.

5 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to take action to approve the amendment(s), and
6 either resubmit those minutes or include a motion in its current minutes “all
7 information required to construct an accurate record of the action taken at the earlier
8 meeting.” (*RONR*, 12th Ed., 48:15)

9 **Response [2023]:** The session of [church name omitted] was cited to appear by email,
10 and did appear. (*BCO 23-1*)

11 **Exception: Aug 4, 2020 (BCO 38-3)** – Presbytery transferred a TE to a denomination
12 with whom we do not have fraternal relations without following the steps in either 38-
13 3a or 38-3b.

14 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery acknowledges this was not recorded properly and will
15 amend the record.

16 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to take action to approve the amendment(s), and
17 either resubmit those minutes or include a motion in its current minutes “all
18 information required to construct an accurate record of the action taken at the earlier
19 meeting.” (*RONR*, 12th Ed., 48:15)

20 **Response [2023]:** TE [name omitted] requested to be dismissed from the presbytery
21 in order to affiliate with ECO Rivers of Life Presbytery. Being a member in good
22 standing and being satisfied that this was the right move for him, prayer was offered
23 for his future ministry in ECO and his name was removed from our rolls as requested.
24 (*BCO 38-3.a*)

25 **Exception: Oct 13, 2020 (BCO 18-3)** – Man is received as a candidate without being
26 examined on his motives for seeking the gospel ministry.

27 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery acknowledges this was not recorded and will amend the
28 record.

29 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to take action to approve the amendment(s), and
30 either resubmit those minutes or include a motion in its current minutes “all
31 information required to construct an accurate record of the action taken at the earlier
32 meeting.” (*RONR*, 12th Ed., 48:15)

33 **Response [2023]:** RE [name omitted] was examined with regards to his experiential
34 religion and his motives for seeking the gospel ministry, and so received as a candidate
35 under care. (*BCO 18-3*). The candidate answered in the affirmative to the questions of
36 *BCO 18-3*:

- 37 1. Do you promise in reliance upon the grace of God to maintain a becoming
38 Christian character, and to be diligent and faithful in making full preparation for
39 the sacred ministry?
40 2. Do you promise to submit yourself to the proper supervision of the Presbytery in
41 matters that concern your preparation for the ministry?

42 Having given testimony to his inward call to ministry, he was also received as an
43 intern.

44 **Exception: Oct 13, 2020 (BCO 5-9.c, d)** – No record of the nomination, training,
45 examination, or election of Ruling Elders for a mission church being particularized.

1 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery acknowledges this was not recorded and will amend the
2 record.

3 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to take action to approve the amendment(s), and
4 either resubmit those minutes or include a motion in its current minutes “all
5 information required to construct an accurate record of the action taken at the earlier
6 meeting.” (*RONR*, 12th Ed., 48:15)

7 **Response [2023]:** The presbytery has received the record of the election of [name
8 omitted] as pastor as well as the REs of [church name omitted], along with the
9 commission’s report of the training, examination, and approval of the ruling elders.
10 (*BCO* 5-9.c, d)

11 **Exception: Oct 13, 2020** (*BCO* 5-9.f.1) No indication of a congregational meeting to
12 elect a pastor.

13 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery acknowledges this was not recorded and will amend the
14 record.

15 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to take action to approve the amendment(s), and
16 either resubmit those minutes or include a motion in its current minutes “all
17 information required to construct an accurate record of the action taken at the earlier
18 meeting.” (*RONR*, 12th Ed., 48:15)

19 **Response [2023]:** The presbytery has received the record of the election of [name
20 omitted] as pastor as well as the REs of [church name omitted], along with the
21 commission’s report of the training, examination, and approval of the ruling elders.
22 (*BCO* 5-9.f.1)

23 **Exception: Oct 13, 2020** (*BCO* 5-9.h) – Church approved to be particularized without
24 the establishment of a commission to organize the church.

25 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery acknowledges this was not recorded and will amend the
26 record.

27 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to take action to approve the amendment(s), and
28 either resubmit those minutes or include a motion in its current minutes “all
29 information required to construct an accurate record of the action taken at the earlier
30 meeting.” (*RONR*, 12th Ed., 48:15)

31 **Response [2023]:** The moderator established the following commission, to organize
32 [church name omitted] on Sunday, October 25, 2020 at 5:00 pm at [church name
33 omitted]: [name omitted], TE ([church name omitted]) [name omitted], RE ([church
34 name omitted]) [name omitted], TE ([church name omitted]) [name omitted], RE
35 ([church name omitted]) [name omitted], TE ([church name omitted]) [name omitted],
36 RE ([church name omitted])

37 **Exception: May 8, 2018** (*RAO* 16-3.e.5) – Stated differences were approved but not
38 recorded.

39 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery acknowledges this error and will amend the record.

40 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to take action to approve the amendment(s), and
41 either resubmit those minutes or include a motion in its current minutes “all
42 information required to construct an accurate record of the action taken at the earlier
43 meeting.” (*RONR*, 12th Ed., 48:15)

44 **Response [2023]:** Mr. [name omitted]’s stated differences with the Westminster
45 Standards were as follows: (*RAO* 16-3.e.5)

1 “WCF 4.1 states that creation occurred “in the space of six days” (cf. WLC 15, WSC
 2 9). I do not take exception to this statement if it is merely a quotation of Biblical
 3 language. If, however, this phrase is meant to strictly limit the time of creation to six
 4 literal 24 hour periods then I would wish to register my reservations. While I heartily
 5 affirm the very real possibility of 6-24 creation, I find the framework interpretations
 6 of Genesis 1:1-2:3 the most exegetically satisfying. In any case, the account is
 7 coherent and historical not mythical. Given the historical context of the text
 8 (presuming Mosaic authorship)--a nascent Israelite nation just redeemed from slavery--
 9 the account seems to emphasize God’s power and agency in creating the cosmos ex
 10 nihilo by his word in direct juxtaposition to pagan Egyptian or Mesopotamian
 11 accounts of creation.

12 WCF 21.8 points out that the keeping of the Sabbath requires “holy rest” not only from
 13 one’s “worldly employments” but also from his “recreations” (cf. WSC 60, WLC
 14 117). Instead one is to be taken up “the whole time in public and private exercises of
 15 his worship, and in the duties of necessity and mercy.” While the one-in-seven
 16 principle features prominently in Scripture (Gen 2:2, Ex 20:8, Is 58:13-14), the
 17 emphasis of the fourth commandment is upon rest from work. Recreational activities
 18 do not impinge upon what is required in the fourth commandment, nor do they
 19 necessarily keep one from the exercise of private worship. Perhaps royal recreational
 20 prescriptions during the era of the Westminster Assembly motivated the spirit behind
 21 these statements. Put more positively, Matt 12:1-14 not only sanctions acts of mercy
 22 and necessity but acts of goodness. The emphasis of v 8 is upon celebration in Jesus
 23 the Lord of the Sabbath. Mark 2:27 also points out the fact that “the Sabbath was
 24 made for man, not man for the Sabbath.” The Sabbath is God’s loving provision for
 25 the flourishing and good of his creation. This is perhaps best captured in WLC 121
 26 which speaks of “the two great benefits of creation and redemption.” Recreational
 27 activities which promote the good flourishing of our selves, families, and neighbors
 28 ought to be considered lawful on the Sabbath in my view.

29 WLC 109 states that the second commandment forbids “the making of any
 30 representation of God, of all or any of the three persons, either inwardly in our mind
 31 or outwardly in any kind of image or likeness of any creature whatsoever....” Indeed,
 32 we should not make idols or worship the things of our hands or of creation as
 33 God. However, Christ is the very “image of the invisible God” (Col 1:15) and the
 34 “radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature” (Heb 1:3). Since
 35 the incarnation, God has chosen to reveal himself in Christ, the God-Man. As such,
 36 in reading the New Testament one cannot help but picture him inwardly. In fact, the
 37 celebration of the Lord’s Supper seems to bid us picture him in remembrance of his
 38 death and resurrection (1 Corinthians 11:23-26).”

39 The court judged the stated difference(s) to be more than semantic, but “not out of
 40 accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine” (BCO 21-4).

41 **Exception: Oct 9, 2018** (BCO 19-2, RAO 16-3.e.5) – No specific requirements of
 42 licensure exams recorded.

43 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery acknowledges this error and will amend the record.

44 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to take action to approve the amendment(s), and
 45 either resubmit those minutes or include a motion in its current minutes “all

1 information required to construct an accurate record of the action taken at the earlier
2 meeting.” (*RONR*, 12th Ed., 48:15)

3 **Response [2023]:** [name omitted] was examined for licensure and ordination in the
4 areas of: (*BCO* 19-2, 21-4):

- 5 (a) his acquaintance with experiential religion, especially his personal character
6 and family management (based on the qualifications set out in 1 Timothy 3:1-
7 7, and Titus 1:6-9),
- 8 (b) his knowledge of the Greek and Hebrew languages,
- 9 (c) Bible content,
- 10 (d) theology,
- 11 (e) the Sacraments,
- 12 (f) Church history,
- 13 (g) the history of the Presbyterian Church in America, and
- 14 (h) the principles and rules of the government and discipline of the church.

15 The examinations were arrested and sustained. The candidate was approved for
16 ordination.

17 The candidate answered the following questions for licensure in the affirmative (*BCO*
18 19-3):

- 19 1. Do you believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, as originally given,
20 to be the inerrant Word of God, the only infallible rule of faith and practice?
- 21 2. Do you sincerely receive and adopt the Confession of Faith and the Catechisms of
22 this Church as containing the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scripture?
- 23 3. Do you promise to strive for the purity, peace, unity and edification of the Church?
- 24 4. Do you promise to submit yourself, in the Lord, to the government of this
25 Presbytery, or of any other into the bounds of which you may be called?

26 A prayer was offered.

27 At [church name omitted], the 9th day of October, the Hills and Plains Presbytery,
28 having received testimonials commending [name omitted], proceeded to submit him
29 to the prescribed examination for licensure, which was met to the approval of the
30 Presbytery.

31 Having satisfactorily answered the questions for licensure, [name omitted] was
32 licensed by the Presbytery to preach the Gospel within the bounds of this Presbytery.

33 [name omitted] was examined for licensure and ordination in the areas of: (*BCO* 19-
34 2, 21-4):

- 35 (a) his acquaintance with experiential religion, especially his personal character
36 and family management (based on the qualifications set out in 1 Timothy 3:1-
37 7, and Titus 1:6-9),
- 38 (b) his knowledge of the Greek and Hebrew languages,
- 39 (c) Bible content,

40 **Exception: Feb 8, 2020; Jun 30, 2020** (*BCO* 18-3) – Questions for candidacy not
41 shown to have been asked or answered in the affirmative.

42 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery acknowledges this was not recorded and will amend the
43 record.

44 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to take action to approve the amendment(s), and
45 either resubmit those minutes or include a motion in its current minutes “all

1 information required to construct an accurate record of the action taken at the earlier
2 meeting.” (RONR, 12th Ed., 48:15)

3 **Response [2023]: Feb 8, 2020** - Mr. [name omitted] was examined with regards to
4 his experiential religion and his motives for seeking the gospel ministry, and so
5 received as a candidate under care. (BCO 18-3). The candidate answered in the
6 affirmative to the questions of BCO 18-3:

7 1. Do you promise in reliance upon the grace of God to maintain a becoming
8 Christian character, and to be diligent and faithful in making full preparation for
9 the sacred ministry?

10 2. Do you promise to submit yourself to the proper supervision of the Presbytery in
11 matters that concern your preparation for the ministry?

12 Having given testimony to his inward call to ministry, he was also received as an
13 intern.

14 **June 30, 2020** - Mr. [name omitted] was examined with regards to his experiential
15 religion and his motives for seeking the gospel ministry, and so received as a candidate
16 under care. (BCO 18-3). The candidate answered in the affirmative to the questions of
17 BCO 18-3:

18 1. Do you promise in reliance upon the grace of God to maintain a becoming
19 Christian character, and to be diligent and faithful in making full preparation for
20 the sacred ministry?

21 2. Do you promise to submit yourself to the proper supervision of the Presbytery in
22 matters that concern your preparation for the ministry?

23 Having given testimony to his inward call to ministry, he was also received as an
24 intern.

25 **Exception: General 2019; General 2020; General 2021** (BCO 13-9.b) – No record
26 of review of Session records having been conducted.

27 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery agrees that no review has been conducted. This will be
28 rectified with a review of all session minutes from 2017 to 2021

29 **Rationale [2022]:** The minutes of Presbytery in 2021 indicate no action to fulfill its
30 responsibility to review Session records not yet reviewed.

31 **Response [2023]:** This continues to be true. We have formed a review of session
32 record committee at the October 2022 presbytery meeting. They have been given a
33 special mandate to complete the review 2017 through 2022 by the end of 2023. The
34 meeting is where this exception will finally be rectified. This is a the best we can do,
35 presbyterians are notoriously slow.

36 e. **That the following responses to the 50th GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore**
37 **new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

38 **Exception: Feb 13, 2021** (BCO 15-1; 21-5) – No record of appointment of an
39 ordination commission.

40 **Response:** In a severe oversight, no commission was ever established and Rev. [name
41 omitted] never had an installation service. He has been in the service of the presbytery
42 as chaplain and TE since 2020. He has recently been hired as a part-time assistant
43 within the presbytery (in addition to his current duties) and we will administer all the
44 formalities at that installation service. Those records will be included in the 2022
45 minutes.

1 **Rationale:** No record that Presbytery corrected its actions (*RAO* 16-10.b.1).

2
3 29. That the Minutes of **Houston Metro** Presbytery: *54-0-1*

- 4 a. Be approved without exception: **None.**
- 5 b. Be approved with exception of form: **Directory; General 2022; Jan 21, 2022; Apr**
6 **11, 2022; Aug 19, 2022; Nov 14, 2022.**
- 7 c. Be approved with exception of substance:
- 8 1. **Exception: General 2022** (*BCO* 13-9.b; 40-1) – No record of review of records
9 of church Sessions.
- 10 2. **Exception: General 2022** (*BCO* 8-7) – No record of annual reports of TEs
11 laboring out of bounds.
- 12 3. **Exception: Jan 21, 2022** (*BCO* 13-11; *RAO* 16-3.e.7) – Minutes of executive
13 session not included.
- 14 4. **Exception: Jan 21, 2022; Aug 19, 2022** (*BCO* 21-1) – No record that
15 Congregation/Session concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.
- 16 5. **Exception: Jan 21, 2022; April 11, 2022** (*BCO* 15-1, *RAO* 16-3.e.4) – Minutes
17 of commission not entered in presbytery minutes.
- 18 6. **Exception: April 11, 2022** (*BCO* 5-9.a.i) – Incomplete record of particularization
19 service.
- 20 7. **Exception: April 11, 2022** (*BCO* 18-2) – No record of six-months membership
21 for candidate or record of endorsement by candidate’s session.
- 22 d. **That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**
- 23 **Exception: Jan 15, 2021** (*BCO* 19-2) – All specific requirements of licensure exam
24 not recorded. No record of requiring statement of differences with our Standards.
- 25 **Response:** The licentiate had no stated differences with the Standards. We will correct
26 our minutes to state: “The licentiate offered no stated differences, therefore no
27 statement of differences is recorded.” We will include a similar reference in our
28 minutes in the future when men have no stated differences with our Standards.
- 29 **Exception: Apr 12, 2021** (*BCO* 13-11) – Complaint sent to Presbytery not recorded
30 in Presbytery’s minutes.
- 31 **Response:** We will correct our minutes by publishing a copy of the Complaint in the
32 minutes.
- 33 **Exception: Apr 12, 2021** (*BCO* 21-4) – No record of stated differences in transfer
34 exam.
- 35 **Response:** The Teaching Elder had no stated differences with the Standards. We will
36 correct our minutes to state: “The Teaching Elder offered no stated differences,
37 therefore, no statement of differences is recorded.” We will include a similar reference
38 in our minutes in the future when men have no stated differences with our Standards.
- 39 **Exception: Nov 8, 2021** (*BCO* 18-3) – No record of questions proposed to candidate.
- 40 **Response:** The Constitutional questions listed in *BCO* 18-3 were asked of the
41 candidate. We will correct our minutes to reflect that and be more diligent in the future.
- 42 **Exception: Jan 17, 2020; Aug 21, 2020** (*BCO* 18-3) – Candidates not examined on
43 their “motives for seeking the ministry.”
- 44 **Response:** The Candidates were examined on their “motives for seeking the
45 ministry.” That was subsumed under our notion of “the examination in Christian

1 Experience.” We will amend that in the future to note: “Approve the examination in
2 Christian Experience, including motives for seeking the ministry.”

3 **Exception: General 2020** – No record of January 2020 Minutes being approved by
4 the Presbytery.

5 **Response:** We inadvertently failed to approve those minutes due to the disruption of
6 our normal meetings due to the pandemic. We approved those minutes at our
7 November 2022 meeting. Please note that the approval was postponed on May 18,
8 2020 instead of August 21, 2020.

9 **Exception: Aug 20, 2021** (*BCO* 20-9; 38-3; 46-6) – TE mentioned as moved to
10 Georgia and removed from directory without transfer or action to remove.

11 **Response:** The TE in question was removed from the Stated Clerk’s directory at the
12 time he moved to Savannah, Georgia (Savannah River Presbytery) but was not
13 officially transferred by Houston Metro Presbytery until January, 2022. His name was
14 mentioned in both the August, 2021 minutes and in the November, 2021 minutes
15 merely as information. Our January 2022 minutes reflect the actual transfer of the TE
16 and his designation as honorably retired (*BCO* 23-2).

17 **e. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore
18 new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

19 **Exception: General** (*BCO* 13-9.b) – No record of review of records of Session
20 completed and approved by action of Presbytery.

21 **Response:** Our Review of Sessional Records Committee has reviewed records of
22 Sessions, but has not brought a report in some time. We will include such a report in
23 our next set of minutes and endeavor to be more diligent about reporting in the future

24 **Rationale:** No record that Presbytery has corrected its actions (*RAO* 16-10.b.1) and
25 provided a report. The Presbytery has been cited again this year for not reporting the
26 status of its reviews.

27

28 30. That the Minutes of Illiana Presbytery: 52-0-1

29 a. Be approved without exception: **Oct 22, 2022; Dec 3, 2022.**

30 b. Be approved with exception of form: **General 2022; Apr 9, 2022.**

31 c. Be approved with exception of substance:

32 **1. Exception: General 2022** (*BCO* 13-9.b; 40-1) – No record of review of records
33 of church Sessions.

34 **2. Exception: General 2022** (*BCO* 8-7) – No record of annual report(s) of TE(s)
35 laboring out of bounds.

36 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**

37 **Exception: Feb 28, 2019** (*RAO* 16-3.e.5) – Candidate’s differences not stated in his
38 own words.

39 **Response:** This called meeting was held to transfer TE [name omitted] from Illiana
40 Presbytery (PCA) to Lakes & Rivers Presbytery (EPC), this was not an examination.
41 No other action was docketed or proposed. The transfer of ministry was amicable and
42 Illiana had appreciated TE [name omitted]’s ministry.

43 **Exception: Nov 16, 2019** (*BCO* 13-12) – No evidence of proper call for meeting and
44 reason for called meeting not stated.

1 **Response:** It is duly noted that the particulars for calling this meeting were not
2 detailed in the minutes, but the reason is stated clearly in the Motion offered by TE
3 [name omitted].

4 **Exception: Jan 18, 2020** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – All specific requirements of
5 ordination exam not recorded (Hebrew/Greek).

6 **Response:** The C&C committee reported their acceptance of his Hebrew and Greek
7 studies, the clerk is reminded to include this in the minutes.

8 **Exception: Jan 18, 2020** (*BCO* 21-4) – No record of requiring statement of
9 differences with our Standards.

10 **Response:** No exceptions to the Standards were taken, therefore no record was
11 included, the clerk is reminded to include this in the minutes.

12 **Exception: Jan 18, 2020; May 23, 2020; Oct 17, 2020; Jan 16, 2021** (*BCO* 13-9.b;
13 40-3) – Results of review of records of church Sessions not stated.

14 **Response:** Review of Session minutes shown in the minutes. I will make sure to
15 include wording that no exceptions were found.

16 **Exception: Jan 18, 2020; Oct 17, 2020** (*BCO* 5-9) – All specific requirements of
17 particularization of church not recorded.

18 **Response:** This petition following SR 121 was judged to be insufficient and returned
19 for improvement.

20 **Exception: Feb 18, 2020; Jul 21, 2020** (*BCO* 13-12) – Notice for called meeting not
21 in order.

22 **Response:** Duly noted, I will make every effort to include the notice appropriately in
23 the future.

24 **Exception: Feb 18, 2020** (*BCO* 13-12; *RAO* 16-3.c.1) – Purpose of called meeting
25 not recorded verbatim in the minutes.

26 **Response:** Duly noted, I will make every effort to include the purpose of the called
27 meeting, verbatim in the minutes.

28 **Exception: May 23, 2020** (*BCO* 13-11; *RAO* 16-3.e.7) – Minutes of executive session
29 not included.

30 **Response:** I acknowledge that this was an error on my part. I failed to submit the
31 minutes from the Executive Session along with the regular minutes. When Presbytery
32 arose from Executive Session they reported in the regular minutes and the
33 Commission was established.

34 **Exception: General 2020 & 2021** (*BCO* 13-9.b; 40-1) – Incomplete record of review
35 of records of church Sessions.

36 **Response:** Review of Session minutes shown in the minutes. I will make sure to
37 include wording that no exceptions were found.

38 **Exception: May 23, 2020; Oct 17, 2020** (*BCO* 15.1; *RAO* 16- 3.e.4) – Minutes of
39 commission not entered in Presbytery minutes.

40 **Response:** Commission had met on 2/21/20, it is possible that MNA Chairman did
41 not submit minutes to Presbytery and therefore were not included

42 **Exception: May 23, 2020** (*BCO* 5-3) – No record of temporary system of government
43 appointed for mission church.

44 **Response:** [church name omitted] Mission would be established upon installation of
45 TE [name omitted], MNA had not finalized the establishment of the temporary

1 Session at this stage. Per *BCO* 5-3.c a Temporary Session was established at 5/23/20
2 meeting.

3 **Exception: Oct 17, 2020** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16- 3.e.5) – Stated differences not judged
4 with the prescribed categories.

5 **Response:** The differences held by TE [name omitted], offered by the candidate in his
6 own words, were included in the appendix and were found to not be differences and
7 as such judged accordingly. I would be thankful for language which communicates
8 this adequately. TE [name omitted] did not take any exceptions as is noted in the
9 minutes.

10 **Exception: Oct 17, 2020** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16- 3.e.5) – All specific requirements of
11 ordination exam not recorded (PCA History exam).

12 **Response:** In both cases both Church and PCA History were examined, Clerk, using
13 *BCO* 21-4, is reminded to incorporate wording accordingly in future minutes.

14 **Exception: Oct 17, 2020** (*BCO* 15-2) – Commission appointed with fewer than two
15 teaching elders and two ruling elders.

16 **Response:** In order to properly examine both candidates, Presbytery divided into two
17 equal parts. I will endeavor to identify two TEs and two REs for each group for the
18 minutes in the future.

19 **Exception: Oct 17, 2020** (*BCO* 5-9.h; 15-1) – No organizing commission appointed
20 for particularization of a church.

21 **Response:** Duly Noted. Report of the Commission was received but not entered into
22 the official record.

23 **Exception: Jan 16, 2021** (*BCO* 15-1, 3) – There was a judicial commission formed
24 at the 7/21/2020 meeting, but there was no report concerning its “full statement of the
25 case and the judgment rendered” in 2020 or the present meeting. There is mention of
26 the judicial commission concluding its work and the accused appealing the decision
27 in the Stated Clerk’s Report (p. 6), but there is no record of the Presbytery’s judgment
28 on the case.

29 **Response:** The Investigative Commission reported on 7/21/2020 recommending that
30 Illiana proceed with Process. No written report was submitted. Illiana established a
31 Judicial Commission to proceed with Prosecution of the case. The case was tried on
32 10/24/2020. The judgment of the case was presented on 11/21/2020. The Judicial
33 Commission submitted their report to Illiana at that time. The resulting conviction
34 was appealed to the SJC which took up the case and a final judgment rendered on
35 10/21/2021.

36 **Exception: Jan 16, 2021** (*BCO* 42-6) – Motion made pursuant to *BCO* 42-6, but there
37 is no record of a continuing judicial process in the court’s record aside from the Stated
38 Clerk’s Report (p. 6).

39 **Response:** Per lines 51-52, continuing judicial process follows in the motion. The
40 Illiana Judicial Commission submitted their report on 11/21/2020. No comment was
41 made in the minutes as the resulting conviction was under appeal to the SJC which
42 took up the case and a final judgment rendered on 10/21/2021. The item in the Clerk’s
43 report was related to transcription costs initiated in the appeal process.

44 **Exception: Jan 16, 2021** (*BCO* 42-6) – Sufficient reasons for preventing a TE from
45 exercising all functions of office not recorded.

1 **Response:** This vote was taken after Presbytery reviewed the outcome of the case at
2 the 11/21/2020 meeting. TE [name omitted] at that time appealed to SJC.

3 **Exception: Jun 28, 2021 (BCO 13-2)** – Notice for called meeting not in order (no
4 record of 10-day notice).

5 **Response:** Details of when the notice is sent, have not been a normal part of the
6 Presbytery’s minutes. I will try to include that in future Called Meeting minutes.

7 **Exception: Jun 28, 2021 (BCO 13-6)** – No record of Presbytery from which TE is
8 transferring within the PCA.

9 **Response:** Duly noted, Clerk will seek to include this information in future minutes.
10 This information was included in the Clerk’s e-mail of 6/10/21, but not included in
11 the minutes

12 **Exception: Jun 28, 2021 (BCO 18-2, 3)** – All requirements for bringing a candidate
13 under care are not recorded (e.g., endorsement of Session, experiential religion)

14 **Response:** Candidate’s Personal Testimony is noted in the minutes including a sense
15 of call. The candidate comes forward with an endorsement by the Session, but I
16 recognize this was not noted in the minutes.

17 **Exception: Oct 16, 2021 (BCO 15.1; RAO 16-3.e.4)** – Minutes of judicial commission
18 not entered in Presbytery minutes.

19 **Response:** This vote was taken after Presbytery reviewed the outcome of the case at
20 the 11/21/2020 meeting. TE [name omitted] at that time appealed to SJC.

21 **Exception: General (BCO 13-9)** – No record of review of session minutes.

22 **Response:** Meeting dates are unknown and neither Called Meeting in 2019 was
23 related to review of Session Minutes. Clerk would appreciate additional information
24 in order to provide a response.

25 **e. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore**
26 **new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

27 **Exception: Oct 17, 2020 (BCO 21-4)** – Use of extraordinary clause for ordination
28 candidate not explained, and $\frac{3}{4}$ vote not recorded.

29 **Response:** Vote to approve extraordinary clause was unanimous.

30 **Rationale:** No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO 16-10.b.1*). The $\frac{3}{4}$
31 vote was explained by an unrecorded unanimous vote, but not the reason for using the
32 extraordinary clause (*BCO 21-4.d*).

33 **Exception: Oct 17, 2020 (BCO 22-5; Preliminary Principle 6)** – No record of
34 Sessions’ approval of men serving as Stated Supply.

35 **Response:** Clerk does not understand this exception. If the man is approved by
36 Presbytery to serve as Stated Supply it is assumed the Session requests his ministry,
37 what is additionally required to indicate their approval?

38 **Rationale:** No record that Presbytery corrected its actions (*RAO 16-10.b.1*). It cannot
39 be assumed that the Session approves of the Stated Supply solely on the basis of the
40 Presbytery’s approval.

41 **Exception: Jan 16, 2021 (BCO 19-9)** – No record of examination for internship.

42 **Response:** This was simply a procedural matter, required by the timing for
43 internships.

44 **Rationale:** No record that Presbytery corrected its actions (*RAO 16-10.b.1*).

- 1 **Exception: Jan 18, 2020** (*BCO* 13-9.c; 23-1) – No record of congregational meeting
 2 to consider pastoral resignation.
- 3 **Response:** The resignation and dissolution of the pastoral relationship came from the
 4 [church name omitted] Session to Presbytery. Congregational meeting details were
 5 not provided by C&C.
- 6 **Rationale:** Presbytery should ensure that the congregation’s voice was heard in the
 7 dissolution of pastoral relationship (*BCO* 23-1).
- 8 **f. That responses shall be submitted to the following GA as no responses were**
 9 **received in 2023:**
- 10 **Exception: General** (*RAO* 16-4.c.2) – *Standing Rules* not included.
- 11 **Exception: General** (*RAO* 16-10.a) – No record in minutes of exceptions taken by
 12 GA, and no responses to the Assembly concerning disposition of an exception of
 13 substance.
- 14
- 15 **31. That the Minutes of Iowa Presbytery:** *52-0-1*
- 16 a. Be approved without exception: **Nov 12, 2022.**
- 17 b. Be approved with exception of form: **Directory.**
- 18 c. Be approved with exception of substance:
- 19 1. **Exception: Feb 15, 2022** (*BCO* 13-12; *RAO* 16-3.c.1) – Purpose of called meeting
 20 not recorded verbatim in the minutes.
- 21 2. **Exception: Feb 15, 2022** (*BCO* 13-4) – No record of three TEs and three REs
 22 calling meeting.
- 23 3. **Exception: Feb 15, 2022; Mar 12, 2022; Jul 9, 2022** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5)
 24 – Stated differences not judged with the prescribed categories.
- 25 4. **Exception: Jul 9, 2022** (*BCO* 21-4) – No record of exam in PCA History.
- 26 5. **Exception: Jul 9, 2022** (*BCO* 19-16) – $\frac{3}{4}$ vote for waiving internship requirement
 27 not recorded.
- 28 6. **Exception: Jul 9, 2022** (*BCO* 19-1) – No record of licensure exam in body of the
 29 minutes.
- 30 **d. That the following response to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**
- 31 **Exception: General** (*BCO* 13-9.b; 40-3) – Incomplete record of review of records of
 32 church Sessions.
- 33 **Response:** Regarding the exceptions of substance that there was an incomplete
 34 recording of review of records of church sessions, during the time frame represented
 35 by these minutes Iowa presbytery had such a high number of churches looking for
 36 pastors that the Ad. Nom. Committee of Iowa Presbytery consisted of one teaching
 37 elder, our clerk. Recognizing the insufficient number of TE’s available, our clerk was
 38 not able to sufficiently deal with reviewing Session Minutes.
- 39 That committee size continued until near the end of 2022 so you will find some of the
 40 same empty spots in our 2022 minutes. However, with many of those pastoral
 41 vacancies being filled, that committee now has sufficient ruling and teaching elders to
 42 begin this task with renewed determination to carry out this task effectively. Thank
 43 you for your patience
- 44 **Exception: May 8, 2021** (*BCO* 13-6) – 10-day notice requirement was not stated for
 45 the called meeting.

1 **Response:** Upon reviewing email messages sent to those within the presbytery, email
2 records show that notice of the meeting was indeed sent out to those of the presbytery
3 on Sunday, April 11, 2021 at 8:50 p.m. We apologize for not noting that in the minutes
4 of that meeting.

5 **Exception: Jul 10, 2021; Nov 13, 2021** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – All specific
6 requirements of ordination exam not recorded.

7 **Response:** The minutes of July 10 do specifically say that “[name omitted] was
8 examined by the presbytery for ordination in all areas specified in *BCO* 21-4 and *RAO*
9 16-3.e.5.” Having said that, be assured that indeed, we did examine [name omitted] in
10 all areas. We recognize we did not include the checklist we normally do and apologize
11 for that. We will seek to do that more faithfully in the future.

12 Being reminded of that again regarding p.56 of our minutes, we assure you again of
13 our desire to record this more fully and faithfully in the future. Having said that Mr.
14 [name omitted] has not been examined for ordination, p.55 is in reference to a licensure
15 examination and appointment to stated supple. and therefore should not fall under the
16 ordination examination requirements. Though we do recognize we did not include the
17 checklist for licensure and normally do and apologize for that. We will seek to do that
18 more faithfully in the future.

- 19 e. **That the following responses to the 50th GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore**
20 **new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

21 **Exception: Jul 10, 2021** (*BCO* 42-1.e; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – Stated differences not judged
22 with prescribed categories.

23 **Response:** Brothers, as noted in the minutes cited, while the clerk was not present at
24 the meeting, he did contact the man who had been examined to have from him a
25 written recording of his own words regarding any exceptions he might have. The clerk
26 sought to make clear to the presbytery (and to RPR) that we do recognize the
27 importance of listing such differences and that the exception was included verbatim
28 in the minutes.

29 However, since the clerk could not be certain of the exact language shared at the
30 presbytery meeting, it did not seem either truthful nor wise to put words into the mouth
31 of the presbytery such as “*merely semantic*” or “*more than semantic, but “not out of*
32 *accord*”.

33 If you were to read minutes of previous years you would know that that has been and
34 remains our normal recording of this part of examinations. Yet, not wanting to record
35 an unusual event as if it were “normal” the minutes were recorded as they were. We
36 cannot change what was recorded and remind RPR that we will seek to return to our
37 “normal” method of recording such things just as we have sought faithfully to do since
38 the beginning of this presbytery.

39 **Rationale:** No record that Presbytery corrected its actions (*RAO* 16-10.b.1).
40 Presbytery has not reconsidered the stated differences in order to judge with prescribed
41 categories.

- 42
43 32. That the Minutes of **James River** Presbytery: 53-0-1
44 a. Be approved without exception: **None.**
45 b. Be approved with exception of form: **General 2022.**

- 1 c. Be approved with exception of substance:
 2 **1. Exception: Jan 15, 2022** (*BCO* 19-7; 19-16) – Internship less than one year, with
 3 no record of $\frac{3}{4}$ affirmative vote.
 4 **2. Exception: Jan 15, 2022; April 9, 2022; July 21, 2022; October 8, 2022** (*BCO*
 5 13-4) – Quorum declared but attendance sheet records no REs present.
 6 **3. Exception: Jul 21, 2022** (Preliminary Principle 6; *BCO* 16-2) – No record that
 7 members of temporary Session were approved by congregation.
 8 **d. No response to previous assemblies required.**
 9
- 10 33. That the Minutes of **Korean Capital** Presbytery: *55-0-1*
 11 a. Be approved without exception: **None.**
 12 b. Be approved with exception of form: **Apr 4, 2022; Oct 3, 2022.**
 13 c. Be approved with exception of substance:
 14 **1. Exception: Apr 4, 2022; Oct 3, 2022** (*RAO* 16-10.a) – No record in minutes of
 15 exceptions taken by GA.
 16 **2. Exception: Apr 4, 2022** (*BCO* 19-2; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – All specific requirements of
 17 licensure exam not recorded.
 18 **3. Exception: Apr 4, 2022** (*BCO* 19-16) – $\frac{3}{4}$ vote for waiving internship requirement
 19 not recorded.
 20 **4. Exception: Apr 4, 2022** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – Incomplete record of
 21 ordination exam.
 22 **5. Exception: Apr 4, 2022** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – Stated differences not
 23 judged with the prescribed categories.
 24 **6. Exception: Apr 4, 2022** (*BCO* 20-1) – No record of call to a definite work.
 25 **7. Exception: Apr 4, 2022** (*BCO* 13-6) – No record of examination of TE
 26 transferring into Presbytery.
 27 **8. Exception: Apr 4, 2022** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – Stated differences not
 28 judged with the prescribed categories.
 29 **9. Exception: Apr 4, 2022** (*BCO* 18-2) – No record of endorsement by candidates’
 30 Sessions.
 31 **10. Exception: Oct 3, 2022** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – Incomplete record of
 32 ordination exam.
 33 **11. Exception: Apr 4, 2022; Oct 3, 2022** (*BCO* 20-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.6) – No record that
 34 call was approved.
 35 **12. Exception: Apr 4, 2022** (*BCO* 18-2) – No record of six-months membership for
 36 candidates.
 37 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**
 38 **Exception: Apr 5, 2021** (*BCO* 23-1) – No record of congregation involvement when
 39 presbytery dissolved TE’s call.
 40 **Response:** TE [name omitted] was an assistant pastor of the church and his resignation
 41 was approved at the session before being requested to the presbytery. We will note the
 42 minutes accordingly.
 43 **Exception: Apr 5, 2021** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – Stated differences not judged
 44 with the prescribed categories.

1 **Response:** We apologize for not fully stating the specific category title “more than
2 semantic but not out of accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine” and
3 just using a shorthand. We will not the minutes accordingly

4 **Exception: Apr 5, 2021** (BCO 15-1; RAO 16-3.e.4) – Minutes of commission to
5 install not entered in Presbytery minutes.

6 **Response:** A blank minutes form was attached by mistake instead of the actual filled
7 out report. We will attach the actual report and note the minutes accordingly

8 **Exception: Oct 4, 2021** (BCO 25-11) – Improper approval of withdrawal of church
9 from the PCA.

10 **Response:** We did hear on the floor of the congregational meeting which approved
11 their withdrawal from PCA. We apologize for not recording the matter on the minutes.
12 We will be more diligent on checking such matters in the future and note the minutes
13 accordingly

14 **Exception: Oct 4, 2021** (BCO 15-2) – TE improperly installed as assistant minister.
15 No record of formation of a commission to install.

16 **Response:** The installation commission was not appointed at Oct 4, 2021 meeting.
17 The Action Commission, on behalf of the presbytery according to our bylaw 4.2.2.1,
18 did form, on its Oct 29, 2021 meeting, an installation commission for TE [name
19 omitted], which properly oversaw the installation at the church on Nov 14, 2021. The
20 report of the installation commission, dated “11/16/21” was attached to April 4, 2022
21 minutes, which is submitted to the 2023 RPR

22 **Exception: Oct 4, 2021** (BCO 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5) – Stated differences not judged
23 with the prescribed categories.

24 **Response:** We apologize for not recording the presbytery’s judgment, which was
25 “more than semantic but not out of accord with any fundamental of our system of
26 doctrine” in all three cases. We will note the minutes accordingly.

27 e. **That the following responses to the 50th GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore**
28 **new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

29 **Exception: Oct 4, 2021** (BCO 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5) – All specific requirements of
30 transfer exam not recorded.

31 **Response:** We apologize for not recording all the details fully. TE [name omitted]
32 was ordained at the Evangelical Church Alliance. We will note the minutes
33 accordingly

34 **Rationale:** Presbytery has not demonstrated that the specific requirements were
35 fulfilled.

36 **Exception: Apr 5, 2021** (BCO 13-11) – No Record of the February 26, 2021
37 Presbytery meeting.

38 **Response:** The “2/26/2021 meeting” mentioned in the middle of p. 5 is not referring
39 to a regular presbytery meeting but an action commission meeting. Our bylaw allows
40 the action commission to act on the matters of member resignation and other non-
41 controversial nature on behalf of the presbytery (note below), which calls for a timely
42 decision. The action commission includes at least two teaching elders and two ruling
43 elders so that it can act as a commission.

44 Korean Capital Presbytery ByLaws

45 4.2.2 The Action Commission

1 4.2.2.1 It shall resolve on the petitions which was received from the stated clerk and
 2 the matters submitted by the Presbytery, and it shall submit them to the Presbytery for
 3 an approval. Especially, when a pastor who has to leave his field before the next stated
 4 presbytery meeting requests for a dissolution of the pastoral relations, the commission
 5 may, within its judgment, decide to take up and resolve on the petition.

6 **Rationale:** The Presbytery has not provided the commission’s minutes for review.
 7

8 34. That the Minutes of **Korean Central** Presbytery: 55-0-1

9 a. Be approved without exception: **None.**

10 b. Be approved with exception of form: **Directory.**

11 c. Be approved with exception of substance:

12 **1. Exception: Oct 12-13, 2021; Apr 5-6, 2022** (*BCO* 24-1, 40-4, 11-4; *BCO Preface*
 13 II-6) – Minutes contain several references to men having passed ‘the examination
 14 for ruling elders.’ This appears to be the presbytery exercising oversight over who
 15 may be elected as a ruling elder.

16 **2. Exceptions: Oct 12-13, 2021; Apr 5-6, 2022** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – Stated
 17 differences not recorded in the minister’s/candidates own words.

18 **3. Exceptions: Oct 12-13, 2021** (*RAO* 16-4.c.1; *BCO* 40-4) – A number of TEs are
 19 named to be investigated but no record or explanation of their connection to the
 20 Korean Central Presbytery or the PCA can be found in the minutes or directory.

21 **4. Exception: Oct 12-13, 2021** (*BCO* 8-7; 20-1; *RAO* 16-3.c.1) – TEs laboring out
 22 of bounds with missing information as to how and where they are serving.

23 **5. Exception: Apr 5-6, 2022** (*BCO* 24-1, 40-4; Preliminary Principle 6) – Agenda
 24 item 10 indicates that the presbytery voted to add 2 new ruling elders to Vineyard
 25 Presbyterian Church. This is out of order and in conflict with the *BCO*. Each
 26 congregation decides how many ruling elders to elect.

27 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**

28 **Exception: General** (*Standing Rules* 2-4.2) – Presbytery did not convene two stated
 29 meetings OR minutes not submitted if Fall stated meeting convened. (Oct 13-14, 2020
 30 meeting minutes were submitted for review but these minutes were reviewed by the
 31 CRPR of the 48th GA).

32 **Response:** Korean Central Presbytery appreciates the Committee of Review of
 33 Presbytery Records attention to this matter but respectfully disagrees with this
 34 exception. Our stated meeting normally held in April of each year was cancelled in
 35 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We view this as a singularly extraordinary
 36 circumstance. We held our stated meeting the following October, and the minutes for
 37 this meeting were viewed by the CRPR of the 48th GA (as noted in the exception).

38 **Exception: General** (*BCO* 13-9.b, 40-1) – No record of review of records of church
 39 Sessions.

40 **Response:** Korean Central Presbytery agrees with this exception and apologizes for
 41 our error. As noted elsewhere in the amended CRPR report for the 49th GA, receiving
 42 session records seems to be a perennial challenge for many Korean-language
 43 presbyteries (see pp. 1259, lines 37-41; p. 1261, lines 10-11, 36-37; p. 1263, lines 12-
 44 13; p. 1270, lines 40-41; and especially p. 1266, lines 7-16). Having said this, we will

1 make every effort to be more diligent about requesting and reviewing these session
2 records in accordance with *BCO* 13-9.b.

3 **Exception: Standing Rules** – No provision in Standing Rules to allow for virtual
4 Presbytery meetings.

5 **Response:** Korean Central Presbytery agrees with this exception. Like many other
6 Presbyteries, we conducted our meetings online in 2020 and early/mid 2021 due to
7 the COVID pandemic. But we are seeking to correct this defect by proposing some
8 changes in our Standing Rules at our October 2022 stated meeting. If adopted by a 2/3
9 majority vote, these changes will make provisions for the Presbytery to hold virtual
10 meetings under specific circumstances. **[Note from Stated Clerk: We were not able
11 to discuss this proposed revision our Standing Rules because this agenda item
12 was postponed to a future meeting.]**

13 **Exception: Apr 13-14, 2021** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – Incomplete record of
14 ordination exam. (Bible, Greek and Hebrew not included).

15 **Response:** Korean Central Presbytery agrees with this exception and apologizes for
16 our error. We failed to record in our minutes that the Presbytery had accepted the
17 candidate's ([name omitted]) seminary degree which included study in Biblical
18 Hebrew and Greek "in lieu of an oral examination in the original languages" (*BCO*
19 21-4.c.1). In addition, Korean Central Presbytery usually tests candidates for their
20 knowledge of Bible content during the licensure exam in accordance with *BCO* 19-
21 2.b.2. We have corrected this omission in these minutes through a motion to amend
22 something previously adopted at our October 2022 stated meeting. **[Note from Stated
23 Clerk: Due to time constraints, the motions to amend something previously
24 adopted were postponed to our next stated meeting.]**

25 **Exception: Apr 13-14, 2021** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – All specifics requirements
26 of ordination exam not recorded.

27 **Response:** Korean Central Presbytery agrees with this exception and respectfully
28 refers the CRPR to our response to the previous exception

29 **Exception: Apr 13-14, 2021** (*BCO* 20-1) – No record of call to a definite work.

30 **Response:** Korean Central Presbytery agrees with this exception and apologizes for
31 our error. The candidate, [name omitted], had received a call to serve as a pastor at the
32 [church name omitted]. We have corrected this omission in our minutes through a
33 motion to amend something previously adopted at our October 2022 stated meeting.
34 **[Note from Stated Clerk: Due to time constraints, the motions to amend
35 something previously adopted were postponed to our next stated meeting.]**

36 **Exception: Apr 13-14, 2021** (*BCO* 21-4) – Stated differences not recorded in the
37 minister's/candidate's own words.

38 **Response:** Korean Central Presbytery respectfully disagrees with this exception. Our
39 minutes from this meeting note that the candidate, [name omitted], took no exceptions
40 to the Westminster Standards (p. 7).

41 **Exception: Apr 13-14, 2021** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – All specifics requirements
42 of ordination exam not recorded.

43 **Response:** Korean Central Presbytery agrees with this exception and apologizes for
44 our error. The minutes from this stated meeting note that the candidate, [name
45 omitted], successfully completed the requirements for "a theological paper, exegesis

1 of New Testament, sermons, Westminster Confession of Faith, and PCA history,” and
 2 he also preached a satisfactory sermon. The other requirements for the ordination
 3 exam were waived since the candidate had successfully completed them as he was
 4 undergoing the process in North Texas Presbytery, but we failed to note these specific
 5 requirements in our meeting minutes. We have corrected the above mistakes in our
 6 minutes through a motion to amend something previously adopted at our October
 7 2022 stated meeting, and we will be more careful in the future. **[Note from Stated
 8 Clerk: Due to time constraints, the motions to amend something previously
 9 adopted were postponed to our next stated meeting.]**

10 **Exception: Apr 13-14, 2021 (BCO 20-1)** – No record of call to a definite work.

11 **Response:** Korean Central Presbytery respectfully disagrees with this exception. Our
 12 minutes from this stated meeting note that the candidate, [name omitted], received
 13 approval to serve out of the boundaries of the Presbytery as a military chaplain (p. 8).

14 **Exception: Apr 13-14, 2021 (BCO 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5)** – Stated differences not
 15 recorded in the candidate’s own words.

16 **Response:** Korean Central Presbytery agrees with this exception. The candidate,
 17 [name omitted], had the following exception to the Westminster Standards:

18 *WCF 4.1: Six Days of Creation: I do not undermine or deny the historicity of creation.*
 19 *With the respect to the length of the “days,” I support the Analogical Day view.*
 20 *Genesis 1:1-2 starts with “in the beginning,” and it represents unknown length of*
 21 *beginning “day.” Therefore, our (human) workdays are different from God’s*
 22 *workdays. The Scripture does not provide a specific information to examine the*
 23 *specific length of the “day.” Analogical Day view claims that creation day sets the*
 24 *pattern of the work and rest. Therefore, the night and day description explains the*
 25 *pattern of the rest and the recovery from the work.*

26 We apologize for not recording this exception in the candidate’s own words, and we
 27 will be careful to do so in the future. We have corrected this omission in our minutes
 28 through a motion to amend something previously adopted at our October 2022 stated
 29 meeting. Note: The minutes from our April 2021 meeting note that the Presbytery
 30 judged that this stated difference was more than semantic, but “not out of accord with
 31 any fundamental of our system of doctrine” (p. 8). **[Note from Stated Clerk: Due to
 32 time constraints, the motions to amend something previously adopted were
 33 postponed to our next stated meeting.]**

34 **Exception: Apr 13-14, 2021 (BCO 21-5)** – No record that the Presbytery or a
 35 commission of the Presbytery would be convened for candidate’s ordination.

36 **Response:** Korean Central Presbytery agrees with this exception. The ordination
 37 service for this candidate, [name omitted], was held on May 9, 2021 at the [church
 38 name omitted]. The following were in attendance to lead this service: We apologize
 39 for our error in omitting these names in our meeting minutes. We have corrected this
 40 mistake through a motion to amend something previously adopted at our October 2022
 41 stated meeting, and we will be more careful in the future. **[Note from Stated Clerk:
 42 Due to time constraints, the motions to amend something previously adopted
 43 were postponed to our next stated meeting.]**

44 **Exception: Apr 13-14, 2021 (BCO 13-11; RAO 16-3.f.1)** – Motions and
 45 recommendations approved not completely recorded.

1 **Response:** Korean Central Presbytery appreciates the CRPR’s concern for this matter,
2 but we are unclear as to whether the committee is referring to any specific motion(s),
3 or our general approach to recording motions and recommendations in our minutes. If
4 the committee is referring the Presbytery’s handled of some accusations against some
5 of our members, we would refer CRPR to our responses to those exceptions above.
6 We would also respectfully request the committee’s understanding that due to the
7 composition of our membership, some motions are presented in Korean and others in
8 English. This presents a unique challenge for our secretary to record the motions
9 verbatim. Having said this, we will strive to do the latter as best as we are able.

10 **Exception: Jul 13, 2021 (BCO 13-12; RAO 16-3.c.1)** – Purpose of called meeting not
11 recorded verbatim in the minutes.

12 **Response:** Korean Central Presbytery agrees with this exception and apologizes for
13 our error. The purpose of this called meeting was to consider a complaint filed by nine
14 members against the Presbytery’s action at its April 2021 stated meeting. We have
15 corrected the above mistakes in our minutes through a motion to amend something
16 previously adopted at our October 2022 stated meeting, and we will be careful not to
17 repeat this mistake for future called meetings. [**Note from Stated Clerk: Due to time**
18 **constraints, the motions to amend something previously adopted were postponed**
19 **to our next stated meeting.**]

20 **Exception: Oct 13-14, 2020 (BCO 21-4)** – Stated difference not recorded in
21 candidate’s own words.; not judged according to prescribed categories (Mr. [name
22 omitted]; Mr. [name omitted]).

23 **Response [2022]:** All the candidates of KCP are required to submit the difference in
24 written form. KCP will attach candidate’s written form from now on. KCP believes
25 that we judged according to prescribed categories.

26 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery must submit the stated differences for review.

27 **Rationale [2023]:** Korean Central Presbytery agrees with this exception and
28 apologizes for our error. We will be more careful in the future to record any exceptions
29 to the Westminster Standards in the candidates’ own words (RAO 16-3.e.5). We have
30 corrected this omission in our minutes through a motion to amend something
31 previously adopted at our October 2022 stated meeting. The candidate for licensure,
32 [name omitted], noted the following exception to the Westminster Standards:

33 *I have a different view of the “Sabbath” than WFC Chapter 21-8. I affirm with the*
34 *Westminster statement that man needs to “observe a holy rest” on the Sabbath or*
35 *Lord’s day. This means that man is to be separate from work, so that the Sabbath day*
36 *looks different from other days. I affirm that man is not good at resting, there are many*
37 *activities that one may consider resting that in fact is “profaning the day by idleness”*
38 *(WLC 119). I believe that the specific definition of “holy rest” being that one should*
39 *rest from “their works, words, and thoughts about their worldly employments and*
40 *recreations” goes too far in its prohibitions. The statement “spend the whole time in*
41 *public and private exercises of worship” fails to allow for creational rest and*
42 *refreshment that can include such recreational activities as running, walking, and*
43 *other God-glorifying, family nurturing actives as WLC 121 affirms. To do Sabbath*
44 *worship and duties “all the day” and “the whole time” would seem at tension with the*
45 *great significance Scripture also teaches on rest.*

1 The minutes from this stated meeting record that the Presbytery’s Candidates and
 2 Credentials Committee judged this exception to be “more than semantic but “not out
 3 of accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine” (page 7). [**Note from**
 4 **Stated Clerk: Due to time constraints, the motions to amend something**
 5 **previously adopted were postponed to our next stated meeting.**]
 6 **Exception: Oct 13-14, 2020 (BCO 21-14)** – Stated difference not recorded in
 7 candidate’s own words.; not judged according to prescribed categories (Mr. [name
 8 omitted]).
 9 **Response [2022]:** All the candidates of KCP are required to submit the difference in
 10 written form. KCP will attach candidate’s written form from now on. KCP believes
 11 that we judged according to prescribed categories.
 12 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery must submit the stated differences for review.
 13 **Rationale [2023]:** Korean Central Presbytery agrees with this exception and
 14 apologizes for our error. We will be more careful in the future to record any exceptions
 15 to the Westminster Standards in the candidates’ own words (RAO 16-3.e.5). We have
 16 corrected this omission in our minutes through a motion to amend something
 17 previously adopted at our October 2022 stated meeting. The candidate for licensure,
 18 [name omitted], noted the following exception to the Westminster Standards
 19 *I confess that I subscribe to everything provided in the Westminster Confession of*
 20 *Faith, except for the listed below:*
 21 *XXI.8, regarding the keeping of the Sabbath day holy. I do not think that Scripture*
 22 *forbids a strict refraining from recreation, and that partaking in any form of recreation*
 23 *does not violate the keeping of the Sabbath day as holy. Therefore, I think that things*
 24 *such as having fellowship with other brothers and sisters in Christ through meals,*
 25 *conversing, reading a good book, playing sports, are things that don’t restrain the*
 26 *Sabbath, but help us worshipfully rest.*
 27 The minutes from this stated meeting record that the Presbytery’s Candidates and
 28 Credentials Committee judged this exception to be more than semantic but “not out
 29 of accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine” (page 8). We apologize for
 30 this omission, and we will be more careful in the future to record any exceptions to
 31 the Westminster Standards in the candidates’ own words (RAO 16-3.e.5). [**Note from**
 32 **Stated Clerk: Due to time constraints, the motions to amend something**
 33 **previously adopted were postponed to our next stated meeting.**]
 34 **Exception: Oct 13-14, 2020 (BCO 21-4)** – All specific requirements of ordination
 35 exam not recorded (Mr. [name omitted]).
 36 **Response [2022]:** KCP acknowledges the mistake, and we will be careful next time.
 37 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to submit amended minutes reflecting all specific
 38 requirements of ordination exam were administered.
 39 **Rationale [2023]:** Korean Central Presbytery agrees with this exception and
 40 apologizes for our error. We failed to record in our minutes that the Presbytery had
 41 accepted the candidate’s ([name omitted]) seminary degree which included study in
 42 Biblical Hebrew and Greek “in lieu of an oral examination in the original languages”
 43 (BCO 21-4.c.1). In addition, Korean Central Presbytery usually tests candidates for
 44 their knowledge of Bible content during the licensure exam in accordance with BCO
 45 19-2.b.2. The candidate also successfully validated his knowledge for PCA History

1 during his licensure examination in October 2018. We have corrected these omissions
2 in these minutes through a motion to amend something previously adopted at our
3 October 2022 stated meeting. **[Note from Stated Clerk: Due to time constraints,
4 the motions to amend something previously adopted were postponed to our next
5 stated meeting.]**

6 **Exception: Apr 18-19, 2017; Oct 10-11, 2017** (*BCO* 20-1; 20-6; *RAO* 16-3.e.6) – No
7 record that calls to TEs were examined and approved by Presbytery.

8 **Response [2022]:** KCP believes that there is no TEs who were not examined and
9 approved by Presbytery. We will keep making sure that all TEs who wants to transfer
10 to KCP will be examined properly.

11 **Rationale [2022]:** The exception addresses the TE’s call to a definite work and not
12 their examination. Presbytery must examine and review the call to a definite work.

13 **Rationale [2023]:** Korean Central Presbytery agrees with the exception and
14 apologizes for our error. The Presbytery examined and approved the call by [church
15 name omitted] as the candidate, [name omitted], was undergoing his licensure exam.
16 We have corrected this omission in our minutes through a motion to amend something
17 previously adopted at our October 2022 stated meeting. **[Note from Stated Clerk:
18 Due to time constraints, the motions to amend something previously adopted
19 were postponed to our next stated meeting.]**

20 **Exception:** (*BCO* 20-1; 20-6; *RAO* 16-3.e.6) – No record that calls to TEs were
21 examined and approved by Presbytery.

22 **Rationale [2023]:** Korean Central Presbytery agrees with the exception and
23 apologizes for our error. The Presbytery had examined and approved the calls for the
24 following candidates for who applied to transfer from other denominations:

25 Rev. [name omitted], called by [church name omitted]

26 Rev. [name omitted], called by [church name omitted]

27 Rev. [name omitted], called by [church name omitted]

28 Rev. [name omitted], called by [church name omitted]

29 We have corrected this omission in our minutes through a motion to amend something
30 previously adopted at our October 2022 stated meeting. **[Note from Stated Clerk:
31 Due to time constraints, the motions to amend something previously adopted
32 were postponed to our next stated meeting.]**

33 **Exception: Oct 10-11, 2017** (*BCO* 21-4) – Use of $\frac{3}{4}$ extraordinary clause not
34 explained for ordination exam.

35 **Response [2022]:** KCP acknowledges its mistake, and we will be careful next time.
36 There were three (3) transfer candidates at the October 2017 meeting. They came from
37 another denomination (Presbyterian Church in Korea – *Hapdong*). Ordinarily, a
38 transfer candidate takes written exams on all subjects, but for these three (3)
39 candidates, we conduct a part of the exam in *viva voce*. Also, KCP allowed a recorded
40 sermon substituting the floor sermon.

41 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to provide an explanation as to why it chose to
42 omit these parts by use of the extraordinary clause.

43 **Response [2023]:** Korean Central Presbytery agrees with this exception and
44 apologizes for our error. The $\frac{3}{4}$ clause was used for these four transfer candidates
45 due to the fact that our Presbytery’s standing rules at the time waived some of the

1 exam requirements for transfer candidates from denominations that have a fraternity
 2 relationship with PCA. We also realized at this time that this provision unfortunately
 3 contradicted the requirements of *BCO* 18-8 and 19-2. Given these circumstances, the
 4 Presbytery passed a motion to use the 3/4 extraordinary clause for the four transfer
 5 candidates, and then we amended our standing rules at the following stated meeting
 6 to bring them in line with the *BCO*. (The minutes from this meeting shows that two of
 7 the four candidates did not meet the 3/4 threshold and had to undergo further
 8 examination by our Candidates and Credentials Committee—see page 8.)

9 **e. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore**
 10 **new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

11 **Exception: Oct. 13-14, 2020** (*BCO* 31-2) – There is no record in the minutes as to
 12 how the Presbytery disposed of accusations against TE (Name Omitted), TE (Name
 13 Omitted), and TE (Name Omitted).

14 **Response:** Korean Central Presbytery appreciates the Committee of Review of
 15 Presbytery Records attention to this matter but respectfully disagrees with this
 16 exception. The minutes from our October 2020 stated meeting specifically record our
 17 decision to form an ad-committee to investigate the accusations against these
 18 Teaching Elders and report their findings at the next stated meeting (see page 10 under
 19 agenda item 8).

20 **Rationale:** Presbytery misunderstands the nature of the exception. The accusations
 21 from the October 13-14 meeting list several ministers as accused, and while an ad
 22 interim committee is formed, the April 2021 meeting says that there was a “session of
 23 court” against only one of the TE's in question, but makes no mention of any of the
 24 other previously mentioned TEs. Presbytery records have no indication as to what
 25 happened to those members, nor are they listed in their directory.

26 **Exception: April 13-14, 2021** (*BCO* 13-11, 31-2, 32-2, 32-3, 32-4, 32-5, 36-1, 36-5,
 27 37-3) – There is insufficient record in the minutes of actions taken by the Presbytery
 28 (as well as documents in support of those actions) pursuant to their handling of an
 29 ecclesiastical trial against TE (Name Omitted), such as, but not limited to the
 30 allegations against him, the recommendations from an ad interim committee appointed
 31 to consider these allegations, the indictment of the prosecutor, the imposition and
 32 removal of censure, and several additional motions related to this situation. These
 33 missing items need to be either recreated or collected and submitted to the 50th
 34 General Assembly.

35 **Response:** Korean Central Presbytery agrees with this exception and humbly
 36 apologizes for our oversight in this matter. We are submitting the following
 37 documents to the 50th General Assembly in response to this request by CRPR: (1) the
 38 original allegations against the TE as submitted to the Presbytery; (2) the findings and
 39 recommendations of the ad-interim committee as summarized in their report as
 40 received by the Presbytery; and (3) the minutes from this stated meeting, which
 41 summarizes our actions on the committee’s recommendations. In addition, some of
 42 the actions from this April 2021 were the subject of a complaint that was adjudicated
 43 by the Standing Judicial Commission in June 2022 (SJC Case 2021-11). While the
 44 SJC sustained the complaint against some of Presbytery’s procedural errors in this

1 matter, it also ruled that many of these defects were no longer correctable, including
2 the absence of an indictment from the prosecutor.

3 **Rationale:** Though Presbytery acknowledges their error and has sent some
4 documents, the report from the interim committee seems to be missing their respective
5 and referenced appendices (see: *RAO 16-3.e.8*), in addition to a letter of confession
6 from the confessing TE.

7 **Exception: Jul 13, 2021** (*BCO 13-11*) – Complaint sent to Presbytery not recorded in
8 Presbytery’s minutes.

9 **Response:** Korean Central Presbytery respectfully disagrees with this exception. The
10 original complaint was not included with the minutes for this called meeting due to
11 our understanding of *BCO 40-3*: “Proceedings in judicial cases, however, shall not be
12 dealt with under review and control when notice of appeal or complaint has been given
13 the lower court.” At the time CRPR held its meeting in June 2021, this complaint was
14 being adjudicated by the SJC. Now that the SJC has issued its final decision on this
15 case, we have submitted the complaint to the 50th General Assembly for review.

16 **Rationale:** While the CRPR does not have any judicial authority in cases being
17 adjudicated by a higher court such as the SJC, a full and accurate record of minutes
18 (including all referenced appendices, etc.) has not yet been submitted for review. (see:
19 *RAO 16-3.e.8*)
20

21 35. That the Minutes of **Korean Eastern Presbytery:** 55-0-0

22 a. Be approved without exception: **None.**

23 b. Be approved with exception of form: **Directory; General 2022.**

24 c. Be approved with exception of substance:

25 1. **Exception: General 2022** (*BCO 13-9.b; 40-1*) – No record of review of records
26 of church Sessions.

27 2. **Exception: General 2022** (*BCO 8-7*) – No record of annual report(s) of TE(s)
28 laboring out of bounds.

29 3. **Exception: May 15, 2022; Sep 13, 2022** (*BCO 18-2; 18-3*) – No record of
30 endorsement by candidate’s Session; no record of six-months membership for
31 candidate; no record of charges administered to candidate.

32 4. **Exception: May 15, 2022** (*BCO 15-2*) – Presbytery formed a commission to
33 oversee a church with fewer than two teaching elders and two ruling elders.

34 d. **That the following response to the 50th GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore a**
35 **new response shall be submitted to the following GA:**

36 **Exception: Mar 18, 2018** (*BCO 13-6*) – Received as a member but no record of
37 mechanism how it happened.

38 **Response:** The TE’s membership status was discussed on the floor and the KEP
39 approved to grant him a continual membership with the promise of attending stated
40 meeting and pay membership fee as required by the presbytery.

41 **Rationale:** A teaching elder must have a call to a definite work or be received as
42 Without Call (*BCO 13-5; 20-1*).

43 **Response [2023]:** The TE’s membership status was discussed on the floor and the
44 KEP approved to grant him a continual membership with the promise of attending
45 stated meeting and pay membership fee as required by the presbytery.

1 **Rationale [2023]:** A teaching elder’s membership status must be recorded in the
 2 Presbytery’s minutes when he is received. A teaching elder must have a call to a
 3 definite work or be received as Without Call (*BCO* 13-5; 20-1). Presbytery’s response
 4 does not address the previous rationale.

5 e. **That responses shall be submitted to the following GA as no responses were**
 6 **received in 2023:**

7 **Exception: Mar 10, 2020** (*BCO* 20-1) – No record that teaching elder transferring
 8 into the presbytery has a call to a definite work.

9 **Exception: Mar 10, 2020; Sep 15, 2020** (*BCO* 15.1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) – Minutes of
 10 commission not entered in subsequent Presbytery minutes.

11 **Exception: Mar 10, 2020** (*BCO* 13-8) – No record of examination of elders for a
 12 church that has petitioned to join the PCA.

13 **Exception: Sep 15, 2020; Sep 14, 2021** (*BCO* 8-7; 20-1) – Teaching Elders approved
 14 to minister out of bounds but with no record of a call to a definite work where they
 15 will be “engaged in preaching and teaching the Word ... [and] will have full freedom
 16 to maintain and teach the doctrine of our church.”

17 **Exception: Sep 15, 2020** (*BCO* 13-6) – Details of transfer exam not recorded.

18 **Exception: Sep 15, 2020; Mar 16, 2021** (*BCO* 20-1) – No record of call to a definite
 19 work.

20 **Exception: Sep 15, 2020; Mar 16, 2021** (*BCO* 21-4) – No record of requiring
 21 statement of differences with our Standards.

22
 23 36. That the Minutes of **Korean Northeastern** Presbytery: 55-0-1

24 a. Be approved without exceptions: **Sep 27, 2022.**

25 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **None.**

26 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance:

27 **1. Exception: Mar 8, 2022** (*BCO* 8-7; 20-1) – No record that Presbytery is assured
 28 that an out of bounds TE will have full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine
 29 of our Church or why Presbytery considers the out of bounds work to be a valid
 30 Christian ministry.

31 **d. No response to previous assemblies required.**

32
 33 37. That the Minutes of **Korean Northwest** Presbytery: 48-0-0

34 a. Be approved without exceptions: **None.**

35 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **None**

36 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance: **General 2022; Apr 18, 2022.**

37 **1. Exception: General 2022** (*BCO* 13-12) – Presbytery did not meet at least twice
 38 OR minutes not submitted (if Fall 2022 meeting happened).

39 **2. Exception: Apr 18, 2022** (*BCO* 13-6; 21-4) – Incomplete record of exam for
 40 minister seeking admission from another denomination.

41 **3. Exception: Apr 18, 2022** (*BCO* 21-4) – Incomplete record of ordination exam

42 **4. Exception: Apr 18, 2022** (*BCO* 21-4) – Incomplete record of ordination exam

43 **5. Exception: Apr 18, 2022** (*BCO* 12-5b) – The church Session has power to
 44 examine, ordain, and install ruling elders.

45 **6. Exception: Apr 18, 2022** (*BCO* 20-1) – No record of call to a definite work for

- 1 two ordination candidates and one transfer candidate
- 2 **7. Exception: Apr 18, 2022** (*BCO* 19-2; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – All specific requirements
- 3 of licensure exam not recorded.
- 4 **8. Exception: Apr 18, 2022** (*BCO* 24-1) – No record of complete RE exam for three
- 5 candidates.
- 6 **9. Exception: Apr 18, 2022** (*BCO* 18-6) – Annual reports of candidates not included.
- 7 **10. Exception: Apr 18, 2022** (*BCO* 18-6) – No record of intern reports.
- 8 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**
- 9 **Exception: General** (*BCO* 13-12) – Presbytery did not meet at least twice OR minutes
- 10 not submitted.
- 11 **Response:** The presbytery meeting was canceled due to strict regulation regarding
- 12 gathering during pandemic in the State of California. There was no time and resource
- 13 for the presbytery to prepare for alternate option. The fall presbytery meeting decided
- 14 to allow the virtual meetings in case of emergencies.
- 15 **Exception: Standing Rules** – No provision in *Standing Rules* to allow for virtual
- 16 Presbytery meetings.
- 17 **Response:** This issue was addressed during the presbytery meeting and the presbytery
- 18 pass the motion to modify the *Standing Rules* of the presbytery to allow the virtual
- 19 meetings in case of the emergency like pandemic.
- 20 **Exception: Oct 11, 2021** (*BCO* 13-9.b; 40-1) – No record of review of records of
- 21 church Sessions.
- 22 **Response:** The reviews will be reported and submitted this spring presbytery in April.
- 23 **Exception: General** (*BCO* 13-9b) – No record of review of records of church
- 24 sessions.
- 25 **Response:** This issue has been noted and the reviews will be reported and submitted
- 26 this spring presbytery in April.
- 27 **Exception: Apr 24, 2017; Oct 9, 2017** (*BCO* 12-5) – Power to examine, ordain, and
- 28 install ruling elders belongs to the Session.
- 29 **Response:** This issue has been addressed and the presbytery passed the motion to
- 30 accept the request for the delegation from the sessions to examine the ruling elders.
- 31 This issue has been addressed and now the Examination Committee has been
- 32 recording all specific requirements of ordination exam and it has been recorded in the
- 33 minutes.
- 34 **Exception: General 2019 & 2020** (*BCO* 13-9.b) – No record of review of church
- 35 Session records.
- 36 **Response:** This issue has been noted and the reviews will be reported and submitted
- 37 this spring presbytery in April.
- 38 **Exception: Apr 8, 2019** (*BCO* 13-11) – Inaccurate record of attendance. No list of
- 39 excused/unexcused absences, no list of churches represented.
- 40 **Response:** This issue has been addressed and the attendance has been specified in the
- 41 presbytery minutes.
- 42 **Exception: Apr 8, 2019; Sep 30, 2019** (*BCO* Preliminary Principle 6; *BCO* 24-1) –
- 43 Improper exercise of Presbytery authority. Presbytery may not require churches to
- 44 request Presbytery permission to elect Ruling Elders.
- 45 **Response:** This issue has been addressed and the presbytery no longer requires

- 1 churches to request presbytery permission to elect Ruling Elders.
2 **Exception: Apr 8, 2019; Sep 30, 2019** (*BCO* 12-3) – No record that interim
3 moderators were approved by Sessions.
4 **Response:** This issue has been noted and the future minutes will include the recording
5 from the sessions of the approval of the interim moderators.
- 6 e. **That the following responses to the 50th GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore**
7 **new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**
8 **Exception: Apr 24, 2017** (*BCO* 21-4) – All specific requirements of ordination exam
9 not recorded.
10 **Response:** This issue has been addressed and now the Examination Committee has
11 been recording all specific requirements of ordination exam and it has been recorded
12 in the minutes.
13 **Rationale [2023]:** *RAO* 16-10.b.1 notes that when a Presbytery agrees with an
14 exception of substance, it should also correct its record (if possible). Please correct
15 the minutes from this meeting.
16 **Exception: Apr 24, 2017; Oct 9, 2017** (*BCO* 21-4) – No record of requiring statement
17 of differences with our Standards.
18 **Response:** This issue has been noted and to be addressed from the fall presbytery of
19 2022.
20 **Rationale [2023]:** *RAO* 16-10.b.1 notes that when a Presbytery agrees with an
21 exception of substance, it should also correct its record (if possible). Please correct
22 the minutes from these meetings by providing the statement of differences.
23 **Exception: Apr 24, 2017** (*BCO* 20-1) – No record of call to a definite work.
24 **Response:** This issue has been noted will be addressed in the future minutes.
25 **Rationale [2023]:** *RAO* 16-10.b.1 notes that when a Presbytery agrees with an
26 exception of substance, it should also correct its record (if possible). Please correct
27 the minutes from this meeting.
28 **Exception: Apr 24, 2017** (*BCO* 19-13) – Approval of internship for ordination not
29 recorded.
30 **Response:** This issue has been noted will be addressed in the future minutes
31 **Rationale [2023]:** *RAO* 16-10.b.1 notes that when a Presbytery agrees with an
32 exception of substance, it should also correct its record (if possible). Please correct
33 the minutes from this meeting.
34 **Exception: Oct 9, 2017** (*BCO* 13-6) – Incomplete record of transfer exam – no
35 indication of transferee’s previous denomination
36 **Response:** This issue has been noted will be addressed in the future minutes.
37 **Rationale [2023]:** *RAO* 16-10.b.1 notes that when a Presbytery agrees with an
38 exception of substance, it should also correct its record (if possible). Please correct
39 the minutes from this meeting.
40 **Exception: Apr 9, 2018** (*BCO* 20-1) – No record of call to a definite work.
41 **Response:** This issue has been noted will be addressed in the future minutes
42 **Rationale [2023]:** *RAO* 16-10.b.1 notes that when a Presbytery agrees with an
43 exception of substance, it should also correct its record (if possible). Please correct
44 the minutes from this meeting.
45 **Exception: Apr 9, 2018** (*BCO* 21-4) – All specific requirements of ordination exam

1 not recorded.

2 **Response:** This issue has been addressed and now the Examination Committee has
3 been recording all specific requirements of ordination exam and it has been recorded
4 in the minutes.

5 **Rationale [2023]:** *RAO* 16-10.b.1 notes that when a Presbytery agrees with an
6 exception of substance, it should also correct its record (if possible). Please correct
7 the minutes from this meeting.

8 **Exception: General** (*BCO* 40-1) – No record of review of session minutes.

9 **Response [2018]:** We have a committee that reviews them each presbytery meeting.
10 Many times, churches forget to bring them. We will be more diligent in this matter to
11 ensure that sessional records are reviewed under *BCO* 40-1.

12 **Rationale [2018]:** Please supply a record of presbytery action reviewing 2014 Session
13 minutes.

14 **Response [2023]:** It has been too long to review of the 2014 Session minutes, while
15 apologizing about this issue, the presbytery noted issue will record the review of the
16 session minutes annually.

17 **Rationale [2023]:** *RAO* 16-10.b.1 notes that when a Presbytery agrees with an
18 exception of substance, it should also correct its actions (if possible) and correct its
19 record (if possible). Please review the 2014 session minutes, if possible. If this is no
20 longer possible, please include the response from the sessions in the Presbytery’s
21 minutes.

22 **Exception: General** (*RAO* 16-10.a) – No response to the Assembly concerning
23 disposition of any exceptions of substance.

24 **Response [2018]:** We apologize for not responding on time. It is not the attitude of
25 the presbytery and its members to rebel or disrespect. It was the fault of the clerk and
26 he apologizes and asks for forgiveness.

27 **Rationale [2018]:** Please provide responses to presbytery exceptions of substance for
28 2014, 2013, and 2011.

29 **Response [2023]:** Again, it has been too long to provide responses to presbytery
30 exceptions. While apologizing about this issue, it can be assured that we will submit
31 the proper exception of substance in the future.

32 **Rationale [2023]:** Respectfully, *RAO* 16-10.b.1 notes that when a Presbytery agrees
33 with an exception of substance, it should also correct its record (if possible) and
34 correct its actions (if possible). Please provide responses to previous exceptions.

35 **Exception: Apr 13, 2015** (*BCO* 21-4) – No record of candidate meeting all
36 qualifications for ordination.

37 **Rationale [2018]:** Please provide a record of the revised minutes and the record of
38 presbytery’s revision including statement of stated differences in candidate’s own
39 words and presbytery’s categorization of the differences.

40 **Response [2023]:** It has been too long and I am not authorized to revise the minutes
41 (especially as a newly elected stated clerk); as far as I know, once approved minutes
42 cannot be revised. However, the presbytery addressed this issue and has been
43 recording of candidates meeting all qualifications for ordination.

44 **Rationale [2023]:** *RAO* 16-10.b.1 notes that when a Presbytery agrees with an
45 exception of substance, it should also correct its record (if possible).

- 1 **Exception: Apr 13, 2015** (*RAO* 16-3.e.5) – All specific requirements of exam not
2 recorded.
- 3 **Response [2018]:** Our examination committee keeps record of all the parts and details
4 of the exam and just gives final report to the presbytery. We will do better job of
5 recording requirements in our minutes in the future. We have revised our minutes to
6 show required parts are approved and that the exam as a whole was approved.
- 7 **Rationale [2018]:** Please provide a record of the revised minutes and the record of
8 presbytery’s revision including statement of differences in candidate’s own words and
9 presbytery’s categorization of the differences.
- 10 **Response [2023]:** It has been too long and I am not authorized to revise the minutes
11 (especially as a newly elected stated clerk); as far as I know, once approved minutes
12 cannot be revised. However, the presbytery addressed this issue and has been
13 recording the all specific requirements of exam.
- 14 **Rationale [2023]:** *RAO* 16-10.b.1 notes that when a Presbytery agrees with an
15 exception of substance, it should also correct its record (if possible).
- 16 **Exception: Apr 13, 2015** (*BCO* 21-4, *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – No record of candidate’s stated
17 differences, if any.
- 18 **Response [2018]:** We will keep clear record of statement of differences with
19 standards in the future.
- 20 **Rationale [2018]:** Please provide a record of the revised minutes and the record of
21 presbytery’s revision including statement of differences in candidate’s own words and
22 presbytery’s categorization of the differences.
- 23 **Response [2023]:** It has been too long and I am not authorized to revise the minutes
24 (especially as a newly elected stated clerk); as far as I know, once approved minutes
25 cannot be revised. However, the presbytery addressed this issue and has been
26 recording the candidate’s stated difference according to their own wording.
- 27 **Rationale [2023]:** *RAO* 16-10.b.1 notes that when a Presbytery agrees with an
28 exception of substance, it should also correct its record (if possible). [*RONR* (12th ed.)
29 48:15 also allows a deliberative body to correct its minutes through a motion to
30 Amend Something Previously Adopted.]
- 31 **Exception: General 2019** (*BCO* 13-5) – TEs on roll without explanation. Apr 8, 2019
32 meeting listed 32 total TEs and Sep 30, 2019 meeting listed 36 total TEs.
- 33 **Response:** This issue has been addressed and the rolls has been specified in the
34 presbytery minutes.
- 35 **Rationale [2023]:** *RAO* 16-10.b.1 notes that when a Presbytery agrees with an
36 exception of substance, it should also correct its record (if possible). [*RONR* (12th ed.)
37 48:15 also allows a deliberative body to correct its minutes through a motion to
38 Amend Something Previously Adopted.] Please include record of ordination(s) and/or
39 reception of transfer(s), if applicable.
- 40 **Exception: Apr 8, 2019; Sep 30, 2019; Oct 13, 2020** (*BCO* 20-1; 13-7) - No record
41 of call to definite work for ministers transferring from another denomination.
- 42 **Response:** This issue has been noted and began to be addressed from the fall
43 presbytery of 2022
- 44 **Rationale [2023]:** *RAO* 16-10.b.1 notes that when a Presbytery agrees with an
45 exception of substance, it should also correct its record (if possible). [*RONR* (12th ed.)

1 48:15 also allows a deliberative body to correct its minutes through a motion to
2 Amend Something Previously Adopted.] Please correct the minutes from these
3 meetings.

4 **Exception: Oct 11, 2021** (*BCO* 5-3) – No record of temporary government for
5 organizing a mission church.

6 **Response:** A local church’s session was acting as a temporary government for
7 organizing a mission church but it was not recorded in the minute. This issue has been
8 noted and will be addressed from the future presbytery meetings.

9 **Rationale [2023]:** *RAO* 16-10.b.1 notes that when a Presbytery agrees with an
10 exception of substance, it should also correct its record (if possible). Please correct
11 the minutes from this meeting.

12 **Exception: Oct 11, 2021** (*BCO* 19-2; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – All specific requirements of
13 licensure exam not recorded.

14 **Response:** The presbytery has been taking licensure exam according to guidelines of
15 *BCO* 19-2 but it was not recorded in the previous minutes. This issue has been noted
16 and will be addressed from the future minutes.

17 **Rationale [2023]:** *RAO* 16-10.b.1 notes that when a Presbytery agrees with an
18 exception of substance, it should also correct its record (if possible).

19 **Exception: Oct 11, 2021** (*BCO* 19-3) – No record of questions for licensure.

20 **Response:** This issue has been noted and will be addressed from the future presbytery
21 meetings.

22 **Rationale [2023]:** *RAO* 16-10.b.1 notes that when a Presbytery agrees with an
23 exception of substance, it should also correct its record (if possible).

24 **Exception: Oct 11, 2021** (*BCO* 13-6; 21-4) – Incomplete record of transfer exam for
25 minister from another denomination.

26 **Response:** The presbytery has been taking transfer exam according to guidelines of
27 *BCO* 21-4 but it was not recorded in the previous minutes. This issue has been noted
28 and will be addressed from the future minutes.

29 **Rationale [2023]:** *RAO* 16-10.b.1 notes that when a Presbytery agrees with an
30 exception of substance, it should also correct its record (if possible).

31 **Exception: Oct 11, 2021** (*BCO* 20-1, 20-9; 21-1) – No record of a call to a definite
32 work for ministers transferring from another denomination.

33 **Response:** This issue has been noted and will be addressed from the future presbytery
34 meeting.

35 **Rationale [2023]:** *RAO* 16-10.b.1 notes that when a Presbytery agrees with an
36 exception of substance, it should also correct its record (if possible).

37 **Exception: Oct 11, 2021** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16- 3.e.5) – Stated differences not
38 recorded in the candidate’s own words.

39 **Response:** This issue has been noted and began to be addressed from the fall
40 presbytery of 2022.

41 **Rationale [2023]:** *RAO* 16-10.b.1 notes that when a Presbytery agrees with an
42 exception of substance, it should also correct its record (if possible).

43 **Exception: Oct 11, 2021** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – Stated differences not judged
44 with the prescribed categories.

45 **Response:** This issue has been noted and began to be addressed from the fall

- 1 presbytery of 2022.
 2 **Rationale [2023]:** *RAO* 16-10.b.1 notes that when a Presbytery agrees with an
 3 exception of substance, it should also correct its record (if possible).
 4 **Exception: Oct 13, 2020** (*BCO* 13-8) – No record of commission of Presbytery
 5 meeting with church ruling elders before receiving the church into its membership.
 6 **Response:** This issue has been addressed and now the Examination Committee has
 7 been recording all specific requirements of ordination exams for the ministers
 8 transferring from another denomination and it has been recorded in the minutes.
 9 **Rationale [2023]:** *RAO* 16-10.b.1 notes that when a Presbytery agrees with an
 10 exception of substance, it should also correct its record (if possible). Please submit the
 11 commission report for review.
 12 **Exception: Apr 8, 2019; Sep 30, 2019; Oct 13, 2020** (*BCO* 21-4; 13-6) – Incomplete
 13 record of transfer exams for ministers transferring from another denomination.
 14 **Response:** This issue has been addressed and now the Examination Committee has
 15 been recording all specific requirements of ordination exams for the ministers
 16 transferring from another denomination and it has been recorded in the minutes.
 17 **Rationale [2023]:** *RAO* 16-10.b.1 notes that when a Presbytery agrees with an
 18 exception of substance, it should also correct its record (if possible). Please correct
 19 the minutes from these meetings.
 20 **Exception: Apr 24, 2017; Oct 9, 2017** (*BCO* 21-4) – No record of requiring statement
 21 of differences with our Standards.
 22 **Response:** This issue has been noted and to be addressed from the fall presbytery of
 23 2022.
 24 **Rationale [2023]:** *RAO* 16-10.b.1 notes that when a Presbytery agrees with an
 25 exception of substance, it should also correct its record (if possible). Please correct
 26 the minutes from these meetings.
 27 **f. That a response shall be submitted to the following GA as no approved response**
 28 **was received in 2022.**
 29 **Exception: Oct 9, 2017** (*BCO* 19-2) – All specific requirements of licensure exam
 30 not recorded.
 31
 32 38. That the Minutes of **Korean Southeastern** Presbytery: *56-0-1*
 33 a. Be approved without exceptions: **Apr 4, 2022; Jun 28, 2022; Aug 16, 2022; Oct 3,**
 34 **2022; Oct 31, 2022.**
 35 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **Directory; General 2022.**
 36 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance:
 37 **1. Exception: Standing Rules** (*BCO* 34-10) – The process outlined in the *Standing*
 38 *Rules* is at variance with the process outlined in *BCO* 34-10.
 39 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**
 40 **Exception: Oct 4, 2021** (*BCO* 13-9; 40-1) – Incomplete record of review of records
 41 of church Sessions.
 42 **Response:** KSEP apologizes for the incomplete record. Our Session Records Review
 43 Committee has reviewed the records of Sessions that have submitted their records.
 44 However, a number of church Sessions have not submitted their records as they have

1 been asked to. Again, we apologize for the incomplete record but we are working on
2 complying per *BCO* 13-9 and 40-1.

3 **e. The following responses to the 50th GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore new**
4 **responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

5 **Exception: Oct 4, 2021** (*BCO* 38-3.a, b) – No record of whether departing TEs were
6 categorized according to *BCO* 38-3.a or b.

7 **Response:** KSEP apologizes for this error and agrees with CRPR. We have amended
8 our minutes to reflect that the withdrawing TEs were members in good standing per
9 *BCO* 38-3.a as follows:

10 3. Removal from Presbytery roll

- 11 a. The following members of KSEP in good standing have requested to withdraw
12 from the PCA to affiliate with other denominations: [names omitted]

13 **Rationale:** The issue in *BCO* 38-3 is not the standing of the TEs in the Presbytery but
14 the nature of the denomination with which they are affiliating.

15
16 39. That the Minutes of **Korean Southern Presbytery:** 55-0-0

- 17 a. Be approved without exception: **None.**
18 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **Directory.**
19 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance:

20 **1. Exception: Standing Rules** (*BCO* 34-10) – The provision of Article 2 Section 7
21 appears to have the effect of *BCO* 34-10, but without process. It automatically
22 cancels the membership of a supported TE laboring abroad who does not report
23 for more than three years.

24 **2. Exception: Standing Rules** (*BCO* 24-1, Preliminary Principle 6) – The provision
25 of Article 13 Section 54 appears to conflict with *BCO* 24-1. It states, “The elected
26 ruling elder shall be guided by the Session to be examined by the Presbytery and
27 be installed within one year after passing the Presbytery’s examination.”

28 **3. Exception: Jul 6, 2020** (*BCO* 13-12; *RAO* 16-3.c.1) – Purpose of called meeting
29 not recorded verbatim in minutes.

30 **4. Exception: Oct 18-19, 2021** (*BCO* 13-4) – No record of quorum for meeting.

31 **5. Exception: Apr 18, 2022** (*BCO* 13:9.b; 40-1) – No record of review of records of
32 church Sessions.

33 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**

34 **Exception: Oct 19, 2020** (*BCO* 20-1) – No record of call to a definite work.

35 **Response:** A non-PCA church with some members but no church building joined
36 PCA church with very few members and church building. So the two congregations
37 decided to be united with two pastors together. The united congregation approved for
38 the two pastors to work as one pastor. For example, for one week, one pastor leads
39 Sunday morning worship and the other Wednesday evening worship, then they
40 exchanged the duty each other for the next week. Therefore, the Presbytery did not
41 record the call of the non-PCA pastor because of his same call of ministry even though
42 the situation was not an ordinary case. Anyway we understand that the record of a call
43 should be done even in this case. In the future, we will be more careful for not missing
44 record of call.

1 **Exception: Oct 19, 2020** (*BCO* 13-6, 21-4) – No record of requiring statement of
2 differences with our standards.

3 **Response:** We tested and checked but found no differences with our standards.
4 However, we failed to record the results in the minute. We are sorry about it. Next
5 time, we will record the results even though there are no differences.

6 **Exception: Oct 19, 2020** (*BCO* 21-5) – No record that Presbytery installed pastor
7 following approved exam.

8 **Response:** We assumed and recognized the installation of the pastor in a joint
9 ministry. However, we did not record the installation because of his continuous
10 ministry only in the different place with nearly almost same members in the united
11 congregation.

12 **Exception: Oct 19, 2020** (*BCO* Part II) – Unclear record of a judicial matter.

13 **Response:** We dealt this matter by holding the 78th Special Presbytery Meeting on
14 July 6, 2020. We attach the minute for your reference. We are very sorry for not having
15 submitted that minute by mistake

16 **Exception: Oct 19, 2020** (*BCO* 23-1) – All specific requirements of ordination exam
17 not recorded.

18 **Response:** We recorded only the results of “Preaching Tests” and “Floor Tests”. We
19 should record the exam subjects but failed. Before these two tests, we tested 7 subjects
20 of Bible, Theology, Sacraments, Church History, PCA History, *BCO*, and Thesis and
21 all candidates passed all of these 7 subjects. So we did preaching tests and floor tests.
22 In the future, we surely will record the complete exam subjects in the minute.

23 **Exception: Oct 19, 2020; Apr 19, 2021** (*BCO* 13-8) – Presbytery received a new
24 church into its membership without examining its ruling elders.

25 **Response:** The concerned Ecclesiastical Committee tested and interviewed the ruling
26 elders of that church. However the report made on April 19, 2021 by the Committee
27 missed the RE exam results. We will not make such a mistake again. By the way, this
28 church is not the non-PCA predecessor of [church name omitted] which had no ruling
29 elder.

30 **Exception: Oct 19, 2020** (*BCO* 13-10) – No record of transfer or dismissal of
31 members upon dissolving a church.

32 **Response:** This case is that [church name omitted] Church was united to [church name
33 omitted] Presbyterian Church. All the members of [church name omitted] Church
34 joined [church name omitted] Church. Therefore, there was neither dismissal of
35 members nor dissolving of a church. Just the two churches unified under the one
36 existing name of [church name omitted].

37 **e. That the following response to the 50th GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore a**
38 **new response shall be submitted to the following GA:**

39 **Exception: Oct 19, 2020; Apr 19, 2021** (*BCO* 13-9.b, 40-3) – Results of review of
40 records of church Sessions not stated.

41 **Response:** Although we strongly recommend member churches to make their Session
42 Minutes be checked by the Presbytery, the results are not good yet. Because some
43 churches submit their Session minutes annually, every Presbytery minute can not
44 contain the record of the review results. Anyway, we will continue encouraging the
45 member churches regarding this matter.

1 **Rationale:** Presbytery needs to approve its review of 2020-21 Session records and
2 report its actions to the Assembly.

3 **Exception: Apr 19, 2021 (BCO 34-10)** – Presbytery adopted a rule that ministers
4 without call for three years are “automatically removed by the decision of the
5 Presbytery,” contravening the process required by *BCO* 34-10, including the
6 requirements for a 2/3 vote, an inquiry into the cause of his dereliction, notification
7 following the initial vote, and a second vote at the subsequent stated meeting.

8 **Response:** We just put some limitations for the period of TE’s no call situations.
9 Surely, the decision of the Presbytery should follow the *BCO* 34-10. Clearly, we
10 referenced *BCO* 34-10 in the Article 2, Section 5 in Presbytery *Standing Rules*.

11 **Rationale:** While Presbytery’s diligence is commendable, the rule as presently
12 worded is in conflict with the required process of *BCO* 34-10 in that it contains the
13 phrase “shall be automatically removed.”

14 **Exception: Oct 21, 2019 (BCO 13-9, 24-1)** – Examination of RE is not under the
15 purview of the presbytery’s jurisdiction, rather the local session.

16 **Response [2022]:** Although the minute records the results of the RE tests in the
17 “Report of Examination Committee” on page 10 at the item# 20, the test areas were
18 not recorded. We are very sorry for not recording in detail. But in the future, we will
19 pay more attention for this matter. The RE installation was not administered by the
20 local session.

21 **Rationale [2022]:** It is unclear how this is a response to the exception. Why was this
22 RE reviewed by Presbytery and the installation not administered by the local Session?
23 **[p. 4, Credential Committee]**

24 **Response [2023]:** At that time, the church was a mission church which had not her
25 own Session to test a ruling elder. According to Article 13, Section 49 in Presbytery
26 *Standing Rules*, “Examinations for a ruling elder shall be done by the church’s
27 petition”, the church requested to do that work on behalf of her. So Presbytery
28 answered to the request.

29 **Rationale:** *BCO* 5-3 provides several forms for temporary government for mission
30 church and a mission church must have a temporary government, and that government
31 must examine ruling elders.

32 **Exception: Oct 19, 2020 (BCO 21-6)** – No congregation present at
33 ordination/installation service of its pastor. No questions asked of the congregation.

34 **Response:** We ordained not a pastor but an assistant pastor of a local member church
35 at the Presbytery Meeting not at the local church. There was no congregation to give
36 questions. Later, the assistant pastor started to work at that church.

37 **Rationale:** There remains no evidence that congregation or Session was asked the
38 questions of *BCO* 21-6.

39 **f. That a response shall be submitted to the following GA as no response was**
40 **received in 2023:**

41 **Exception: Oct 19, 2020 (BCO 13-6)** – All specific requirements of transfer exams
42 not recorded.

43
44 40. That the Minutes of **Korean Southwest** Presbytery:

52-0-0

45 a. Be approved without exceptions: **None.**

- 1 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **General 2022; Mar 15, 2022; Jul 7, 2022; Sep**
 2 **13, 2022.**
- 3 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance:
- 4 **1. Exception: General 2022 (BCO 8-7)** – No record of annual report(s) of TE(s)
 5 laboring out of bounds.
- 6 **2. Exception: General 2022 (BCO 13-9)** – No record of review of records of church
 7 Sessions.
- 8 **3. Exception: Bylaws (BCO 24-1)** – Ruling elders are called by the local church and
 9 trained per session requirements. Presbytery does not have jurisdiction to dictate
 10 length of training.
- 11 **4. Exception: Bylaws (BCO 24-1)** – Presbytery does not have jurisdiction to dictate
 12 a vote of confidence for elders/session members in a particular church.
- 13 **5. Exception: Mar 15, 2022; Jul 7, 2022 (BCO 23-1)** – No record that
 14 Congregation/Session concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.
- 15 **6. Exception: Mar 15, 2022 (BCO 24-1)** – The church session has jurisdiction
 16 concerning examining RE’s. Presbytery does not have jurisdiction to review and
 17 approve RE written exams.
- 18 **7. Exception: Mar 15, 2022 (BCO 19-2; RAO 16-3.e.5)** – All specific requirements
 19 of licensure exam not recorded. [Missing Christian Experience/Inward Call Yuma
 20 Takei, Jakyung Koo]
- 21 **8. Exception: Mar 15, 2022 (BCO 21-4)** – Incomplete record of ordination exam.
- 22 **9. Exception: Mar 15, 2022; Sep 13, 2022 (BCO 21-4)** – No record of requiring
 23 statement of differences with our Standards.
- 24 **10. Exception: Mar 15, 2022; Sep 13, 2022 (BCO 21-4)** – No record of call to a
 25 definite work.
- 26 **11. Exception: Mar 15, 2022; Sep 13, 2022 (BCO 13-6; 21-4)** – Incomplete record
 27 of exam for minister seeking admission from another denomination.
- 28 **12. Exception: Mar 15, 2022 (BCO 15-1)** – Referred to as a committee and not a
 29 commission.
- 30 **13. Exception: Jul 7, 2022 (BCO 13-12)** – Notice for called meeting not in order.
- 31 **14. Exception: Sep 13, 2022 (BCO 13-6)** – Incomplete record of examination of TE
 32 transferring into Presbytery.
- 33 **15. Exception: Sep 13, 2022 (BCO 34-10)** – No record of process to remove TE’s
 34 from the roll.
- 35 **16. Exception: Sep 13, 2022 (BCO 15-1; RAO 16-3.e.4)** – Minutes of commission not
 36 entered in Presbytery minutes.
- 37 **17. Exception: (BCO 8-7)** – No record that the Presbytery is assured that an out-of-
 38 bounds TE will have full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of our Church.
- 39 **18. Exception: (BCO 8-7)** – No record that out-of-bounds TE is engaged in preaching
 40 and teaching the Word.
- 41 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**
- 42 **Exception: General (By Laws, Article 9, BCO 8-9)** – Presbytery shall not restrict
 43 eligibility for office to teaching elders only. Ruling elders possess the same authority
 44 and eligibility.
- 45 **Response:** At 78th presbytery meeting, the by-laws was revised as follows:

1 Before amendment

2 Article 9: The Credentials Committee and the Examination Committee shall include
3 one or more former Moderators. The membership of the Examination Committee shall
4 be limited to Teach Elders.

5 After amendment

6 Article 9: The Credentials Committee and the Examination Committee shall include
7 one or more former Moderators

8 **Exception: Bylaws - [pp. 13-14, 23.1] (BCO 24-1)** – Ruling elders are called by local
9 churches and examined by their session. Presbytery is not the court of original
10 jurisdiction.

11 **Response:** From the 2022 year, the local churches have taken all the procedure for
12 ruling elder installation.

13 **Exception: Jan 19, 2021 (BCO 13-4)** – No quorum present; moderator does not have
14 the authority to change *BCO* requirements for a quorum. Quorum declared with only
15 two RE's present.

16 **Response:** We have erred to include the details of quorum in the meeting minutes.
17 We will correct the error from now on.

18 **Exception: May 25, 2021 (BCO Preliminary Principle 6; 24-1, 3)** – Church shall have
19 authority to elect elders. Presbytery may not set limit of how many elders the church
20 can have.

21 **Response:** From the 2022 year, the local churches have taken all the procedure for
22 ruling elder installation.

23 **Exception: May 25, 2021 (BCO 15-1)** – No record of quorum for commission
24 meeting.

25 **Response:** We have erred to include the record of quorum for commission. We will
26 do our best correct error from now on.

27 **Exception: May 25, 2021 (BCO 21-5-8)** – Referred to as a committee and not a
28 commission.

29 **Response:** We have erred to as a committee, not as a commission. We will correct
30 this error from now on.

31 **Exception: May 25, 2021 (BCO 21-5-8)** – No record of commission being appointed
32 by presbytery at previous meeting.

33 **Response:** Commission was appointed by previous presbytery meeting. We have
34 erred not to record it. From now on, we will do our best to correct error.

35 **Exception: May 25, 2021 (BCO 21-5-8)** – No record of required portions of
36 ordination service.

37 **Response:** Ordination service was done according to *BCO*. We have erred not to
38 record it. From now on, we will do our best to correct error.

39 **Exception: May 25, 2021 (BCO 21-9; 21-10)** – No record of *BCO* 21-9 and 21-10
40 questions being asked and answered in the affirmative.

41 **Response:** During Ordination service, *BCO* 21-9 and 21-10 questions being asked and
42 answered in the affirmative. We have erred not to record it. From now on, we will do
43 our best to correct error.

44 **Exception: May 25, 2021 (BCO 15-1; RAO 16-3.e.4)** – Minutes of commission not
45 entered in Presbytery minutes.

- 1 **Response:** We have erred not to include presbytery meeting minutes. From now on,
2 we will do our best to correct error.
- 3 **Exception: Sep 14, 2021** (*BCO* 46-6) – Teaching elder did not remain under the
4 jurisdiction of the Presbytery until received by the other.
- 5 **Response:** It was not jurisdiction. It is document review for application. We will do
6 our best to keep *BCO*.
- 7 **Exception: Sep 10, 2019** (*BCO* 22-2) – No record of congregational meeting and call,
8 no record of terms of call being approved, no record of installation.
- 9 **Response [2022]:** The church of concern is not a PCA church, therefore it was not
10 under our jurisdiction. The minister was serving out of bounds.
- 11 **Rationale [2022]:** Although the church is out of bounds, the terms of the call still
12 need to be approved by the Presbytery (*BCO* 8-7).
- 13 **Response [2023]:** We have erred. From now on, even the church is out of bounds, the
14 presbytery will approve the call. we will do our best to follow *BCO*.
- 15 e. **That the following responses to the 50th GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore**
16 **new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**
- 17 **Exception: General** (*BCO* 13-9.b; 40-1) – No record of review of records of church
18 Sessions.
- 19 **Response:** We have erred in failing to include review of records of church session.
20 We will do our best to include review of records of church session as soon as possible.
- 21 **Rationale:** No record that Presbytery corrected its actions (*RAO* 16-10.b.1).
22 Presbytery has not reviewed session records from the year in question.
- 23 **Exception: Mar 10, 2020 [p. 4, Credential Committee]** (*BCO* 5-3) – No
24 establishment of a temporary system of government for Mission Church.
- 25 **Response:** We have erred not to include the records of commissions. In future
26 minutes, we will try to include the commissions.
- 27 **Rationale:** No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery
28 has not submitted the record for review.
- 29 **Exception: Jan 19, 2021** (*BCO* 21-4, *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – No record of requiring
30 statement of differences with our Standards.
- 31 **Response:** In presbytery meeting docket, all the records are included. But, in the
32 meeting minutes, it is not included. We will try to include from now on.
- 33 **Rationale:** No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery
34 has not submitted the record(s) for review.
- 35 **Exception: Jan 19, 2021** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16- 3.e.5) – Stated differences not recorded
36 in the minister’s/candidate’s own words.
- 37 **Response:** In presbytery meeting docket, all the records are included. But, in the
38 meeting minutes, it is not included. We will try to include from now on.
- 39 **Rationale:** No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery
40 has not submitted the record(s) for review.
- 41 **Exception: Jan 19, 2021** (*BCO* 20-1) – No record of call to a definite work.
- 42 **Response:** In presbytery meeting docket, all the records are included. But, in the
43 meeting minutes, it is not included. We will try to include from now on.
- 44 **Rationale:** No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery
45 has not submitted the record(s) for review.

1 **Exception: Jan 19, 2021** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – Unclear record of ordination
2 exam.

3 **Response:** In presbytery meeting docket, all the records are included. But, in the
4 meeting minutes, it is not included. We will try to include from now on.

5 **Rationale:** No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery
6 has not submitted the record(s) for review.

7 **Exception: Jan 19, 2021** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – All specific requirements of
8 ordination exam not recorded.

9 **Response:** In presbytery meeting docket, all the records are included. But, in the
10 meeting minutes, it is not included. We will try to include from now on.

11 **Rationale:** No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery
12 has not submitted the record(s) for review.

13 **Exception: Jan 19, 2021** (*BCO* 20) – No record of congregational votes of election
14 of pastor(s).

15 **Response:** In presbytery meeting docket, all the records are included. But, in the
16 meeting minutes, it is not included. We will try to include from now on.

17 **Rationale:** No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery
18 has not submitted the record(s) for review.

19 **Exception: May 25, 2021** (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) – Minutes of commission not
20 entered in Presbytery minutes.

21 **Response:** We have erred not to include presbytery meeting minutes. From now on,
22 we will do our best to correct error.

23 **Rationale:** No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery
24 has not submitted the record(s) for review.

25 **f. That responses shall be submitted to the following GA as no responses were**
26 **received in 2022:**

27 **Exception: Jan 19, 2021** (*BCO* 19-2; *RAO* 16- 3.e.5) – All specific requirements of
28 licensure exam not recorded. (No record of Sermon and Statement of Christian
29 experience and inward call (*BCO* 19-2.a, d).

30 **Exception: Jan 19, 2021** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16- 3.e.5) – Stated differences not judged
31 with the prescribed categories.

32
33 41. That the Minutes of **Korean Southwest Orange County** Presbytery: 55-0-0

34 a. Be approved without exceptions: **None.**

35 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **Directory; General 2022; Mar 15, 2022; Sep**
36 **13, 2022.**

37 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance:

38 **1. Exception: General 2022** (*BCO* 13-2) – No evidence of annual reports from many
39 of the TEs who are without call.

40 **2. Exception: Mar 15, 2022** (*BCO* 8-7; 13-5; 20-1) – A TE has begun to minister
41 out of bounds. No record that Presbytery followed the appropriate *BCO* provisions
42 to approve that.

43 **3. Exception: Mar 15, 2022** (*BCO* 15-1; 13-8) – A commission must be appointed
44 by Presbytery, not a committee.

- 1 **4. Exception: Mar 15, 2022** (*BCO* 13-6; 21-4) – No evidence that men transferring
2 in from other denominations met the educational, original language, or paper
3 requirements.
- 4 **5. Exception: Mar 15, 2022; Sep 13, 2022** (*BCO* 18-2, 3) – No record of
5 endorsement by candidates’ Sessions, six-months membership for candidates, nor
6 of charge given to candidates.
- 7 **6. Exception: Mar 15, 2022; Sep 13, 2022** (*BCO* 46-6) – TEs are received from
8 other PCA presbyteries but no evidence of action of other Presbyteries.
- 9 **7. Exception: Mar 15, 2022** (*BCO* 19-7, 8, 9, 10) – Presbytery uses candidacy
10 examination procedures for internship, so various steps are missing, including
11 determination of the nature of the internship.
- 12 **8. Exception: Mar. 15, 2022** (*BCO* 20-1; 8-7; 13-5) – No record of calls to a definite
13 work.
- 14 **9. Exception: Mar. 15, 2022** (*BCO* 19-2.d, e, f) – No sermon and no statement of
15 differences with the Standards for one being licensed.
- 16 **10. Exception: Mar. 15, 2022** (*BCO* 21-4) – No evidence of educational
17 requirements, required papers, or sermon for one being ordained; and no evidence
18 the man was asked to state differences with the Standards.
- 19 **11. Exception: Mar. 15, 2022** (*BCO* 5-9) – Presbytery particularizes mission works
20 with no evidence that all required procedures were followed – specifically no
21 evidence of congregational meeting or petition.
- 22 **12. Exception: Mar. 15, 2022; Sept. 13, 2022** (*BCO* 8-7; 21-2; 23-1) – TEs are
23 reported as resigning from or having left current calls from churches of Presbytery
24 and/or are recorded as taking new calls, but no evidence that Presbytery dissolved
25 pastoral relations, nor acted on the new calls, nor is there evidence that 8-7 and 21-
26 1 were followed for out of bounds calls.
- 27 **13. Exception: Mar. 15, 2022** (*BCO* 46-6) – The minutes record that a man has
28 transferred to another Presbytery. No record that congregation concurred with
29 dissolution of pastoral relations, that Presbytery dissolved the pastoral relation, nor
30 that Presbytery voted to release the TE to a different Presbytery.
- 31 **14. Exception: Sept. 13, 2022** (*BCO* 15-1) – Minutes show that commissions met and
32 who was present, but there are no reports showing what the commissions did.
- 33 **15. Exception: Sept. 13, 2022** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – Stated difference not
34 recorded in the candidate’s own words.
- 35 **16. Exception: Sept. 13, 2022** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – Stated differences not
36 judged with the prescribed categories.
- 37 **17. Exception: Sept. 13, 2022** (*BCO* 20-1) – No record of call to a definite work.
- 38 **18. Exception: Sept. 13, 2022** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – Incomplete record of
39 ordination exam. Men are approved for ordination but no evidence of education
40 requirements, required papers, or original languages.
- 41 **19. Exception: Sep 13, 2022** (*BCO* 13-6) – No record of written credentials of
42 dismissing Presbytery (not specified) for TE transfer.
- 43 **20. Exception: Sept. 13, 2022** (*BCO* 19-2; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – All specific requirements
44 of three licensure exams not recorded. Further, those seeking licensure are not
45 required to be examined in sacraments and church history.

1 **21. Exception: Sept. 13, 2022** (*BCO* 38-3) – Presbytery does not follow *BCO* 38-3
2 for men who have joined other denominations.

3 **22. Exception: Sept. 12, 2022** (*BCO* 46-6) – The minutes record that 2 TEs have been
4 removed from the roll because they joined another PCA Presbytery. No record that
5 congregations concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations, that Presbytery
6 dissolved the pastoral relations, nor that Presbytery voted to release the TEs to the
7 different Presbyteries.

8 **23. Exception: Sept. 13, 2022** (Preliminary Principle 6; *BCO* 3-1; 16-2) – Presbytery
9 appoints an interim pastor with no evidence of congregational request or
10 concurrence.

11 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**

12 **Exception: Mar 16, 2021** (*BCO* 13-6) – Incomplete record of examination of TEs
13 transferring into Presbytery.

14 **Response:** We apologize for the clerical mistake of not recording the complete
15 examination for these three ministers. As transfers, they were thoroughly examined,
16 as stated in the *BCO*. We will make sure to be more precise in keeping notes and
17 minutes.

18 **Exception: Mar 16, 2021** (*BCO* 13-6) – TE was transferred into Presbytery as an
19 “Associate Member.” No such designation exists in the PCA.

20 **Response:** We apologize for the wrong designation for the Teaching Elder. As a
21 retired pastor, he was admitted as a “guest” or “associate,” which included only
22 joining us for worship, observing presbytery proceedings from the visitor’s section,
23 and having fellowship with fellow presbytery members. He did not vote, nor was he
24 given any authority to speak on the floor. We will ensure to record the correct
25 designations of guests in the future.

26 **Exception: Mar 16, 2021; Sep 14, 2021** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – All specific
27 requirements for ordination exam not recorded.

28 **Response:** We apologize for not specifying the exact requirements for ordination. As
29 candidates, we are certain they were completely examined as stated in the *BCO*. We
30 will be more watchful moving forward.

31 **Exception: Mar 16, 2021; Sep 14, 2021** (*BCO* 11-4; 24-1) – Presbytery appointed
32 ruling elders to a church; which it has no authority to do.

33 **Response:** We understand that the presbytery has no authority to appoint ruling elders
34 to a church. In the past our presbytery assisted churches in training and qualifying
35 ruling elders who were elected by the congregation. However since 2021, we have
36 changed this policy to be in line with the *BCO* 11-4, 24-1.

37 **Exception: Sep 14, 2021** (*BCO* 19-2; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – All specific requirements of
38 licensure exam not recorded.

39 **Response:** We apologize for not specifying the exact requirements for licensure. As
40 candidates, we are confident they were thoroughly examined as stated in the *BCO*.
41 We will be more watchful moving forward

42 **Exception: Sep 14, 2021** (*BCO* 21-4) – No record of requiring statement of
43 differences with our Standards.

1 **Response:** We apologize for not recording the candidate’s stated differences. We did,
 2 however, ask the question, and the minister said he had no stated differences. We will
 3 be more observant in recording these in the future
 4 **Exception: General 2019** (*BCO* 13-9.b) – No record of review of records of church
 5 sessions.
 6 **Response:** We apologize for not reviewing this at this time. As of our 14th Stated
 7 Clerk meeting (2021), sessions have been submitting their records, and our Credential
 8 Committee has been diligently reviewing them.
 9 **Exception: Mar 12, 2019** (*BCO* 13-6; 21-4.c; 21-4.f) – Incomplete record of transfer
 10 exams, specific requirements of licensure exam not recorded. No record of asking for
 11 differences with Standards.
 12 **Response:** We apologize for this clerical error. We examined the licensure candidates
 13 according to the requirements outlined in *BCO* 19-2 however, we failed to record it in
 14 detail. We will make sure to register the specific requirements for exams. We also
 15 apologize for the failure to record if candidates had any differences with the Standards.
 16 We understand that the differences must be included in the minutes in the candidate’s
 17 own words and the Presbytery’s judgment of those stated differences. While these
 18 candidates had no stated differences with our standards, we failed to record them as
 19 such
 20 **Exception: Mar 12, 2019** (*BCO* 20-1) – No record of calls to definite works.
 21 **Response:** We apologize for not including a record of calls to definite works. All
 22 candidates were called to actual works (which included a call letter from their
 23 respective churches) however, we failed to include this in our minutes
 24 **Exception: Mar 12, 2019** (*BCO* 19-2, 19-9) – Specific requirements of licensure
 25 exam not listed, included differences with Standards.
 26 **Response:** We apologize for our clerical error. This was a mistake in failing to record
 27 the requirements for licensure exams. We examined the candidates listed in *BCO* 19-
 28 2 but did not record them in detail. We will make sure to document all specificities
 29 for examinations.
 30 **Exception: Mar 12, 2019** (*BCO* 18; 19-9) – Incomplete record of internship. No
 31 record of session endorsement, six-months membership, details of exam for candidate.
 32 **Response:** We apologize for the incomplete record. This internship was prior
 33 approved by the Credential Committee, which included a detailed documentation
 34 requirement of the session endorsement and six months of membership in a PCA
 35 church. We will ensure to include this in the future as well as details each candidate
 36 did for exams
 37 **Exception: Mar 12, 2019** (*BCO* 13-10) – No record of member transfer or dismissal
 38 upon dissolution of the church.
 39 **Response:** Sadly this is not a pattern in the past for our presbytery. We will try to
 40 record better and make sure in the future any members transfers are well taken care.
 41 **Exception: Sep 10, 2019** (*BCO* 15-01; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) – Minutes of commissions not
 42 entered in minutes. Incomplete record of Session internship, endorsement, six-months
 43 membership.
 44 **Response:** We apologize for not including the minutes of commissions in the minutes.
 45 Each candidate was required to submit thorough documentation, including a session

1 endorsement and six-month membership in a PCA church. We will ensure to include
2 this in the future as well as details each candidate did for exams

3 **Exception: Sep 10, 2019** (*BCO* 21-4; 13-6) – No record of requirement to state
4 differences with standards. No record of *BCO* Exam. No record of details of transfer
5 exam.

6 **Response:** We apologize for this clerical error. We examined the transfer candidate
7 according to the requirements outlined in the *BCO*; however, we failed to record it in
8 detail. We will make sure to register the specific requirements for exams. We also
9 apologize for failing to record if candidates had any differences with the Standards.
10 We understand that the differences must be included in the minutes in the candidate's

11 own words and the Presbytery's judgment of those stated differences. While the
12 candidate had no stated differences with our standards, we failed to record it as such
13 **Exception: Sep 10, 2019** (*BCO* 19-2) – All specific requirements of licensure exam
14 not recorded.

15 **Response:** We apologize for not specifying the exact requirements for licensure. As
16 candidates, we are sure they were examined entirely, as stated in the *BCO*. We will be
17 more watchful moving forward

18 **Exception: Sep 10, 2019** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – Specific requirements of
19 ordination exam not recorded.

20 **Response:** We apologize for not specifying the exact requirements for ordination. As
21 candidates, we are confident they were thoroughly examined, as stated in the *BCO*.
22 We will be more watchful moving forward

23 **Exception: Sep 10, 2019** (*BCO* 20-1) – No record of calls to definite works.

24 **Response:** We apologize for not including a record of calls to definite works. All
25 candidates were called to definite works (which included a call letter from their
26 respective churches) however, we failed to include this in our minutes.

27 **Exception: Mar 10, 2020** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – All specific requirements of
28 ordination exam not recorded.

29 **Response:** We apologize for not specifying the exact requirements for ordination. As
30 candidates, we are sure they were wholly examined, as stated in the *BCO*. We will be
31 more watchful moving forward

32 **Exception: Mar 10, 2020** (*Preliminary Principle* 6) – Interim pastors appointed
33 without call/vote of congregations.

34 **Response:** We failed to note that in order to serve as a pastor who is a member of the
35 session, a congregational vote is necessary. We understand that an interim pastor must
36 be first voted by the congregation or serve in an advisory capacity to help the church.

37 **Exception: Mar 10, 2020** (*BCO* 20-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.6) – Specific arrangements of call
38 not shown to be approved.

39 **Response:** We apologize for not including a record of calls to definite works. All
40 candidates were called to definite works and the presbytery approved each call

41 **Exception: Mar 10, 2020** (*BCO* 21-4) – No report of requiring statement of
42 differences with Standards.

43 **Response:** We apologize for not recording the candidate's stated differences.
44 However, we did ask the question, and the minister said he had no exceptions. We
45 will be more observant in recording these in the future

1 **Exception: Mar 10, 2020 (BCO 19-2)** – All specific licensure exam requirements not
2 recorded.

3 **Response:** We apologize for not specifying the exact requirements for licensure. As
4 candidates, we are sure they were wholly examined, as stated in the *BCO*. We will be
5 more watchful moving forward

6 **Exception: Mar 10, 2020 (BCO 20-1)** – No record of call to definite work.

7 **Response:** We apologize for not including a record of calls to definite works. All
8 candidates were called to definite works (which included a call letter from their
9 respective churches) however, we failed to include this in our minutes.

10 **Exception: Sep 15, 2020 (BCO 23-1)** – No Presbytery action taken on
11 resignation/dissolution of pastoral relationship.

12 **Response:** We did take action by hearing the report of the resignations and approving
13 the resignations as noted in the minutes. We will try to put more details of this process
14 in the future.

15 **Exception: Sep 15, 2020 (BCO 5-12)** – No record of call to or Presbytery
16 establishment of pastoral relationship.

17 **Response:** We failed to record the details of the call though it was verbally presented
18 during the examination of the candidates. We will record these details in the future

19 **Exception: Sep 15, 2020 (BCO 38-1)** – No record that deposed minister appeared
20 before the court.

21 **Response:** This concerns a very sensitive issue regarding a teaching elder who was
22 being investigated by a committee of the presbytery. He met with the investigative
23 committee but refused to appear before the presbytery. The committee with the
24 agreement of the teaching elder involved recommended his deposition from ministry.
25 The presbytery approved the committee’s recommendation to depose him. There was
26 no formal indictment or trial because the teaching elder did not want to appear before
27 the presbytery.

28 **Exception: Sep 15, 2020 (BCO 13-11; 38-1; RAO 16-3.e.8)** – The minutes approved
29 by the presbytery and submitted to CRPR do not include a full and accurate record of
30 investigation, confession and deposition of a TE, including a written statement of
31 confession recorded in the TE’s own words, or a statement of facts as required by
32 *BCO* 38-1.

33 **Response:** *BCO* 34-4 states that “a. When a minister accused of an offense is found
34 contumacious (cf. 32-6), he shall be immediately suspended from the sacraments and
35 his office for his contumacy. Record shall be made of the fact and of the charges under
36 which he was arraigned, and the censure shall be made public. The censure shall in no
37 case be removed until the offender has not only repented of his contumacy, but has
38 also given satisfaction in relation to the charges against him.

39 b. If after further endeavor by the court to bring the accused to a sense of his guilt,
40 he persists in his contumacy, he shall be deposed and excommunicated from the
41 Church.”

42 Our presbytery was going through a case like this for the first time so we were unaware
43 of all the proper proceedings. However, the “deposed minister” was clearly
44 contumacious in not cooperating with the investigative committee and refusing to
45 appear before the presbytery. We should have taken two steps according to *BCO* 34-

1 4 by first suspending him and at a future meeting deposing him. We conflated the
2 process because it seemed clear that the person wanted nothing to do with the
3 presbytery or heed its discipline.

4 **Exception: Sep 15, 2020 (BCO 46-8)** Presbytery did not assign a deposed TE
5 membership in a local church with concurrence of the receiving Session.

6 **Response:** The investigative committee recommended the deposed teaching elder to
7 be involved in a local PCA church, however, he was uncooperative and wanted to cut
8 off all ties with the presbytery. He has ever since changed his phone number and
9 contact information and we have not been able to keep in touch with him.

10 **Exception: Sep 15, 2020 (BCO 13-6; 21-4)** – Incomplete record of transfer exam for
11 minister from another denomination.

12 **Response:** We apologize for the clerical mistake of not recording the complete
13 examination for the transfer candidate. As transfers, they were thoroughly examined,
14 as stated in the *BCO*. We will make sure to be more precise in keeping notes and
15 minutes.

16 **Exception: Sep 15, 2020 (BCO 13-6)** – Incomplete record of transfer exam.

17 **Response:** We apologize for the clerical mistake of not recording the complete
18 examination for the candidate. As a transfer, we comprehensively examined the
19 candidate as stated in the *BCO*. We will make sure to be more precise in keeping notes
20 and minutes.

21 **Exception: Sep 15, 2020 (BCO 19-2; RAO 16-3.e.5)** – Requirements of licensure
22 exam not recorded.

23 **Response:** We apologize for not specifying the exact requirements for licensure. As
24 candidates, we are sure they were examined entirely, as stated in the *BCO*. We will be
25 more watchful moving forward.

26 **e. The following response to the 50th GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore a new**
27 **response shall be submitted to the following GA:**

28 **Exception: Mar 10, 2020 (BCO 13-11)** – Complaint sent to Presbytery not recorded
29 in minutes. (“full and accurate record” *RAO* 16.3.e.6).

30 **Response:** This complaint was deemed to be a private matter and it was not dealt
31 with in the presbytery other than noting the complaint. Due to the sensitive nature of
32 this private matter, it would be difficult to redress this issue and include the specifics
33 in the minutes.

34 **Rationale:** The complaint and the response of the Presbytery must be included in the
35 record of the Presbytery (*BCO* 43-3, 6) and submitted for review (*BCO* 40-1).

36
37 42. That the Minutes of **Lowcountry** Presbytery: 54-0-0

38 a. Be approved without exceptions: **Apr 26, 2022.**

39 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **General 2022.**

40 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance:

41 **1. Exception: General 2022 (RAO 16-10.a)** – No record in minutes of exceptions
42 taken by GA.

43 **2. Exception: Feb 5, 2022; Jul 23, 2022 (BCO 23-1)** – No record that Congregation
44 /Session concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.

- 1 **3. Exception: Jul 23, 2022; Nov 3, 2022 (BCO 22-2, 3)** – No record of calls from
 2 the session/Congregation for Pastoral relations.
- 3 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**
- 4 **Exception: Feb 16, 2021 (BCO 13-12)** – Notice for called meeting not in order; 10-
 5 day notice not indicated/recorded.
- 6 **Response:** Notice was sent to all presbyters on Feb 4, 2021 per *BCO* 13-12 by the
 7 Moderator, TE [name omitted]. We apologize that this was not recorded, this has been
 8 duly noted for future specially called meetings.
- 9 **Exception: Apr 27, 2021 (BCO 15-1)** – No record of quorum for commission
 10 meeting.
- 11 **Response:** This was simply an oversight of recording. Duly noted, we will be sure to
 12 include the quorum requirement when future commissions are established. The
 13 commission did meet the requirements of *BCO* 15-2.
- 14 **Exception: Apr 27, 2021 (RAO 16-3.c.8)** – No record of approval of minutes of Feb.
 15 16, 2021 called meeting.
- 16 **Response:** The approval minutes of the Feb 16, 2021 called meeting and the executive
 17 session were done by an appointed commission. We have noted that we did not
 18 properly report the results of that commission and we will correct that oversight at our
 19 next Stated meeting.
- 20
- 21 43. That the Minutes of **Metro Atlanta** Presbytery: 38-17-1
- 22 a. Be approved without exceptions: **None.**
- 23 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **Directory; Jan 25, 2022; Sep 20, 2022.**
- 24 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance:
- 25 **1. Exception: Jan 25, 2022 (RAO 16-3.e.5)** – Presbytery minutes misstate
 26 licentiate’s stated difference.
- 27 **2. Exception: Jan 25, 2022 (RAO 16-3.e.5)** – Stated differences not recorded in
 28 minister’s/candidate’s own words.
- 29 **3. Exception: Jan 25, 2022 (BCO 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5)** – Presbytery granted a
 30 doctrinal exception that needs further clarity for proper review. While exceptions
 31 on the application of the 4th Commandment are common (e.g. recreation clause),
 32 it is quite another thing to say that the Sabbath has been fulfilled and is to be
 33 celebrated everyday instead of weekly. This would seem to be out of accord with
 34 our system of doctrine in that it appears to radically redefine one of the Ten
 35 Commandments in a way that is contrary to our confessional standards and God’s
 36 creation ordinance.
- 37 **4. Exception: May 3, 2022; Sep 20, 2022 (BCO 8-7)** – No record that TE laboring
 38 out of bounds will be allowed full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of
 39 the church.
- 40 **d. That the following response to the 50th GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore a**
 41 **new response shall be submitted to the following GA:**
- 42 **Exception: Jan 28, 2020 (BCO 13-6)** – Incomplete record of transfer exam for
 43 minister from another denomination (see also *BCO* 21-4).
- 44 **Response [2022]:** It is unclear what RPR is taking an exception to here. “Incomplete
 45 record of transfer exam for minister from another denomination.”

1 We are attaching the full transcript below from the January 28th meeting:
 2 Transfer into MAP - [name omitted] – [church name omitted]
 3 *TE [name omitted]: from The Presbytery of the East of the EPC to [church name*
 4 *omitted]*
 5 *MSP to accept Mr. [name omitted] as a transfer from The Presbytery of the East of*
 6 *the EPC upon confirmation of his release from said Presbytery.*
 7 *TE [name omitted] was examined by the Committee on his Christian experience and*
 8 *his views on theology, the Sacraments and church government and was recommended*
 9 *by them to the court. Presbytery had the opportunity to examine him in all the areas*
 10 *according to BCO 13-6.*
 11 *TE [name omitted] expressed differences with the WCF (documented in Appendix D)*
 12 *were judged by the Court as more than semantic but not out of accord. MSP*
 13 *MSP to find Mr. [name omitted]’s call to be in order. The call was placed in Mr.*
 14 *[name omitted]’s hands and was accepted and received by him. (Copy of call in*
 15 *Appendix E)*
 16 *MSP to find Mr. [name omitted]’s transfer and request to be in order.*
 17 *Mr. [name omitted] signed the Metro Atlanta Presbytery Book of ministerial*
 18 *obligation.*
 19 *MSP to approve a commission to install Mr. [name omitted] on April 19, 2020, at*
 20 *[church name omitted]. The commission is to consist of:*

Teaching Elders:	Ruling Elders:
[name omitted] (Moderator)	[name omitted]
[name omitted]	[name omitted]
[name omitted]	

21 **Perhaps RPR is alluding to BCO 21-4** *“If applicants come from other*
 22 *denominations, the Presbytery shall examine them thoroughly in knowledge and views*
 23 *as required by BCO 21-4 and require them to answer in the affirmative the questions*
 24 *put to candidates at their ordination. Ordained ministers from other denominations*
 25 *being considered by Presbyteries for reception may come under the extraordinary*
 26 *provisions set forth in BCO 21-4. Presbyteries shall also require ordained ministers*
 27 *coming from other denominations to state the specific instances in which they may*
 28 *differ with the Confession of Faith and Catechisms in any of their statements and/or*
 29 *propositions, which differences the court shall judge in accordance with BCO 21-4*
 30 *(see BCO 21- 4.)”*

31 MAP believes that requirement was met with the Credentials Committee, his time on
 32 the floor and his installation. Please clarify.

33 **Rationale [2022]:** Minutes do not indicate the transfer candidate was examined in
 34 both knowledge and views, as well as the areas of Greek and Hebrew languages,
 35 church history, and the history of the PCA, as required by BCO 21-4.

36 **Response [2023]:** Candidate was examined in knowledge and views by the Credential
 37 Committee and on the floor and MAP failed to record.

38 **Rationale [2023]:** Minutes do not indicate that all areas of examination noted in the
 39 2022 response rationale were completed. Presbytery response should indicate that
 40 these corrections have been taken and properly recorded in their minutes.

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44. That the Minutes of **Metropolitan New York** Presbytery: 52-1-3
- a. Be approved without exceptions: **Sep 20, 2022 ES; Nov 8, 2022 ES.**
 - b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **Jan 11, 2022; Mar 8, 2022; Sep 20, 2022; Nov 8, 2022.**
 - c. Be approved with exceptions of substance:
 - 1. **Exception: Mar 8, 2022 (BCO 21-1)** – TE left one field before dissolution by Presbytery and moved onto another field before approval of Presbytery.
 - 2. **Exception: May 10, 2022 (BCO 37-1)** – Presbytery did not restore TE to office for three years beyond term of definite suspension.
 - 3. **Exception: Sep 20, 2022 (WCF 21-5; WLC 158; BCO 4-4; 8-5; 40-5; 58-4)** – Presbytery delinquent to redress a Session who admitted to unconstitutional proceedings of: (1) permitting a woman to expound the Scriptures during a worship service on the Lord’s Day; (2) holding many worship services without preaching; and (3) serving the Lord’s Supper at many services without a preceding sermon.
 - 4. **Exception: Sep 20, 2022 (BCO 13-2)** – No record of TE laboring out of bounds with concurrence of Presbytery within whose bounds he labors.
 - 5. **Exception: Jan 11, 2022 (BCO 18-2)** – No record of endorsement by candidate’s Session.
 - 6. **Exception: Sep 20, 2022 (BCO 21-4.f)** – Presbytery granted a doctrinal exception that needs further clarity for proper review (WLC #183).
 - 7. **Exception: Nov 8, 2022 (BCO 15-1; RAO 16-3.e.4)** – Minutes of commission not entered in Presbytery minutes.
 - d. **That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**
 - Exception: General (BCO 13-9.b, 40-3)** – No record of review of church Sessions.
 - Response:** Presbytery agrees with GA and has corrected this by reviewing and approving church session minutes for 2021.
 - Exception: Mar 9, 2021 (BCO 13-6)** – All specific requirements of transfer exam not recorded; no record of examination on Christian experience.
 - Response:** Presbytery agrees with GA in that the examination was not recorded in the minutes, but the examination did take place before the Leadership Development Committee and before presbytery. The minutes have been amended to show this. M/S/C to amend the March 9th, 2021, minutes to state that all 3 candidates (TE [name omitted], TE [name omitted], and TE [name omitted] were examined on Christian experience (approved unanimously).
 - Exception: Dec 27, 2020 (BCO 21-6)** – Presiding minister did not propose questions to the Session as required by BCO 21-6.
 - Response:** Presbytery agrees with GA. The report was amended, and the minutes updated to clarify what took place.
 - a. The original commission minutes incorrectly stated that pastor [name omitted] had been ordained and installed instead of [name omitted].
 - b. M/S/C to approve the corrected Commission minutes from December 27th, 2020 (the installation/ ordination of [name omitted]) (approved unanimously) (Appendix 9)

1 **Exception: May 11, 2021 (BCO 23-1)** – Presbytery must dissolve the call before a
2 minister leaves the field or take some other action if he leaves the field prior to
3 Presbytery dissolving the call other than retroactively dissolving the call.

4 **Response:** Presbytery agrees with GA and the exception is noted. Presbytery will
5 work to avoid this mistake in the future.

6 **Exception: Sep 21, 2021 (BCO 38-2)** – Presbytery did not consider a minister’s
7 request to be divested of office at the subsequent stated meeting as required by *BCO*
8 38-2.

9 **Response:** Presbytery agrees with GA that the discussion was not recorded in the
10 minutes of the September 21st, 2021, stated meeting. The discussion did take place
11 and the request of the minister was denied because of an ongoing investigation by
12 presbytery’s judicial commission. The minutes have been amended.

13 M/S/C to amend the September 21st, 2021, minutes under the Facilitation team report
14 to include the sentence: The request of TE [name omitted] to demit from the ministry
15 was denied because of the ongoing judicial commission investigation. (Approved
16 unanimously).

17 **Exception: Sep 21, 2021 (BCO 21-4)** – All specific requirements of ordination exam
18 not recorded. Minutes do not record that the candidate preached before presbytery,
19 and minutes do not record a $\frac{3}{4}$ vote to approve preaching before a committee.

20 **Response:** Presbytery agrees with GA that the minutes did not record a unanimous
21 approval of [name omitted]’s sermon preached before presbytery. [name omitted]’s
22 sermon preached before presbytery was approved unanimously by presbytery. The
23 minutes have been amended.

24 M/S/C to amend the September 21st, 2021, stated meeting minutes to show that [name
25 omitted]’s sermon was approved unanimously by presbytery. (approved unanimously)

26 **Exception: Sep 21, 2021 (BCO 23-1)** – Presbytery must dissolve the call before a
27 minister leaves the field or take some other action if he leaves the field prior to
28 Presbytery dissolving the call.

29 **Response:** Presbytery agrees with GA and the exception is noted. Presbytery will
30 work to avoid this mistake in the future.

31 **Exception: Sep 21, 2021 (BCO 23-1)** – No record of congregation having approved
32 the dissolution of call of the former pastor.

33 **Response:** Presbytery agrees with GA and has amended the minutes to include
34 minutes of the dissolution of the pastoral relationship between [name omitted] and
35 [church name omitted].

36 M/S/C to amend the September 21st, 2021, minutes to include the congregational
37 meeting minutes showing the dissolution of the pastoral relationship between TE
38 [name omitted] and [church name omitted] (approved unanimously) (Appendix 10)

39 **Exception: Sep 21, 2021 (BCO 22-5)** – Temporary pastoral relation established
40 without Presbytery’s approval. [name omitted], on Presbytery’s role as honorably
41 retired, began serving as interim pastor of [church name omitted] in September 2021
42 without the establishment of a stated supply relationship approved by Presbytery.

43 **Response:** Presbytery respectfully disagrees. Rev. [name omitted] did not begin to
44 serve as interim pastor for [church name omitted] in September 2021. He began to
45 guest preach on a somewhat regular basis, but he has not served the church in any

1 other capacity. Additionally, there have been significant seasons when he has not
 2 preached and the pulpit has been filled by other guest preachers or assistant pastors of
 3 the church. In other words, he has served as a guest preacher while remaining
 4 honorably retired.

5 **Exception: Sep 21, 2021** (*BCO* 8-7, 20-1) – Presbytery recorded a TE’s call to an
 6 organization outside the jurisdiction of the Presbyterian Church in America without
 7 approving the call, without receiving assurance that he will have full freedom to
 8 maintain and teach the doctrine of our Church, and without making “a record of the
 9 reasons why it considers the work to be a valid Christian ministry.”

10 **Response:** Presbytery regrets not recording the approval of the call to be in order and
 11 acceptable to the TE. The call letter was attached to the minutes, but the clerk failed
 12 to record the information. The TE also had the full freedom to maintain and teach the
 13 doctrine of our Church. Presbytery did not record the reason why this work is
 14 considered a valid Christian ministry because City to City (a global church planting
 15 organization) has been an intricate part of this presbytery since it was founded by TE
 16 Tim Keller in 2001. It has been recognized as a valid Christian ministry by MNYP
 17 since its inception.

18 M/S/C to amend the September 21st, 2021, minutes to approve the call to be in order
 19 and acceptable to TE [name omitted]. [name omitted] has full freedom to maintain
 20 and teach the doctrine of our Church with City to City. (Approved unanimously).

21 **Exception: Sep 21, 2021** (*BCO* Preliminary Principle 6; 5-9; 13-9.f) – Presbytery
 22 established a new particular church without first establishing a temporary government,
 23 without receiving either a petition or from members of the proposed church or a
 24 request for division from an existing church, without interviewing nominated ruling
 25 elders, without forming an organizing commission, and without holding a service of
 26 organization.

27 (Presbytery passed a motion that divided [church name omitted] into [church name
 28 omitted] and [church name omitted] “pending a vote of the members” and designated
 29 teaching elders, ruling elders, and deacons for each. The congregation passed a similar
 30 motion on 12/5/21 and proceeded as two particular churches. According to *BCO* 13-
 31 9.f Presbytery has the power “to unite or divide churches, at the request of the
 32 members thereof”. However, no request is recorded. Instead Presbytery preemptively
 33 performed these tasks “pending a vote.” Further, dividing a church does not entail
 34 selecting its pastor or its government, each of which must be chosen by members of
 35 the church according to Preliminary Principle 6 and multiple sections of the *BCO*.
 36 Separately, *BCO* 5-9 lays out the steps prescribed for organizing a new church,
 37 including the establishment of a temporary government necessary to interview officer
 38 candidates.)

39 **Response:** Presbytery agrees that it was in error to pass a motion to divide [church
 40 name omitted] into two churches, [church name omitted] and [church name omitted],
 41 prior to a congregation vote. We commit to improving our process in the future. In
 42 response, at our March 14, 2023 meeting, Presbytery adopted the following motion:
 43 “Presbytery must deal with the division of a multisite congregation after the members
 44 have requested such according to *BCO* 13-9.f.”

1 M/S/C Presbytery must deal with the division of a multisite congregation after the
2 members have requested such according to *BCO* 13-9.f

3 Further explanation: The records of Presbytery did not fully represent the process that
4 was followed. We recognize the lack of clarity this produced. A petition was signed
5 by [church name omitted] members who were attending the [church name omitted]
6 site at the time and desired to join [church name omitted] with its particularization.
7 The temporary government of [church name omitted] was the [church name omitted]
8 session which included two elders who attended [church name omitted] and a [church
9 name omitted] associate pastor (TE [name omitted]) who served as a commission of
10 the [church name omitted] session assigned the responsibility of primary oversight
11 and shepherding of the [church name omitted] site. These elders were elected
12 unanimously by [church name omitted] members that included members who were
13 attending the [church name omitted] site at the time of their election. One of the items
14 approved unanimously by the [church name omitted] members (that included
15 members who were attending the [church name omitted] site at the time) was the call
16 and election of TE [name omitted] as the pastor of [church name omitted] with its
17 particularization.

18 **Exception: Sep 21, 2021** (*BCO* 5-9, 13-9.f) – Presbytery transferred members to a
19 different church without their consent or request. (Presbytery did not receive a request
20 from members or request their consent before assigning members to Redeemer East
21 Harlem.)

22 **Response:** Presbytery agrees that it was in error to pass a motion to divide [church
23 name omitted] into two churches, [church name omitted] and [church name omitted],
24 prior to a congregation vote. We commit to improving our process in the future. In
25 response, at our March 14, 2023 meeting, Presbytery adopted the following motion:
26 “Presbytery must deal with the division of a multisite congregation after the members
27 have requested such according to *BCO* 13-9.f.”

28 Further explanation: The records of Presbytery did not fully represent the process that
29 was followed. We recognize the lack of clarity this produced. A petition was signed
30 by [church name omitted] members who were attending the [church name omitted]
31 site at the time and desired to join [church name omitted] with its particularization.
32 The temporary government of [church name omitted] was the [church name omitted]
33 session which included two elders who attended [church name omitted] and a [church
34 name omitted] associate pastor (TE [name omitted]) who served as a commission of
35 the [church name omitted] session assigned the responsibility of primary oversight
36 and shepherding of the [church name omitted] site. These elders were elected
37 unanimously by [church name omitted] members that included members who were
38 attending the [church name omitted] site at the time of their election. One of the items
39 approved unanimously by the [church name omitted] members (that included
40 members who were attending the [church name omitted] site at the time) was the call
41 and election of TE [name omitted] as the pastor of [church name omitted] with its
42 particularization.

43 **Exception: Sep 21, 2021** (*BCO* Preliminary Principle 6; *BCO* 5-9, 24-1) – Presbytery
44 assigned ruling elders to a church without the consent of the congregation.

1 **Response:** Presbytery agrees that it was in error to pass a motion to divide [church
 2 name omitted] into two churches, [church name omitted] and [church name omitted],
 3 prior to a congregation vote. We commit to improving our process in the future. In
 4 response, at our March 14, 2023 meeting, Presbytery adopted the following motion:
 5 “Presbytery must deal with the division of a multisite congregation after the members
 6 have requested such according to *BCO* 13-9.f.”

7 Further explanation: The records of Presbytery did not fully represent the process that
 8 was followed. We recognize the lack of clarity this produced. A petition was signed
 9 by [church name omitted] members who were attending the [church name omitted]
 10 site at the time and desired to join [church name omitted] with its particularization.
 11 The temporary government of [church name omitted] was the [church name omitted]
 12 session which included two elders who attended [church name omitted] and a [church
 13 name omitted] associate pastor (TE [name omitted]) who served as a commission of
 14 the [church name omitted] session assigned the responsibility of primary oversight
 15 and shepherding of the [church name omitted] site. These elders were elected
 16 unanimously by [church name omitted] members that included members who were
 17 attending the [church name omitted] site at the time of their election. One of the items
 18 approved unanimously by the [church name omitted] members (that included
 19 members who were attending the [church name omitted] site at the time) was the call
 20 and election of TE [name omitted] as the pastor of [church name omitted] with its
 21 particularization.

22 **Exception: Sep 21, 2021** (*BCO* Preliminary Principle 6; *BCO* 5-9, 20-2) – Presbytery
 23 assigned teaching elders to a church without the consent of the congregation and
 24 without receiving a call.

25 **Response:** Presbytery agrees that it was in error to pass a motion to divide [church
 26 name omitted] into two churches, [church name omitted] and [church name omitted],
 27 prior to a congregation vote. We commit to improving our process in the future. In
 28 response, at our March 14, 2023 meeting, Presbytery adopted the following motion:
 29 “Presbytery must deal with the division of a multisite congregation after the members
 30 have requested such according to *BCO* 13-9.f.”

31 Further explanation: The records of Presbytery did not fully represent the process that
 32 was followed. We recognize the lack of clarity this produced. A petition was signed
 33 by [church name omitted] members who were attending the [church name omitted]
 34 site at the time and desired to join [church name omitted] with its particularization.
 35 The temporary government of [church name omitted] was the [church name omitted]
 36 session which included two elders who attended [church name omitted] and a [church
 37 name omitted] associate pastor (TE [name omitted]) who served as a commission of
 38 the [church name omitted] session assigned the responsibility of primary oversight
 39 and shepherding of the [church name omitted] site. These elders were elected
 40 unanimously by [church name omitted] members that included members who were
 41 attending the [church name omitted] site at the time of their election. One of the items
 42 approved unanimously by the [church name omitted] members (that included
 43 members who were attending the [church name omitted] site at the time) was the call
 44 and election of TE [name omitted] as the pastor of [church name omitted] with its
 45 particularization.

1 **Exception: Sep 21, 2021 (BCO 5-9)** – Presbytery did not approve the particularization
2 of [church name omitted] prior to organization of the church and following petition
3 by congregation.

4 **Response:** Presbytery regrets our failure to attach the request from [church name
5 omitted] to particularize in our September 21st, 2021, minutes. The request was
6 received by the commission overseeing this process but was not entered into our
7 minutes. We have amended the minutes to show this.

8 M/S/C to amend the minutes of September 21, 2021, with the attached request from
9 [church name omitted] to particularize and to approve [church name omitted]’s
10 request to organize as a particular church within MNYP.

11 **Exception: Sep 21, 2021 (BCO 15-1)** – Presbytery’s commission exceeded the
12 powers delegated to it.

13 **Response:** Presbytery respectfully disagrees with GA. We regret the confusion of
14 language, but the presbytery intended to give the commission all powers to handle the
15 transfer of [church name omitted], save the power to examine and transfer the teaching
16 elders. This was clear in presbytery discussion. We regret that the language did not
17 capture presbytery’s intent. The main power that presbytery wished to reserve to the
18 presbytery as a whole was the power to examine and transfer the teaching elders.

19 **Exception: Nov 9, 2021 (BCO 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5)** – Stated differences not recorded
20 in the minister’s own words.

21 **Response:** Presbytery agrees with GA and has corrected its record by recording in the
22 minutes the stated differences to the WS.

23 M/S/C to amend the November 9th, 2020, minutes to include TE [name omitted]’s
24 stated differences with the WS. (approved unanimously)

25 *I take exception to the Westminster Confession, chapter IV, Section 1; and the*
26 *corresponding Larger Catechism Question 15; where it says God created “in the*
27 *space of six days.” If the Divines intended this phrase to mean God created everything*
28 *in six, twenty-four hour” days, then I believe it is one of many interpretations of*
29 *Genesis 1 and 2. I hold to a Framework View that allows for an old earth perspective*
30 *for creation. This means that the six days could be six, twenty-four days or the events*
31 *of creation could have happened over a long period of time. I interpret Genesis 1 as*
32 *describing history and is truthful in all that it describes, but I interpret Genesis 1 as*
33 *revealing who, God, as the Creator of all that is, and why he created all that is,*
34 *bringing order to chaos and filling the void with all that is for his glory and called it*
35 *all good. I understand that Metro New York does not consider my view as an exception*
36 *according to its position paper, but I leave that to presbytery to decide. I offer it here*
37 *for transparency.*

38 *I take exception to the Westminster Confession, chapter XXI, Section 8; and the*
39 *corresponding Larger Question 119, where it says the Sabbath “the whole day is a*
40 *holy rest from their own works, words, and thoughts about their worldly*
41 *employments and*
42 *recreations;” and that we are forbidden to do “all needless works, words, and*
43 *thoughts, about our worldly employments and recreation.” The Fourth*
44 *Commandment (Exodus 20:8-11) does call us to keep the Sabbath holy, dedicating*
45 *one day for worship and rest from our work to reflect the new heavens and new earth*

1 *whereby all eternity will be marked by the worship of our Savior and rest in his*
 2 *finished work on our behalf. If the Divines meant that Christians could not ever think*
 3 *about our work or engage in any form of recreation with our family and friends, then*
 4 *I think they went further than Scripture and bound the consciences of believers*
 5 *(Romans 14). Also, Jesus' disciples harvested for food on the Sabbath. Jesus also said,*
 6 *"man was not made for the Sabbath but the Sabbath was made for man" (Mark 2:27).*
 7 *I do believe the whole day is to be devoted to the Lord in worship (corporate and*
 8 *private) and rest from our work, but some recreations can be restful and needful.*
 9 *Again, I understand this view is not an exception in Metro New York's according to*
 10 *its position paper on the Sabbath, I offer this for transparency.*

11 ***I take exception to the Westminster Confession, chapter XXIV, section 3, where we***
 12 ***are commanded to "marry only in the Lord." In defining "in the Lord, it forbids***
 13 ***marriages between reformed believers and "infidels, papists, or other idolaters."***
 14 *Though I agree with the command, "marry only in the Lord," I cannot and do not*
 15 *lump all Catholics (referred to here as papists) with all unbelievers (referred to as*
 16 *infidels, papists, and idolaters). I understand the historical context during which the*
 17 *Divines wrote the Confession, Catholic clergy and governments were persecuting*
 18 *reformed believers and it would not have been consider that a Catholic could be part*
 19 *of the Roman Catholic Church and believed the gospel. But I have met many Catholic*
 20 *believers and would not oppose a reformed believer marrying a Roman Catholic*
 21 *believer, especially if they decided to attend a Protestant Church. I just do not hold*
 22 *that all Roman Catholics are unbelievers. I do see how, even a believing Roman*
 23 *Catholic but wants to remain in the Roman Catholic Church and if he marries a*
 24 *Protestant believer have that spouse convert to Catholicism can potentially be*
 25 *unequally yoked."*

26 M/S/C to approve his exception to the Westminster Standards as more than semantic,
 27 but not out of accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine (approved
 28 unanimously)

29 **Exception: General 2019 (BCO 13-9b)** – No record of review of church Sessions
 30 found in presbytery minutes.

31 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery agrees with the exception and promises to be more
 32 careful in the future. The committee that has this responsibility has struggled in the
 33 past few years to complete these tasks. We are working on rectifying this situation.

34 **Rationale [2022]:** As of 2021 minutes, there is still no record of review of church
 35 Session found in Presbytery minutes.

36 **Response [2023]:** Presbytery agrees with GA and has corrected this by reviewing and
 37 approving church session minutes for 2018, 2019 and 2020.

38 **Exception: Jan 8, 2019 (BCO 18-3)** – No record that the candidate was examined in
 39 experiential religion and the motives for gospel ministry.

40 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery agrees with the exception and promises to be more
 41 careful in the future. Presbytery is working with our LDT committee to remind them
 42 of the BCO requirement of candidate ordination and floor examination.

43 **Rationale [2022]:** When GA takes exception to a Presbytery's minutes for failure to
 44 record or take a required action, and Presbytery agrees with the exception, a
 45 satisfactory response should indicate that they have taken the required action, if

1 possible, and properly recorded the same in their minutes, amending and resubmitting
2 relevant portions of past minutes if necessary.

3 **Response [2023]:** Presbytery agrees with GA in that the examination was not recorded
4 in the minutes, but the examination did take place before the Leadership Development
5 committee and before presbytery. The record has been amended.

6 M/S/C to amend the January 8th, 2019, minutes to show that TE [name omitted] was
7 examined in Christian experience and motives for the gospel ministry (approved
8 unanimously)

9 **Exception: Jan 8, 2019 (BCO 23-1)** – No record of congregation having approved
10 the dissolution of call of the former pastor.

11 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery agrees with the exception and will correct its record and
12 promises to be more careful in the future.

13 **Rationale [2022]:** When GA takes exception to a Presbytery's minutes for failure to
14 record or take a required action, and Presbytery agrees with the exception, a
15 satisfactory response should indicate that they have taken the required action, if
16 possible, and properly recorded the same in their minutes, amending and resubmitting
17 relevant portions of past minutes if necessary.

18 **Response [2023]:** Presbytery agrees with GA and has amended its record to include
19 the congregational minutes showing the dissolution of the pastoral relationship
20 between TE [name omitted] and [church name omitted].

21 M/S/C to amend the January 8th, 2019, minutes to include the congregational meeting
22 minutes showing the dissolution of the pastoral relationship between TE [name
23 omitted] and [church name omitted] (approved unanimously) (Appendix 11)

24 **Exception: May 14, 2019 (BCO 18-3)** – No record that the candidate was examined
25 in experiential religion and the motives for gospel ministry.

26 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery agrees with the exception and promises to be more
27 careful in the future. Presbytery is working with our LDT committee to remind them
28 of the *BCO* requirement of candidate ordination.

29 **Rationale [2022]:** When GA takes exception to a Presbytery's minutes for failure to
30 record or take a required action, and Presbytery agrees with the exception, a
31 satisfactory response should indicate that they have taken the required action, if
32 possible, and properly recorded the same in their minutes, amending and resubmitting
33 relevant portions of past minutes if necessary.

34 **Response [2023]:** Presbytery agrees with GA in that the examination was not recorded
35 in the minutes, but the examination did take place before the Leadership Development
36 Committee and before presbytery. The record has been amended.

37 M/S/C to amend the May 14th, 2019, minutes to show that candidate [name omitted]
38 was examined in experiential religion and the motives for gospel ministry. (Approved
39 unanimously)

40 **Exception: Sep 17, 2019 (BCO 18-3)** – No record that the candidate was examined
41 in experiential religion and the motives for gospel ministry.

42 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery agrees with the exception and promises to be more
43 careful in the future. Presbytery is working with our LDT committee to remind them
44 of the *BCO* requirement of candidate ordination.

1 **Rationale [2022]:** When GA takes exception to a Presbytery's minutes for failure to
2 record or take a required action, and Presbytery agrees with the exception, a
3 satisfactory response should indicate that they have taken the required action, if
4 possible, and properly recorded the same in their minutes, amending and resubmitting
5 relevant portions of past minutes if necessary.

6 **Response [2023]:** Presbytery agrees with GA in that the examination was not recorded
7 in the minutes, but the examination did take place before the Leadership Development
8 Committee and before presbytery. The record has been amended.

9 M/S/C to amend the September 17th, 2019, minutes to show that candidate [name
10 omitted] was examined in experiential religion and the motives for gospel ministry.
11 (Approved unanimously).

12 **Exception: Jan 7, 2020 (BCO 13-11)** – Complaint sent to Presbytery not recorded in
13 minutes ('full and accurate record').

14 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery agrees with the exception and in the future will properly
15 record a complaint in the minutes. The ROC has the complaint listed with the judicial
16 commission that was formed.

17 **Rationale [2022]:** When GA takes exception to a Presbytery's minutes for failure to
18 record or take a required action, and Presbytery agrees with the exception, a
19 satisfactory response should indicate that they have taken the required action, if
20 possible, and properly recorded the same in their minutes, amending and resubmitting
21 relevant portions of past minutes if necessary.

22 **Response [2023]:** Presbytery agrees with GA. The minutes of the Jan 7th, 2020, Stated
23 Meeting were amended to include the complaint sent to presbytery. (Appendix 6)
24 M/S/C to amend the Jan 7th, 2020, Stated Meeting minutes to include the complaint
25 sent to presbytery. (Approved Unanimously)

26 **Exception: Jan 7, 2020 (BCO 23-1)** – No record of a congregation meeting to
27 dissolve pastoral relationship.

28 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery agrees with the exception and in the future will properly
29 record the action by noting the session or congregation approval of the dissolution in
30 the minutes.

31 **Rationale [2022]:** When GA takes exception to a Presbytery's minutes for failure to
32 record or take a required action, and Presbytery agrees with the exception, a
33 satisfactory response should indicate that they have taken the required action, if
34 possible, and properly recorded the same in their minutes, amending and resubmitting
35 relevant portions of past minutes if necessary.

36 **Response [2023]:** Presbytery agrees with GA and has amended its record to include
37 the session minutes showing the dissolution of the pastoral relationship between TE
38 [name omitted] and [church name omitted].

39 M/S/C to amend the January 7th, 2020, minutes to include the session meeting minutes
40 showing the dissolution of the pastoral relationship between TE [name omitted] and
41 [church name omitted] (approved unanimously) (Appendix 12).

42 **Exception: Nov 20, 2020 (BCO 20-1)** – No record of approval of new call to TE
43 laboring out of bounds.

44 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery agrees with the exception and promises to be more
45 careful in the future.

1 **Rationale [2022]:** When GA takes exception to a Presbytery's minutes for failure to
2 record or take a required action, and Presbytery agrees with the exception, a
3 satisfactory response should indicate that they have taken the required action, if
4 possible, and properly recorded the same in their minutes, amending and resubmitting
5 relevant portions of past minutes if necessary.

6 **Response [2023]:** Presbytery agrees with GA and has amended its record to show the
7 approval of TE [name omitted] terms of call which were found to be in order and
8 acceptable.

9 M/S/C to amend the November 20th, 2020, minutes to approve the terms of call for
10 TE [name omitted] which were found to be in order and acceptable to him. (Appendix
11 15)

12 **Exception: Nov 20, 2020 (BCO 23-1)** – No record of congregational meeting to
13 dissolve pastoral relationship.

14 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery agrees with the exception and will correct its record.
15 Presbytery promises to be more careful in the future.

16 **Rationale [2022]:** when GA takes exception to a Presbytery's minutes for failure to
17 record or take a required action, and Presbytery agrees with the exception, a
18 satisfactory response should indicate that they have taken the required action, if
19 possible, and properly recorded the same in their minutes, amending and resubmitting
20 relevant portions of past minutes if necessary.

21 **Response [2023]:** Presbytery agrees with GA and has amended its record to include
22 the minutes showing the dissolution of the pastoral relationship between TE [name
23 omitted] and [church name omitted].

24 M/S/C to amend the November 20th, 2020, minutes to include the congregational
25 meeting vote to dissolve the pastoral relationship between TE [name omitted] and
26 [church name omitted] (Appendix 13).

27 **Exception: Nov 20, 2020 (BCO 23-1)** – No record of a session meeting to dissolve
28 pastoral relationship.

29 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery agrees with the exception and will correct its record.
30 Presbytery promises to be more careful in the future

31 **Rationale [2022]:** when GA takes exception to a Presbytery's minutes for failure to
32 record or take a required action, and Presbytery agrees with the exception, a
33 satisfactory response should indicate that they have taken the required action, if
34 possible, and properly recorded the same in their minutes, amending and resubmitting
35 relevant portions of past minutes if necessary.

36 **Response [2023]:** Presbytery agrees with GA and has amended its record to include
37 the session minutes showing the dissolution of the pastoral relationship between TE
38 [name omitted] and [church name omitted].

39 M/S/C to amend the November 20th, 2020, minutes to include the session meeting
40 minutes showing the dissolution of the pastoral relationship between TE [name
41 omitted] and [church name omitted] (approved unanimously) (Appendix 13)

42 **Exception: Nov 5, 2016 (BCO 21-4.b)** Candidate not “asked to indicate whether he
43 has changed his previous views concerning any points in the *Confession of Faith*,
44 *Catechisms*, and *Book of Church Order* of the Presbyterian Church in America.

1 **Response [2022]:** Presbytery agrees with the exception and promises to be more
 2 careful in the future.

3 **Rationale [2022]:** When GA takes exception to a Presbytery's minutes for failure to
 4 record or take a required action, and Presbytery agrees with the exception, a
 5 satisfactory response should indicate that they have taken the required action, if
 6 possible, and properly recorded the same in their minutes, amending and resubmitting
 7 relevant portions of past minutes if necessary.

8 **Response [2023]:** Presbytery agrees with GA and has corrected its record by
 9 recording in the minutes the stated differences to the WS.

10 M/S/C to amend the November 5th, 2016, minutes to include TE [name omitted]'s
 11 stated differences with the WS. (Approved unanimously)

12 *I take exception to the Westminster Confession 21.8 where the Confession states "This*
 13 *Sabbath is then kept holy unto the Lord, when men, after a due preparing of their*
 14 *hearts, and ordering of their common affairs beforehand, do not only observe an holy*
 15 *rest, all the day, from their own works, words, and thoughts about their worldly*
 16 *employments and recreations, but also are taken up, the whole time, in the public and*
 17 *private exercises of His worship, and in the duties of necessity and mercy." I believe*
 18 *that Scripture does not teach the sabbath as something to be observed as strictly as it*
 19 *is stated in this section, specifically in regards to recreation being prohibited as part*
 20 *of keeping the sabbath. While it is clear that God prohibits work on the Sabbath*
 21 *(Exodus 20:8 - 11) except for works of mercy (Matthew 12:11 - 13) and gathering for*
 22 *worship (Leviticus 23:3), there is no clear passage of Scripture to my knowledge that*
 23 *prohibits recreation. Therefore, my conscience cannot be bound by the part of this*
 24 *section that does not seem to have clear grounds in Scripture. Mark 2:27 states that*
 25 *"the Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath". Seeing Jesus' response to*
 26 *the pharisees who rebuked him for eating and drinking during the Sabbath affirms my*
 27 *conviction in regards to this section.*

28 M/S/C to approve his exception to the Westminster Standards as more than semantic,
 29 but not out of accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine (approved
 30 unanimously).

31 **e. That the following response to the 50th GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore a**
 32 **new response shall be submitted to the following GA:**

33 **Exception: Mar 9, 2021 (BCO 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5)** – Stated differences not recorded
 34 in the minister's own words.

35 **Response:** Presbytery agrees with GA and has corrected the record to clearly record
 36 the stated differences which were stated but recorded incorrectly. The minutes have
 37 been amended to reflect this.

38 a. The record of the March 9th, 2021, stated meeting recorded the candidates
 39 responses in the 3rd person.

40 b. M/S/C to amend the March 9, 2021, minutes with this response from the
 41 candidates: TE [name omitted] states that 'I take an exception to recreation on the
 42 Sabbath.' TE [name omitted] states that 'I take an exception to recreation on the
 43 Sabbath.' TE [name omitted] states that 'I take an exception to WCF 21:8
 44 regarding recreation on the Sabbath.' (Approved unanimously)

45 c. M/S/C to approve TE [name omitted], TE [name omitted] and TE [name omitted]

1 exceptions to the Westminster Standards as more than semantic, but not out of
2 accord with any fundamentals of our system of doctrine (approved unanimously)

3 **Rationale:** The stated exceptions do not give any information as to the specific nature
4 or the biblical rationale for the exceptions (*BCO* 21-4.e).

5 **f. That the 50th General Assembly:**

6 a. Find that the minutes of Metropolitan New York Presbytery (September 20, 2022;
7 pp. 69–71) constitutes a “credible report” of “an important delinquency or grossly
8 unconstitutional proceedings” (*BCO* 40-5) in Presbytery’s delinquency to redress
9 a Session who admitted to unconstitutional proceedings of: (1) permitting a
10 woman to expound the Scriptures during a worship service on the Lord’s Day; (2)
11 holding many worship services without preaching; and (3) serving the Lord’s
12 Supper at many services without a preceding sermon. Furthermore, Presbytery
13 was delinquent in failing to redress the views of a Teaching Elder who stated his
14 approval of said proceedings.

15 b. Cite Metropolitan New York Presbytery to appear, per *BCO* 40-5, before the
16 PCA’s Standing Judicial Commission which the 50th GA constitutes its
17 commission to adjudicate this matter, by representative or in writing, at the SJC’s
18 fall stated meeting, to “show what the lower court has done or failed to do in the
19 case in question,” following the Operating Manual for the SJC, particularly
20 chapter 15; and

21 c. Direct the CRPR Officers to appoint one or more representatives of the GA and
22 Report (OMSJC 15.2) to present this case to the SJC.

23 **Rationale:** There are two major reasons for citing the Presbytery to appear before the
24 SJC to redress the delinquency of the Presbytery. Pages 69-71 of Presbytery Minutes
25 contain the following language:

26 *As requested by the Presbytery, the Shepherding Team followed up with [church name*
27 *omitted] in response to concerns raised from outside the Presbytery about a recent*
28 *female guest speaker at their church.*

29 *[Church name omitted] reports that they invited [a female minister of another*
30 *denomination] to speak in their worship service on Sunday, October 31, 2021. Her*
31 *remarks were presented as a Bible study, not as a sermon. Before the invitation to the*
32 *Lord’s Table, an authoritative word of exhortation was given by the Senior Pastor,*
33 *setting the sacrament in the context of the Word.*

34 *[Church name omitted] reports that a mistake was made in posting Dr. [name*
35 *omitted]’s talk on their church website. Because of website presets, when the talk was*
36 *initially posted it was inadvertently identified as a sermon. This error was quickly*
37 *rectified, and the recording is now identified as a Bible study.*

38 *TE [name omitted] stated that while he believes that what happened was within*
39 *biblical bounds, he does apologize for the confusion caused and will strive to operate*
40 *with more wisdom as a session and church.*

41 The first reason the presbytery should be cited to appear before the SJC deals with the
42 egregiousness of the issue. The cultural zeitgeist of egalitarianism continues to exert
43 pressure on the church, and it is vitally important for the purity and peace of the church
44 that we honor and implement the Biblical prohibition on women teaching (1 Tim
45 2:12).

1 The second reason reflects the reality that the Presbytery fully investigated this
 2 incident, discovered a number of grossly unconstitutional proceedings, and took no
 3 action to redress the situation after the investigation.

4 During the investigation, the following grossly unconstitutional proceedings were
 5 reported and recorded in the minutes:

- 6 ● A woman read and expounded the Scriptures in a “Bible study” (listed in the
 7 bulletin as a “message”; pp. 69, 70) during a Lord’s Day worship service,
 8 contrary to *BCO* 4-4, 8-5; *WCF* 21.5; *WLC* 156, 158.
- 9 ● While the church attempted to distinguish the “Bible study” from a “sermon,”
 10 the church also acknowledged that they celebrated the Lord’s Supper after the
 11 “Bible study,” which was preceded by “an authoritative word of exhortation
 12 was given by the Senior Pastor, setting the sacrament in the context of the
 13 Word” (pp. 69–70). This is contrary to the constitutional requirement that the
 14 Lord’s Supper should follow a sermon (*BCO* 58-4).
- 15 ● Furthermore, the church admitted that the church has “had many services
 16 without a ‘sermon’ by an ordained minister. We have had many different
 17 people speak during the service at various times: seminary students, visiting
 18 missionaries..., etc....Our practice, since we celebrate Communion weekly, is
 19 that one of our pastors always ‘adds’ an additional word of biblical exposition
 20 just before we come to the Lord’s Table” (p. 70). In addition to the issue named
 21 above, requiring a sermon to precede the celebration of the Lord’s Supper, this
 22 general neglect of preaching is contrary to the constitutional requirements for
 23 worship services, as reflected in *BCO* 4-4; *WCF* 21.5; *WLC* 35, 108.

24 After these facts were ascertained during the investigation, the Presbytery found “no
 25 further reason to pursue this matter” (p. 71). In this finding, they became delinquent
 26 in failing to redress grossly unconstitutional proceedings from a church in the
 27 Presbytery and the views of the Teaching Elder who stated his approval of said
 28 proceedings.

29 Ultimately, Presbytery’s failure to take remedial action on this matter should be
 30 referred to the SJC.

31
 32 45. That the Minutes of the **Presbytery of the Mississippi Valley:** 57-0-0

- 33 a. Be approved without exceptions: **Feb 1, 2022; May 3, 2022; Aug 2, 2022; Nov 1,**
 34 **2022.**
- 35 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **None.**
- 36 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance: **None.**
- 37 **d. That the following response to the 50th GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore a**
 38 **new response shall be submitted to the following GA:**
 39 **Exception: Feb 2, 2021; May 4, 2021 (RONR 9:34) – A commission conducted**
 40 **business by email, which does not constitute a deliberative assembly.**
 41 **Response:** The Presbytery of the Mississippi Valley expresses our thanks to RPR for
 42 their vareful work and for correcting us in regard to the proper practice of commissions
 43 appointed to do the work of presbytery. We regret our erro and reminded commissions
 44 and committees that are tasked with commission responsibilities that they are to be

1 sure that such work is done in a deliberative assembly per *RONR* 9:34. Again thank
2 you.

3 **Rationale:** Presbytery should ratify actions taken outside the deliberative assembly.
4

5 46. That the Minutes of **Missouri** Presbytery: 57-0-0

6 a. Be approved without exceptions: **Jan 18, 2022; May 21, 2022; Jun 14, 2022; Jul 19,**
7 **2022; Dec 6, 2022.**

8 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **Directory; Apr 19, 2022.**

9 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance:

10 **1. Exception: Oct 22, 2022 (BCO 23-2; 13-1)** – A minister who is honorably retired
11 was released to the care of a church session.

12 **d. That the following response to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**

13 **Exception: Jan 21, 2020 (BCO 21-4.f; RAO 16-3.e.5)** – Explanations not recorded in
14 candidate’s own words – two candidates describe their exceptions in precisely the
15 same words (need clarification).

16 **Response [2022]:** We apologize for this error, which was simply an error in
17 copying/pasting the wrong exceptions for the wrong man, which resulted in the
18 duplication. We have the correct exceptions for each man, which were presented to
19 the body and prosecuted. This was an error in the creation of the minutes. We have
20 amended our minutes to reflect each man’s correct exceptions.

21 **Rationale [2022]:** The corrected minutes including the candidate’s stated differences
22 should be submitted for review.

23 **Response [2023]:** We apologize for this error, which was simply an error in
24 copying/pasting the wrong exceptions for the wrong man, which resulted in the
25 duplication. We have the correct exceptions for each man, which were presented to
26 the body and prosecuted. This was an error in the creation of the minutes. We have
27 amended our minutes to reflect each man’s correct exceptions. The amended minutes
28 are attached.
29

30 47. That the Minutes of **Nashville** Presbytery: 53-0-1

31 a. Be approved without exception: **Mar 4, 2022; Aug 9, 2022; Sep 28, 2022.**

32 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **Nov 8, 2022.**

33 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance:

34 **1. Exception: General 2022 (BCO 13-9.b; 40-1)** – No record of review of records
35 of church sessions.

36 **2. Exception: Feb 8, 2022; Apr 12, 2022; Jul 18, 2022 (BCO 19-16)** – $\frac{3}{4}$ vote for
37 waiving internship requirement not recorded.

38 **3. Exception: May 3, 2022; Jul 18, 2022 (BCO 13-12)** – Notice for called meeting
39 not in order; no record of 10-day notice.

40 **4. Exception: Nov 8, 2022 (BCO 23-1)** – No record that Congregation/Session
41 concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.

42 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**

43 **Exception: Feb 8, 2021 (BCO 23-1)** – Dissolution of pastoral relations with no
44 reference to congregational meeting or appearance of representatives.

1 **Response:** Nashville Presbytery agrees with this exception and will make sure we ask
2 churches to appear in the context of 23-1 and record that action in our minutes. The
3 church documents showing the needed approvals for the dissolution are reviewed by
4 our committee before recommending dissolution of pastoral relationships to
5 presbytery. However, the body of our minutes does not record congregational votes
6 for the two pastoral relationships that were dissolved. We have adjusted our recording
7 to bring our minutes into compliance.

8 **Exception: Apr 13, 2021 (BCO 23-1)** – No record of Session meeting to dissolve
9 pastoral relation.

10 **Response:** We agree with the exception. The body of our minutes does not record
11 session action for the two assistant pastors who were called to a newly particularized
12 congregation. We have adjusted our recording to bring our minutes into compliance.

13 **Exception: Apr 13, 2021 (BCO 13-10)** – No record of transfer or dismissal of
14 members upon dissolving a church.

15 **Response:** Nashville Presbytery agrees with this exception and will act in accord with
16 *BCO* 13-10 in the future. There were follow-up meetings for the congregation, and all
17 the members were contacted by the provisional Session. The Session provided
18 members with information concerning churches to which the members could transfer.
19 There were a relatively small number of members, and this process was handled
20 informally by the provisional Session in cooperation with the Presbytery’s Church
21 Planting Committee. We will be more careful in the future to make sure the provisions
22 of *BCO* 13-10 are followed when a member church is dissolved.

23 **Exception: Jun 25, 2021 (BCO 13-12; RAO 16-3.c.1)** – No record of notice for a
24 called meeting; purpose of called meeting not recorded verbatim in the minutes.

25 **Response:** We agree with the exception. Notice for the meeting was provided on June
26 14 and clearly stated the purpose for the meeting, but the call for the meeting was not
27 recorded verbatim in the minutes. We will modify our practice to conform to the
28 requirement.

29 **Exception: Aug 31, 2021; Sep 21, 2021; Dec 13, 2021 (BCO 13-12)** – Notice for
30 Called Meeting not in order; no record of 10-day notice.

31 **Response:** We agree with the exception. Notice for the meetings listed was provided
32 on August 20, September 9, and December 3 and clearly stated the purpose of each
33 meeting, but our minutes do not record the fact. We will modify our practice to
34 conform to the requirement.

35 **e. That the following response to the 50th GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore a**
36 **new response shall be submitted to the following GA:**

37 **Exception: Feb 8, 2021; Aug 10, 2021 (BCO 18-7)** – No reasons given for removing
38 candidates from rolls.

39 **Response:** We agree with the exception. In each case our committee recommended
40 removal for valid reasons, but this fact is not recorded in our minutes. We have since
41 modified our practice to comply with the requirement.

42 **Rationale:** Presbytery has not yet recorded the reasons for the removal of these
43 candidates from its rolls (*BCO* 18-7).
44
45

1 48. That the Minutes of **New Jersey** Presbytery: 57-0-0

2 a. Be approved without exceptions: **Mar 19, 2022; May 21, 2022; Sep 17, 2022; Nov**
3 **19, 2022.**

4 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **None.**

5 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance: **None.**

6 **d. No response to a previous assembly is required.**

7
8 49. That the Minutes of **New River** Presbytery: 57-0-0

9 a. Be approved without exceptions: **None.**

10 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **Directory; General 2022; Jan 29, 2022; Mar**
11 **5, 2022; Aug 6, 2022; Nov 5, 2022.**

12 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance:

13 **1. Exception: General 2022 (BCO 13-9.b; 40-1) – No record of review of records**
14 **of church Sessions.**

15 **2. Exception: General 2022 (RAO 16-10.a) – No record in minutes of exceptions**
16 **taken by GA.**

17 **3. Exception: General 2022 (RAO 16-10.a) – No response to the Assembly**
18 **concerning disposition of an exception of substance.**

19 **4. Exception: General 2022 (BCO 13-11; 40-1; RAO 16-3.e.7) – Minutes to called**
20 **meeting not included.**

21 **5. Exception: General 2022 (BCO 8-7) – No record of reports of TEs laboring out**
22 **of bounds.**

23 **6. Exception: Jan 29, 2022 (BCO 13-12) – Notice for called meeting not in order.**

24 **7. Exception: Jan 29, 2022 (BCO 13-12; RAO 16-3.c.1) – Purpose of called meeting**
25 **not recorded verbatim in the minutes.**

26 **8. Exception: Aug 06, 2022 (BCO 19-2; RAO 16-3.e.5) – All specific requirements**
27 **of licensure exam not recorded.**

28 **9. Exception: Aug 06, 2022 (BCO 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5) – Stated differences not**
29 **judged with the prescribed categories.**

30 **10. Exception: Nov 05, 2022 (BCO 18-2) – No record of six-months membership for**
31 **candidate.**

32 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**

33 **Exception: Aug 7, 2021; Nov 6, 2021 (BCO 46-6) – Teaching Elder did not remain**
34 **under the jurisdiction of the Presbytery until received by the other.**

35 **Response:** Regarding the first part of this exception—Aug 7, 2021 [p. 2, F.3]—we
36 apologize for not including a “pending reception” clause in our minutes in TE [name
37 omitted]’s transfer from the New River Presbytery. We will pay more careful attention
38 to this detail in the future.

39 Regarding the second part of this exception—Nov 6, 2021 [p. 2.G.2] (BCO 46-6)—
40 our minutes should have been more specific to convey that, though his pastoral
41 relationship was dissolved on December 5, 2021, TE [name omitted]’s membership
42 still resided with NRP until he was officially accepted into Tennessee Valley
43 Presbytery on December 13, 2021.

44 **Exception: Aug 7, 2021 (BCO 23-1) – There is no record that presbytery received**
45 **report that the congregation concurred with the dissolution of the pastoral relation.**

1 **Response:** You are right: [church name omitted]’s congregation/session did not
2 appear (in person or in writing) to address TE [name omitted]’s tender of resignation.
3 However, *BCO* 23-1 says that “if the church fails to appear,...[the minister’s]
4 resignation shall be accepted and the pastoral relation dissolved.” Therefore, though
5 NRP should have cited [church name omitted] “to appear by its commissioners,” the
6 dissolution of our relation with TE [name omitted] is still constitutionally valid.

7 **Exception: Aug 7, 2021** (*RAO* 16-3.e.5 *BCO* 19-2.d) – Incomplete record for a
8 licensure exam.

9 **Response:** We apologize for not noting in our minutes that we received a copy of the
10 sermon. Although the written sermon was provided to the C&C committee, it was not
11 noted in the minutes.

12 **Exception: Nov 6, 2021** (*BCO* 13-2) – No record of TE laboring out of bounds with
13 concurrence of Presbytery within whose bounds he labors.

14 **Response:** We respectfully disagree with this exception. *BCO* 13-2 does specify that
15 a minister laboring out of bounds (“or in a work not under the jurisdiction of” the
16 presbytery) requires “the full concurrence of and under circumstances agreeable to his
17 Presbytery.” We do not believe that this rule has been broken, however, since NRP’s
18 approval of the ministries of TE [name omitted] and TE [name omitted] were both
19 given at previous presbytery meetings, and relevant excerpts of those meetings are
20 recorded in **APPENDIX 1**.

21 **APPENDIX 1**

22 1. An excerpt from the minutes of the 135th stated meeting of NRP, held on March 2,
23 2019. This excerpt proves that TE [name omitted] was approved for ministry out of
24 bounds.

25 After inviting [name omitted] and [name omitted] to return, their Calls from [church
26 name omitted] and [church name omitted] (respectively) were presented to the body,
27 and the candidates were asked if they believed their packages to be sufficient to their
28 needs, which he answered in the affirmative. Therefore, it was **MSC to approve the**
29 **Calls to** [name omitted] **and** [name omitted], and the calls were placed in their hands.

30 2. Excerpts from the minutes of the 127th stated meeting of the NRP, held on August
31 6, 2016, confirming that TE [name omitted] was approved for ministry out of bounds.

32 **127-10** Moderator TE [name omitted] called for the report of the Candidates and
33 Credentials Committee. TE [name omitted] opened the report with prayer. He then
34 gave a short history of TE [name omitted]’s call to [church name omitted] of
35 Huntington, WV as an Assistant Pastor.

36 **127-19** TE [name omitted] stated the call is out of bounds, however the Candidates
37 and Credentials Committee find it to be in order, per *BCO* 8-7 (See also *BCO* 20-1,
38 21-1).

39 **127-20** MSC that [church name omitted], Huntington, WV is a valid ministry, a true
40 Church of God and a valid congregation of the church of Christ.

41 **127-21** MSC to approve the examination of TE [name omitted], and to transfer his
42 membership to New River Presbytery effective immediately.

43 **127-22** TE [name omitted] was invited to return to the meeting room. The call from
44 [church name omitted] of Huntington, WV was placed in TE [name omitted]’s hands

1 by TE [name omitted]. TE [name omitted] then prayed for TE [name omitted]’s call,
2 and the Presbyters extended the right hand of fellowship to TE [name omitted].

- 3 **e. That the following response to the 50th GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore a**
4 **new response shall be submitted to the following GA:**

5 **Exception: General** (BCO 13-9.b; 40-1) – No record of review of records of church
6 Sessions.

7 **Response:** We apologize for the delays regarding our churches’ minutes—both in
8 reviewing and in approving them. We are in the process of reviewing the minutes for
9 both 2021 and 2022

10 **Rationale:** No report on progress provided or included in minutes.
11

- 12 50. That the Minutes of **New York State** Presbytery: 58-0-1

13 a. Be approved without exceptions: **Jul 18, 2022.**

14 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **May 21, 2022.**

15 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance:

16 **1. Exception: General 2022** (BCO 8-4) – No record of annual report by TEs called
17 to “needful work.”

18 **2. Exception: Feb 26, 2022** (BCO 13-12) – Notice for called meeting not in order
19 (10-day notice, verbatim meeting call, etc., not indicated/recorded).

20 **3. Exception: Feb 26, 2022** (BCO 34-10) – 2/3 vote for divesture of office
21 requirement not recorded.

22 **4. Exception: Feb 26, 2022** (BCO 34-10) – Notice for grounds for proceeding
23 against TE not in order (not indicated/recorded).

24 **5. Exception: May 21, 2022** (BCO 13-10) – No record of transfer or dismissal of
25 members upon dissolving a church associated with 60-day notice.

26 **6. Exception: May 21, 2022** (BCO 8-7) – No record that the Presbytery is assured
27 that an out-of-bounds TE will have full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine
28 of our Church.

29 **7. Exception: Sep 16-17, 2022** (BCO 25-11) – No record that Presbytery confirmed
30 that a 30-day notice was given by Session for congregational meeting to withdraw
31 from the denomination.

- 32 **d. No response to previous assemblies is required.**
33

- 34 51. That the Minutes of **North Florida** Presbytery: 56-0-1

35 a. Be approved without exceptions: **Feb 10, 2022; May 12, 2022; Aug 11, 2022; Nov**
36 **17, 2022.**

37 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **None.**

38 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance: **None.**

- 39 **d. That the following response to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**

40 **Exception: May 13, 2021** (BCO 19-2.d) – All specific requirements of licensure exam
41 not recorded.

42 **Response:** We agree with this exception. While the candidate did preach a sermon
43 before the Presbytery, there is no record that a written sermon was provided, although
44 it was clear at the time that written sermon notes were utilized. Presbytery has taken

1 steps to ensure that candidates submit a written sermon. We will be more careful in
 2 the future.

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52. That the Minutes of **North Texas** Presbytery: 57-0-1

- a. Be approved without exceptions: **May 6-7, 2022.**
- b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **Directory; Appendices; Aug 12-13, 2022.**
- c. Be approved with exceptions of substance:
 - 1. **Exception: Feb 18-19, 2022** (*BCO* 21-4.c; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – Incomplete record of ordination exam.
 - 2. **Exception: Aug 12-13, 2022** (*BCO* 21-4.f) – Presbytery judged a stated difference as “merely semantic.” This decision needs further clarity. At a minimum the difference appears to be an exception.
 - 3. **Exception: Aug 12-13, 2022** (*BCO* 13-6) – Incomplete record of a transfer exam for a TE coming from a different Presbytery.
 - 4. **Exception: Aug 12-13, 2022** (*BCO* 18-3) – No record of candidate exam recorded.
 - 5. **Exception: Sep 17, 2022** (*BCO* 13-4; *RAO* 16-3.c.1) – Purpose of called meeting not recorded verbatim in the minutes.
 - 6. **Exception: Sep 17, 2022** (*BCO* 43-10) – Presbytery remanded a complaint to a lower court expressing its opinion rather than giving instructions for a new hearing.
 - 7. **Exception: Nov 4-5, 2022** (*BCO* 18-3) – No record of candidate exams recorded.
- d. **That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**
 - Exception: May 7-8, 2021; Aug 13-14, 2021** (*BCO* 13-11; *RAO* 16-3.e.7) – Minutes of executive session not included.
 - Response:** The minutes of the executive session of May 7-8, 2021 are attached. The minutes of the executive session of August 13-14, 2021 are attached.
 - See PDF documents.**
 - Exception: Aug 13-14, 2021** (*BCO* 20-1) – No record of call to a definite work.
 - Response:** We do not understand the substance of this exception as we believe this is in fact recorded in our minutes.
 - Regarding [name omitted], the action to approve a call to a definite work as Associate Pastor at [church name omitted] is recorded on page 91 of the minutes, and the call to a definite work as Associate Pastor is recorded on page 142 of the minutes as a supporting document.

53. That the Minutes of **Northern California** Presbytery: 55-0-1

- a. Be approved without exceptions: **Aug 11, 2022.**
- b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **Feb 4, 2022.**
- c. Be approved with exceptions of substance:
 - 1. **Exception: General 2022** (*BCO* 13-9b) – No record of Presbytery reviewing Session minutes.
 - 2. **Exception: Feb 4, 2022** (*BCO* 21-4, *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – Incomplete record of ordination exam. Approval of theses and sermon not recorded.
 - 3. **Exception: Feb 4, 2022** (*BCO* 38-3) – No record of following *BCO* 38-3 for two ministers withdrawing to another denomination.

- 1 **4. Exception: Feb 4, 2022; May 6, 2022 (BCO 18-2)** – No record of six-months
2 membership for candidate.
3 **5. Exception: Feb 4, 2022; May 6, 2022 (BCO 23-1)** – No record that
4 Congregation/Session concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.
5 **6. Exception: Oct 7, 2022 (BCO 8-7)** – No record that the Presbytery is assured that
6 an out-of-bounds TE will have full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of
7 our Church.

8 **d. That the following response to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**

9 **Exception: General 2020 (BCO 13-9b)** – No record of Presbytery reviewing Session
10 minutes.

11 **Response [2022]:** The Presbytery had a system for the inspection of minutes outside
12 of the Stated Meeting times in place, but neglected to include record of the oversight
13 of this system in the minutes. We will be more diligent in the future in recording such
14 work.

15 **Rationale [2022]:** While the presbytery committed to be more diligent in the future,
16 the minutes of 2021 include an incomplete record of inspection of Session minutes
17 (BCO 13-9.b; 40-1).

18 **Response [2023]:** We note with regret that we failed to properly address the review
19 of session minutes in 2021 even after committing to be more diligent in the future. In
20 2022, although we made progress in asking churches to exchange session minutes
21 with another church and to review each other’s records, the presbytery did not review
22 the results of those inter-church reviews. The 2022 presbytery minutes will not reflect
23 a presbytery review of session records. At the February 2023 presbytery meeting, we
24 have approved a plan with a timeline each year for the interchurch review of session
25 minutes, for the sessions to submit reports of the session minute reviews to presbytery,
26 for the presbytery to review the reports and for the presbytery to vote on exceptions
27 of substance. Our Recording Clerk is overseeing this process. We attach a document
28 with the plan

29 **See PDF documents**

30
31 **54. That the Minutes of Northern Illinois Presbytery:** 57-0-0

- 32 a. Be approved without exceptions: **Jan 8, 2022; Mar 1, 2022; Mar 1, 2022 ES; May**
33 **10, 2022; Jul 26, 2022; Sep 10, 2022.**
34 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **General 2022.**
35 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance: **None.**

36 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**

37 **Exception: May 11, 2021 (BCO 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5)** – Stated differences not judged
38 with prescribed categories.

39 **Response:** “We are thankful for the assistance the Review of Presbytery Records
40 committee gives us in recording our meeting minutes properly. We understand that
41 we were not as clear as we might have been to show that both of Mr. [name omitted]’s
42 stated differences were judged with prescribed categories. However, both stated
43 differences were, in fact, were judged by the presbytery, as our minutes state, to be
44 ‘more than semantic, but not out of accord with any fundamental of our system of
45 doctrine. (RAO 16-3e5c)’ However, we do understand that we can be clearer in the

1 form of our record in these matters and have clarified the form within our minutes of
 2 May 11, 2021. We will be more careful in such situation in future minutes of our
 3 meetings.”

4 [Approved September 10, 2022, at Stated Meeting of Presbytery of Northern Illinois]
 5 **Exception: Dec 15, 2021 (BCO 13-12)** – Notice for called meeting not in order; 10-
 6 day notice not indicated or recorded.

7 **Response:** “We thank the Review of Presbytery Records Committee for its diligence
 8 in helping us keep our presbytery records in line with the Book of Church Order. We
 9 have discovered the exception (10-day notice for called meeting not given). We had
 10 mistakenly thought that we were indicating that a 10-day notice had been given by
 11 saying that ‘the called meeting was found to be in order (BCO 13-12)’ since paragraph
 12 13-12 states the 10-day notice requirement. The meeting was called 14 days ahead on
 13 December 1st. We have corrected the records to reflect the date the meeting was
 14 called. We will be more careful in the future to make sure the date of calling a called
 15 meeting is properly recorded.”

16 [Approved September 10, 2022, at Stated Meeting of Presbytery of Northern Illinois]
 17

18 55. That the Minutes of **Northern New England** Presbytery: 59-0-0

- 19 a. Be approved without exceptions: **Feb 5, 2022; May 21, 2022; Aug 6, 2022; Oct 15,**
 20 **2022.**
- 21 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **None.**
- 22 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance: **None.**
- 23 **d. No response to previous assemblies required.**

24

25 56. That the Minutes of **Northwest Georgia** Presbytery: 57-0-2

- 26 a. Be approved without exceptions: **Jan 15, 2022; Jun 9, 2022.**
- 27 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **None.**
- 28 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance:
- 29 **1. Exception: April 5, 2022 (BCO 43-8)** – Timely and orderly complaints (3) denied
 30 without a hearing.
- 31 **2. Exception: Aug 20, 2022 (BCO 13-11)** – Complaint sent to Presbytery not
 32 recorded in Presbytery’s minutes.
- 33 **d. That the following response to the 50th GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore a**
 34 **new response shall be submitted to the following GA:**
 35 **Exception: Apr 13, 2021 (BCO 43-8)** – If a complaint is properly filed, it shall be
 36 heard by the Presbytery. A complaint may not be denied without a hearing except on
 37 narrow administrative grounds.
 38 **Response:** At the April 13, 2021 meeting of Presbytery, there was an indication that
 39 the complainant intended to withdraw his complaint and that he would not pursue it
 40 any further nor elevate it to a higher court. The complainant communicated such in an
 41 email to Presbytery’s Stated Clerk on April 16, 2021. The Stated Clerk regrets the
 42 failure to record this in the minutes.
 43 **Rationale:** No record that Presbytery corrected its actions (RAO 16-10.b.1).
 44 Presbytery has not rescinded the unconstitutional denial of the complaint.
- 45 **e. That the 50th General Assembly:**

- 1 a. Find that the February 14, 2021 letter from RE [name omitted] et al. is a “credible
2 report” of “an important delinquency or grossly unconstitutional proceedings”
3 (*BCO* 40-5): specifically, there is evidence that (1) the calls to the three candidates
4 were constitutionally deficient, so implementing them was unconstitutional, and
5 (2) the Presbytery acted improperly in approving the calls and installing the three
6 candidates;
- 7 b. Cite the Northwest Georgia Presbytery to appear, per *BCO* 40-5, before the PCA’s
8 Standing Judicial Commission which the 49th GA constitutes its commission to
9 adjudicate this matter, by representative or in writing, at the SJC’s fall stated
10 meeting, to “show what the lower court has done or failed to do in the case in
11 question,” following the Operating Manual for the SJC, particularly chapter 15;
12 and
- 13 c. Direct the CRPR Officers to appoint one or more representatives of the GA and
14 Report (*OMSJC* 15.2) to present this case to the SJC.

15 **Rationale:** This matter was referred to CRPR on the decision of the SJC, Case No.
16 2021-02, and recommitted to CRPR by the 49th GA. There are a number of
17 constitutional reasons that necessitate citing Northwest Georgia Presbytery to appear
18 before the SJC to respond to these credible reports.

19 During the previous year’s General Assembly, there was confusion as to whether this
20 issue had already been addressed by the SJC. In SJC Case No. 2021-12 (*Complaint
21 of Christian Michelson and Stuart Michelson v. Northwest Georgia Presbytery,
22 M49GA, 822–825*), the SJC ruled that a *complaint* was not in order concerning the
23 proceedings of a congregational meeting, on the grounds that a congregational
24 meeting did not constitute the action of any court (*BCO* 43-1).

25 Then, the SJC suggested at least three other ways in which this concern could be
26 addressed by the higher courts: (1) “one with standing could complain against the
27 action of the Congregation at the point a court of the Church sought to implement the
28 alleged unconstitutional decision,” such as “the action of the Presbytery in approving
29 the call”; (2) the “Presbytery could take note of a Constitutional deficiency in a
30 congregational meeting in their review of the records of the Session”; or (3) “any
31 Constitutional irregularity at a congregational meeting, credibly brought to the
32 attention of Presbytery, may be investigated, and upon a finding of error, may be
33 redressed by the Presbytery,” per *BCO* 13-9.f. (*M49GA, 823*).

34 Two points should be observed about these suggested options. First, at least some
35 (and possibly all) of the authors of the letter did not have standing in Presbytery to
36 file an action against Presbytery’s actions to approve the call or installing the
37 associate pastors (option #1). Second, the letter contends that the Presbytery not only
38 failed to take note of the Constitutional deficiency in this congregational meeting
39 (option #2), but that the Presbytery also failed to redress the issue (option #3).

40 Therefore, issuing a *BCO* 40-5 citation is a necessary action for redressing the
41 concerns of these ordinary, non-officer members. Indeed, in a similar case handled
42 this past year (*Derek Wilson et al. v. Pacific Northwest Presbytery, SJC Case No.
43 2022-20, 50GA Commissioner Handbook, 2112–13*), the SJC specifically noted that
44 another recourse is that “The members could have informed Presbytery, under *BCO*
45 13-9(f) [*sic*] and 40-5, of what, in their view, was an unconstitutional limitation on

1 voting in the Congregational Meeting” (50GA Commissioner Handbook, 2112). In
 2 the case of the letter from RE [name omitted] et al., the members have reported to
 3 the General Assembly multiple ways in which, in their view, the Presbytery has
 4 engaged in unconstitutional proceedings.

5 Next, we should note that there are possible issues that could be redressed. While
 6 two of the three associate pastors have subsequently taken other calls, one associate
 7 pastor is still installed and serving as a voting member of the Session of the church.
 8 Finally, BCO 40-5 says:

9 When any court having appellate jurisdiction shall receive a credible report with
 10 respect to the court next below of any important delinquency or grossly
 11 unconstitutional proceedings of such court, the first step shall be to cite the court
 12 alleged to have offended to appear before the court having appellate jurisdiction,
 13 or its commission, by representative or in writing, at a specified time and place,
 14 and to show what the lower court has done or failed to do in the case in question.

15 Presbytery has acknowledged their error, but General Assembly did “receive a
 16 credible report...of [an] important delinquency or grossly unconstitutional
 17 proceedings” of a Presbytery. Our constitution requires that “the first step *shall* be to
 18 cite the court alleged to have offended.” The “shall” language requires that this
 19 Presbytery must be cited to appear before the Standing Judicial Commission.
 20 While some time has passed so that not everything can be redressed, this is an
 21 important issue to adjudicate for the peace, purity, and unity of the church.

22 **f. That the 50th General Assembly:**

23 1. Find that the June 1, 2022 letter from [name omitted] is not a “credible report” of
 24 an “important delinquency or grossly unconstitutional proceedings” (BCO 40-5).

25 **Rationale:** To the extent that unconstitutional actions are alleged, they are being
 26 redressed through the constitutional process of review and control (BCO 40-3),
 27 particularly through CRPR’s recommendation that NWGA Presbytery be cited with
 28 an exception of substance for improperly handling three complaints (see 56.c.1 above).

29 2. Find that the June 10, 2022, letter from RE [name omitted] is not a “credible
 30 report” of an “important delinquency or grossly unconstitutional proceedings”
 31 (BCO 40-5).

32 **Rationale:** No unconstitutional actions are alleged in the report.

33 3. Find that the April 24, 2023, letter from [name omitted] is not a “credible report”
 34 of an “important delinquency or grossly unconstitutional proceedings” (BCO 40-
 35 5).

36 **Rationale:** To the extent that unconstitutional actions are alleged, they are being
 37 redressed through the constitutional process of review and control (BCO 40-3),
 38 particularly through CRPR’s recommendation that one of NWGA Presbytery’s
 39 responses to an exception of substance be found unsatisfactory (see 56.d above).

- 40
 41 57. That the Minutes of Ohio Presbytery: 54-0-0
 42 a. Be approved without exceptions: **None.**
 43 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **Directory; Feb 5, 2022.**
 44 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance:

- 1 **1. Exception: Feb 5, 2022** (*BCO* 21-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.6) – No record of Presbytery
2 approving the call to a TE [name omitted] whose status was changed.
- 3 **2. Exception: May 7, 2022** (*BCO* 19-2.a, d) – Incomplete record of a licentiate
4 examination.
- 5 **3. Exception: Sep 30 - Oct 1, 2022** (*BCO* 21-4.c.4) – Incomplete record of ordination
6 examination.
- 7 **d. No response to previous assemblies required.**

8
9 58. That the Minutes of **Ohio Valley** Presbytery: 55-0-0

- 10 a. Be approved without exceptions: **Jan 29, 2022; May 17, 2022; Jul 30, 2022; Oct 18,**
11 **2022; Dec 13, 2022.**
- 12 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **None.**
- 13 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance:
14 **1. Exception: Feb 15, 2022** (*BCO* 19-2.d) – All specific requirements of licensure
15 exam not recorded.
- 16 **d. No response to previous assemblies required.**

17
18 59. That the Minutes of **Pacific** Presbytery: 55-0-0

- 19 a. Be approved without exceptions: **May 17, 2022; Oct 4, 2022.**
- 20 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **Directory; Feb 5, 2022.**
- 21 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance: **None.**
- 22 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**
23 **Exception: May 4, 2021** (*BCO* 19-2.d) – All specific requirements of licensure exam
24 not recorded.

25 **Response:** “The Stated Clerk, TE [name omitted], erred in not recording that Mr.
26 [name omitted], who was licensed at the May 4, 2021, Stated Meeting of Pacific
27 Presbytery, had submitted his written sermon to the presbytery, as confirmed by the
28 Credentials Committee, per the requirements of *BCO* 19-2.d. The Clerk apologizes
29 for this error and will exercise greater precision in the future. The minutes in question
30 have been amended to reflect the submission of Mr. [name omitted]’s written sermon.”
31 **Exception: Oct 5, 2021** (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) – Minutes of commission not
32 entered in Presbytery minutes.

33 **Response:** “The Commission formed at the October 10, 2020, Stated Meeting of
34 Pacific Presbytery, consisting of TE [name omitted], TE [name omitted], RE [name
35 omitted], and RE [name omitted], in the event necessary ‘to approve a potential call
36 for a church planter to work in the San Fernando Valley,’ proved unnecessary as TE
37 [name omitted]’s call was prosecuted at a subsequent stated meeting (October 5,
38 2021). Accordingly, the established commission never took any action.

39 “The October 5, 2021, Stated Meeting minutes record on page 10, paragraph 3, that
40 “while they had not reported since their inception, their work is now complete.” This
41 was an error in the recording what actually happened. The minutes should have
42 reflected that the commission never acted, and that they were dismissed having been
43 unnecessary. The minutes in question have been amended to reflect that this
44 commission never acted before dismissal because action was not needed subsequent
45 to its formation. The Clerk apologizes for this error.”

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60. That the Minutes of **Pacific Northwest** Presbytery: 56-0-1

- a. Be approved without exceptions: **Feb 3-4, 2022; Jun 3, 2022; Oct 13-14, 2022.**
- b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **None.**
- c. Be approved with exceptions of substance:
 - 1. Exception: May 19-20, 2022 (BCO 23-1)** – No record that Congregation/Session concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.
- d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**

Exception: Feb 5, 2021 (BCO 15-1; RAO 16-3.e.4) – Minutes of commission not entered in Presbytery minutes.

Response: It's unclear to which commission (singular) the citation refers. Below is an excerpt from PNW's 2021 Records Package, p. 29.

- The Commission on Complaint against [church name omitted]'s work is completed; report included in meeting package.
- The Commission on Complaint against [church name omitted]'s work is completed; report included in meeting package.
- Commission established at the November called meeting to write to the State of Washington has completed its work and is dismissed with thanks.
- Ordination Commissions have completed their work for: [name omitted], [name omitted].
- Installation commissions have completed their work for: [name omitted], [name omitted], [name omitted]

We have attached those Commission reports/minutes to our October 2022 Minutes as well as to this Response. Several of the Ordination/Installation Commission reports were omitted because the Ordination/Installation took place in 2020. In future, we will include all Commission reports referenced in Presbytery minutes.

Exception: Feb 5, 2021 (BCO 18-3) – Incomplete record of candidate's examination.

Response: Presumably the citation of *BCO* 18-3 (candidacy exam) refers to this excerpt from PNW's 2021 Records Package (p. 31): "[name omitted] at [church name omitted]. Mr. [name omitted] gave a brief description of his call to the ministry. *Recommendation:* That Presbytery accept Mr. [name omitted] as a candidate for ministry. *Adopted.* RE [name omitted], moderator, administered and Mr. [name omitted] affirmed the questions from *BCO* 18-3. Prayer for the candidate from TE [name omitted]."

Mr. [name omitted] was indeed examined, though the Minutes might not be sufficiently clear. The February 2021 Minutes have been amended to clarify Mr. [name omitted] was "examined by the Presbytery on experiential religion and on his motives for seeking the ministry."

Exception: May 20-21, 2021 (BCO 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5) – Stated differences not judged with the prescribed categories.

Response: It's unclear to which exam this citation refers. At this meeting, there were two ordination exams, two licensure exams, and a transfer exam. Below are the entries for each regarding judgment on confessional differences. (Records Package, p. 36 ff.)

- a. [Transfer exam of PCA minister, p. 43.] That Presbytery judge the differences of [the transferring PCA minister] to be more than semantic but not out of accord

- 1 with any fundamental or our system of doctrine (because the differences are neither
2 hostile to the system nor strikes at the vitals of religion.)
- 3 b. [Ordination exam, p. 49.] That Presbytery judge the differences of [a candidate] to
4 be more than semantic but not out of accord with any fundamental or our system
5 of doctrine (because the differences are neither hostile to the system nor strikes at
6 the vitals of religion.) *Adopted*
- 7 c. [Ordination exam of previously licensed, p. 49.] [The licentiate] has expressed no
8 additional differences with the Westminster Standards since the time of his licensure
9 in October 2020.
- 10 d. [Licensure exam, p. 51.] That Presbytery judge the differences of [the Candidate]
11 to be more than semantic but not out of accord with any fundamental or our system
12 of doctrine (because the differences are neither hostile to the system nor strikes at
13 the vitals of religion.)
- 14 e. [Licensure exam of PCA minister for stated supply, p. 47.] Presbytery approves
15 his exception to the word "recreations" found in *WCF* 21.8 as not striking at the
16 vitals. *Adopted*

17 We can only assume the exception of substance citation was regarding the language
18 used in the motion adopted in the last exam - (e) Licensure for stated supply. While
19 we think the *RAO* judgment was sufficiently clear, Presbytery has amended its May
20 2021 Minutes to record the following: "Presbytery approved [the transferring PCA
21 minister's] stated difference to be more than semantic but not out of accord with any
22 fundamental or our system of doctrine. (*RAO* 16-3.e.5.c.)"

23 **Exception: May 20-21, 2021; Oct 14-15, 2021** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – All
24 specific requirements of ordination not recorded.

25 **Response:** The citation does not indicate what requirements were omitted or not
26 recorded. Presbytery believes all were completed and recorded.

27 At the May 2021 meeting, Mr. [name omitted] and Mr. [name omitted] were examined
28 for ordination. Minutes indicate all parts of *BCO* 21-4 were accomplished, and listed
29 them (completed internship, sermon, theological and exegetical papers, stated
30 confessional differences, judgment on those differences, examination in original
31 languages, doctrine, Bible, church government, sacraments, church history, history of
32 the PCA, and approval of call.). Terms of Call were approved earlier in the meeting
33 during the report of the Ministers & Churches Committee. (PNW 2021 Records, pp.
34 48-50)

35 The only ordination exam at the October 2021 meeting was for Mr. [name omitted].
36 Like the May exams for [name omitted] and [name omitted], all requirements were
37 completed and listed. (PNW 2021 Records, pp. 67-69)

- 38 e. **That the following response to the 50th GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore a
39 new response shall be submitted to the following GA:**

40 **Exception: Feb 5, 2021** (*BCO* 20, 21) – No record that TE, whose call changed from
41 Assistant to Associate, was installed as Associate Pastor.

42 **Response:** Presumably the citation refers to the excerpt below from PNW's 2021
43 Records Package (p. 30): "Recommendation: To approve TE [name omitted] change
44 from Assistant to Associate Pastor at [church name omitted]. Adopted."

1 TE [name omitted] was installed as Associate Pastor at [church name omitted] on
 2 Sunday morning, April 18, 2021. The Commission included TEs [name omitted] and
 3 [name omitted], along with REs [name omitted] and [name omitted]. We have
 4 attached those Commission minutes to our October 2022 Minutes as well as to this
 5 Response.

6 **Rationale:** Response says that the Commission minutes were attached to their
 7 October 2022 Minutes and also attached to this report. Minutes were not included for
 8 review. (RAO 16-10.b.1)

9 **Exception: May 20-21, 2021 (BCO 13-6) – Incomplete record of transfer exam.**

10 **Response:** Respectfully, Presbytery disagrees with the citation, and we regard the
 11 entry in our May 2021 Minutes (below) to be an adequate record of the transfer exam,
 12 which was the only such exam at the May 2021 meeting. However, in the future PCA
 13 transfer exams, we will record verbatim: "The transferring PCA minister was
 14 examined on Christian experience, and also touching his views in theology, the
 15 Sacraments, and church government." Hopefully, that addresses the concern in the
 16 GA citation.

17 Here is the excerpt from p. 43 of PNW's 2021 Records:

18 Transfer Exam: [name omitted]. Bio ...

19 Mr. [name omitted] holds a BA from Covenant College and an MDiv from RTS
 20 Orlando. He is a member of New Jersey Presbytery and has served most recently as
 21 RUF minister at Rowan University in Glassboro, NJ.

22 *Motion:* to examine Rev. [name omitted] on his experience and views, per BCO 13-6.
 23 *Adopted*

24 *Motion:* to arrest the exam. *Adopted*

25 Rev. [name omitted] expressed the following difference from the Westminster
 26 Standards: ...

27 *Recommendation:* That Presbytery judge Mr. [name omitted]'s difference to be more
 28 than semantic but not out of accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine
 29 (because the difference is neither hostile to the system nor strikes at the vitals of
 30 religion). *Adopted*

31 In accordance with Standing Rule 2.51, the Presbytery entered closed session for the
 32 completion of Rev. [name omitted]'s transfer exam.

33 *Recommendation:* To approve the call of Rev. [name omitted] [to] [church name
 34 omitted].

35 *Adopted*, on the condition that the terms of call be changed to 4 weeks of vacation.

36 **Rationale:** All specific requirements of transfer exam have not been listed (RAO 16-
 37 3.e.5).

38

39 61. That the Minutes of **Palmetto** Presbytery: 55-0-0

40 a. Be approved without exceptions: **Feb 10, 2022.**

41 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **Directory; General 2022; May 12, 2022; Aug**
 42 **11, 2022; Nov 11, 2022.**

43 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance:

44 **1. Exception: General 2022 (BCO 8-7) – No record of annual report(s) of TE(s)**
 45 **laboring out of bounds.**

1 **2. Exception: May 12, 2022; Aug 11, 2022 (BCO 23-1)** – No record that
2 Congregation/Session concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.

3 **3. Exception: Aug 11, 2022 (BCO 21-7)** – Incomplete record of ordination exam: no
4 record of sermon preached to presbytery.

5 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**

6 **Exception: Feb 21, 2021; May 13, 2021 (BCO 13-6)** – No record of examination of
7 TE transferring into Presbytery.

8 **Response:** T. E. [name omitted] was received on the basis of his prior licensure exam
9 by Palmetto Presbytery (November 8, 2018) which included theology, the sacraments,
10 and church government, as reflected in the Palmetto Presbytery minutes of February
11 11 (not February 21), 2021. This was the motion passed under the Candidates and
12 Credentials Committee report: “21-10. That TE Dr. [name omitted] be received by
13 transfer of ordination into Palmetto Presbytery, pending his release from Savannah
14 River Presbytery, based on the approval of his prior examination in Christian
15 Experience and views touching on Theology, Sacraments, and Church Government
16 (See Palmetto Presbytery Minutes, Nov. 8, 2018, Motions 12-54 to 12-61), and that
17 he sign the ministerial obligation form. (Committee Vote: Unanimous, 7-0-
18 0) MSC. (The vote of the Presbytery to transfer his ordination was unanimous.)

19 T. E. [name omitted] was examined in the required areas for acceptance of a
20 previously ordained teaching elder from another Presbytery, as reflected in the
21 Palmetto Presbytery minutes of May 13, 2021. There was also this motion as part of
22 the Candidates and Credentials Report, “That TE [name omitted] be received by
23 transfer of ordination into Palmetto Presbytery, pending his release from Blue Ridge
24 Presbytery, and that he sign the ministerial obligation form.”

25 **Exception:** Aug 12, 2021 (BCO 23-1) – No record of a church being cited to appear
26 by its commissioners to dissolve pastoral relation.

27 **Response:** In the case of T.E. [name omitted], the Church and Ministerial Health
28 committee, having received the minutes of the congregation of [church name omitted]
29 in which it was moved, seconded, and passed that T. E. [name omitted] be released
30 from his call as assistant pastor, dissolved the pastoral relationship as allowed by the
31 Presbytery bylaws in undisputed resignations. However, Presbytery erred in not citing
32 the session to have a commissioner to vouch for the release by the congregation. In
33 the future we will summon the session to send a commissioner to vouch for the release
34 of the teaching elder by the congregation.

35 **e. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore**
36 **new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

37 **Exception: Feb 21, 2021 (BCO 15-3; 31-10; 34; 36)** – Censure inflicted by a judicial
38 commission without process being instituted or a judgment approved by the
39 Presbytery.

40 **Response:** In the judicial case concerning T. E. [name omitted] he consented to the
41 recommendation made by the Judicial Committee for definite suspension. He has
42 pleaded neither guilty nor not guilty to the charges made; the Presbytery is waiting for
43 the decision of the civil court before it deals decisively with this case. However,
44 Presbytery should have made clearer in its minutes of the executive session that
45 “MSC” means that the motion was made, seconded, and carried by Presbytery.

1 **Rationale:** Presbytery’s response does not address the issue. A Presbytery may
2 suspend a minister from office following the conclusion of judicial process; or, under
3 31-10, he may be suspended from his official functions while under process.
4 Presbytery has not indicated that the minister is under process.

5 **Exception: May 13, 2021** (BCO 19-1) – No record of licensure exam.

6 **Response:** Mr. [name omitted] was examined for licensure. Because he had been
7 previously examined in Christian Experience and Call to the Ministry as part of his
8 examination for candidate status, he was not reexamined in these two areas. His exam
9 included Bible knowledge, theology, and church government.

10 The minutes of May 13, 2021 of the Licensure exam of [name omitted] do show
11 examination in the three areas of English Bible, Theology, and Church Government.
12 See below:

13 22-22. That [name omitted]’s examination in English Bible be sustained. MSC.

14 22-25. That [name omitted]’s examination in Theology be sustained. MSC.

15 22-26. That [name omitted]’s examination in Church Government be sustained. MSC.

16 22-27. That [name omitted]’s written sermon be approved. MSC.

17 22-28. That [name omitted]’s preached sermon be approved. MSC.

18 22-29. That [name omitted]’s examination for licensure in all its parts and be sustained
19 and he be granted licensure by Palmetto Presbytery and added to the roll of
20 licentiates of the presbytery. MSC.

21 **Rationale:** The examination on Christian experience and inward call in *BCO* 19-2 is
22 not the same as in *BCO* 18-3.

23 **Exception: May 13, 2021** (*BCO* 15-2) – A commission to ordain and install must have
24 a minimum of two TEs and two REs for a quorum.

25 **Response:** (In approving the installation commission for [name omitted]) Presbytery
26 erred in approving the commission with only 1 ruling elder. We will make sure that
27 each commission in the future has at least 2 ruling elders and 2 teaching elders

28 **Rationale:** No record that Presbytery took any action to ratify the actions of an
29 improperly constituted commission.

30 **Exception: May 13, 2021; Aug 12, 2021; Nov 11, 2021** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16- 3.e.5)
31 – All specific requirements of ordination exam not recorded.

32 **Response:** It has not been the practice of reexamining those who have been licensed
33 by this Presbytery in the specific areas already covered. When the licensure and
34 ordination exams for each of these three men: [name omitted], [name omitted], and
35 [name omitted], are compared, our minutes demonstrate that each was examined and
36 approved in Christian experience, Greek and Hebrew (by seminary transcript), Bible
37 content, theology, sacraments, Church history and the history of the PCA, Church
38 Government and Discipline, the writing of a theological thesis, the writing of an
39 exegesis paper, a preached sermon, and their accord with the Westminster standards.
40 We did not mention their undergraduate degrees which were presupposed by their
41 seminary or graduate degrees. We mentioned [name omitted]’s successful completion
42 of Greek at Hebrew in seminary but should have made it clear that he is a graduate of
43 RTS. It was noted that each had successfully completed the internship requirements.

1 **Rationale:** Presbytery has not demonstrated that each candidate for ordination was
2 examined in experiential religion, with an emphasis on personal character and family
3 management, as required by *BCO* 21-4(c)(1)(a).

4 **Exception: May 13, 2021** (*BCO* 21-4) – No record (or unclear record) of ordination
5 exam.

6 **Response:** The Presbytery minutes state clearly that Mr. [name omitted] was
7 examined in the three areas which are required for ordination after one has been
8 licensed.

9 22-30. That Mr. [name omitted]’s examination in Sacraments be sustained. MSC.

10 22-31. That Mr. [name omitted]’s examination in Rules of Discipline be sustained.
11 MSC.

12 22-32. That Mr. [name omitted]’s examination in Church History and the History of
13 the PCA be sustained. MSC.

14 22-36. That Mr. [name omitted]’s examination for ordination in all its parts and as a
15 whole be sustained and he be instructed to sign the ministerial obligation forms
16 and proceed to ordination. MSC.

17 The RPR has not cited our Presbytery previously for assuming that the approval of an
18 examination implies that he was examined in the particular area.

19 **Rationale:** Licensure requires a “statement of his Christian experience and inward call
20 to preach the Gospel” (*BCO* 19-2.a). Ordination, requires “A careful examination as
21 to...his acquaintance with experiential religion, especially his personal character and
22 family management (Based on the qualifications set out in 1 Timothy 3:1–7, and Titus
23 1:6–9)” (*BCO* 21-4.c.(1).(a)). Thus, questions for ordination are different from
24 questions for licensure, requiring a higher level of Presbytery’s scrutiny. Furthermore,
25 “*No Presbytery shall omit any of these parts of trial for ordination except in*
26 *extraordinary cases, and then only with three-fourths (3/4) approval of Presbytery*”
27 (*BCO* 21-4.c).

28
29 62. That the Minutes of **Pee Dee** Presbytery: 54-0-1

30 a. Be approved without exceptions: **Jan 27, 2022; Apr 28, 2022; Jul 28, 2022; Oct 27,**
31 **2022.**

32 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **Directory; General 2022.**

33 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance: **None.**

34 d. **No response to previous assemblies required.**

35
36 63. That the Minutes of **Philadelphia** Presbytery: 55-0-0

37 a. Be approved without exceptions: **Nov 1, 2022.**

38 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **Directory; Sep 17, 2022.**

39 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance:

40 **1. Exception: General 2022** (*BCO* 8-7) – No record of reports of TEs laboring out
41 of bounds.

42 **2. Exception: Standing Rules** (*BCO* 10-3) – *BCO* only allows for moderator of
43 Presbytery to be elected for a period of up to one year.

- 1 **3. Exception: Jan 15, 2022** (*BCO* 13-9.b; 40-1) – Presbytery did not fulfill its
2 constitutional duty to review session records when it declined to review 2019 and
3 2020 minutes.
- 4 **4. Exception: Mar 19, 2022** (*BCO* 19-2; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – All specific requirements
5 of licensure exam not recorded.
- 6 **5. Exception: May 21, 2022; Sep 17, 2022** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – Incomplete
7 record of ordination exam.
- 8 **6. Exception: Sep 17, 2022** (*BCO* 20-1) – No record of the reasons why Presbytery
9 considers an out-of-bounds work to be a valid Christian ministry.
- 10 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**
- 11 **Exception: Jan 16, 2021** (*BCO* 13-6) – No record that minister transferring into the
12 presbytery was examined on his views in theology, the sacraments, and church
13 government.
- 14 **Response:** The Philadelphia as a whole examined the man in question in areas of
15 theology, sacraments and church government. This was simply an omission of
16 recording the action of examination, not of omitting the actions themselves. We
17 apologize for omitting this statement from the minutes.
- 18 **Exception: Sep 18, 2021** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – Stated differences not judged
19 with the prescribed categories.
- 20 **Response:** The minutes state, “The Philadelphia Presbytery considered his exceptions
21 to the Standards.” RPR is correct in that the minutes should have rightly stated,
22 “Presbytery deemed the Candidate’s differences with the Westminster Standards as
23 exceptions of substance that nonetheless do not strike at the vitals of religion, nor are
24 out of accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine.”
- 25 **Exception: Sep 21, 2019** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3e.5) – Candidate [name omitted]’s
26 exceptions noted, but not recorded in his own words.
- 27 **Response [2022]:** We apologize for the oversight. *Mr.* [name omitted] has since
28 transferred to Eastern Pennsylvania Presbytery (and thus his exceptions should be in
29 their minutes when he was received). He was contacted to provide his exceptions in
30 his own words as a result of this exception which we now have on file. We will put
31 the candidate’s exceptions in his own words, as submitted to the Credentialing Team,
32 in the future.
- 33 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to submit the candidate’s stated differences in his
34 own words for review.
- 35 **Response [2023]:** The Clerk was able to contact and secure from Mr. [name omitted]
36 the following written response:
37 [name omitted]
- 38 Exceptions to Westminster Standards
39 1/26/21
40 *WCF 4:1, WSC 9, WLC 15*
41 *I do not insist on a six 24-hour day view but lean towards the analogical-day view.*
42 *The analogical-day view holds that the days of creation in Genesis 1 are analogical*
43 *to that of the workdays and sabbath rest as given in Exodus 20:8-11. In this passage*
44 *it states that man is to work six days and rest on the seventh, which follows the pattern*

1 of God's creative work and rest in Genesis 1. God's work-days are analogous to that
2 of man's, but this does not necessarily mean they are the same length of time.
3 Genesis 2:1-3 states that God rested on the seventh day and made it holy. This implies
4 that God rested from the creative works he was previously engaged in during the first
5 six days. This does not mean God has become inactive, as Scripture shows that God
6 continues to uphold creation by his providence (Daniel 4:35), but he did cease from
7 his creation works. This rest from creating goes on forever, which shows that this
8 seventh day of rest is not identical to a 24-hour day, but it will go on. This shows that
9 this seventh day is an extended period of time, and it would logically follow that it is
10 possible that the other six days are an extended period of time as well.

11 WCF 21:8, WSC 60, WSC 61, WLC 117, WLC 119

12 I believe recreation to be acceptable on the Sabbath.

13 Exodus 20:8-11 makes it clear that man is to labor for six days and rest on the seventh.
14 It states that no work is to be done on that day. From my understanding of the fourth
15 commandment as given in this passage there is nothing clearly stated that would
16 prohibit recreation. It shows that the Sabbath is to be sanctified, holy, and set apart.
17 It should be different from the other days in many ways, and one of the ways it is
18 different is that the individual is freed to rest from work and engage in other activities,
19 all of which should have an aim of rest and reflection upon the goodness and love of
20 God. I believe recreation can be used to this end.

21 Isaiah 58:13-14 makes it clear that the Sabbath is to be delighted in and it is a day to
22 be used in taking pleasure in the Lord and not seeking our own pleasures. This text
23 should inform the way in which we do recreation on the Sabbath, and any recreational
24 activities should lead to the end that we are delighting in the Sabbath and taking
25 pleasure in the Lord. There are many activities that one can engage in that will help
26 one to take pleasure and delight in the Sabbath and in the Lord. There are also many
27 recreational activities that will take one far from this place and they should be avoided
28 according to each person's conscience.

- 29 e. **That the following response to the 50th GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore a**
30 **new response shall be submitted to the following GA:**

31 **Exception: Mar 20, 2021 (BCO 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5)** – Licensure candidate stated
32 that he disagrees with the “strictness” of the Westminster Standards’ view of the
33 Sabbath but is not clear on what his stated difference is.

34 **WCF 21.8, WLC 117, 119 WSC 60, 61**

35 “I take exception to WCF 21.8 in that I don't think that Scripture requires as strict of
36 an observance of the Sabbath as the confessions seem to portray. Taking Matthew 12
37 as exegetical support, Jesus healed, and told the healed to pick up and go home. Also,
38 to carry the spirit of Mark 2:27, Sabbath should be focused on spiritual rest and
39 corporate worship, not mere outward action. But of course the two affect each other.
40 I take exception to the strictness of the confessions.”

41 **Response:** The Philadelphia Presbytery, in considering the entirety of the candidate's
42 fully enumerated exception provided above, deemed his differences with the
43 Westminster Standards as exceptions of substance that nonetheless do not strike at the
44 vitals of religion, nor are out of accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine.

1 **Rationale:** No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery
 2 has not clarified what the candidate means by “I take exception to the strictness of the
 3 confessions.” (*WCF* 21.8, *WLC* 117, 119 *WSC* 60, 61.)
 4

- 5 64. That the Minutes of **Philadelphia Metro West** Presbytery: 52-0-0
 6 a. Be approved without exceptions: **Feb 26, 2022; Mar 22, 2022; May 7, 2022; Jun 28,**
 7 **2022; Oct 4, 2022; Sep 17, 2022; Oct 19, 2022.**
 8 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **General 2022.**
 9 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance:
 10 **1. Exception: General 2022** (*BCO* 13-9.b; 40-1) – Incomplete record of review of
 11 records of church Sessions.
 12 **d. No response to previous assemblies required.**
 13

- 14 65. That the Minutes of **Piedmont Triad** Presbytery: 53-0-1
 15 a. Be approved without exceptions: **Jan 22, 2022; Jun 9, 2022; Aug 13, 2022.**
 16 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **None.**
 17 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance:
 18 **1. Exception: May 14, 2022** (*BCO* 13-10.3) – No indication 60-days notice was
 19 given before dissolution of [church name omitted]; minutes also do not indicate a
 20 commission was formed to care for the members who were received into the care
 21 of the presbytery as required by *BCO* 13-10.
 22 **2. Exception: Nov 12, 2022** (*BCO* 13-10) – No indication 60-days notice was given
 23 before dissolution of mission church.
 24 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**
 25 **Exception: Oct 24, 2020** (*BCO* 13-6) – All specific requirements of transfer exam not
 26 recorded.
 27 **Response:** Respectfully, there was no transfer exam at our Stated Meeting on October
 28 24, 2020. The exception of substance in question is referring to the transfer exam at
 29 the July 25, 2020, meeting, for which we already answered the General Assembly (see
 30 49th GA minutes, page 1299, line 22).
 31 **Exception: Oct 23, 2021** (*BCO* 34-10, 38-2) – No record of why a minister was
 32 divested.
 33 **Response:** Please forgive our oversight. The minister in question was divested
 34 without censure after indicating he would no longer be pursuing a new call to ministry
 35 after three years without call
 36 **Exception: Oct 23, 2021** (*BCO* 46-8) – No record that divested minister was assigned
 37 to membership in a particular church.
 38 **Response:** Please forgive our oversight. The membership of the minister in question
 39 was assigned to [church name omitted], Winston-Salem.
 40

- 41 66. That the Minutes of **Pittsburgh** Presbytery: 54-0-1
 42 a. Be approved without exceptions: **Jan 29, 2022, Apr 2, 2022; Jul 23, 2022; Oct 15,**
 43 **2022**
 44 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **May 31, 2022.**
 45 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance:

1 **1. Exception: May 31, 2022** (BCO 21-4.f) – Presbytery judged a stated difference
2 to be “merely semantic,” and that decision needs clarification in light of the
3 candidate’s own words as recorded in the minutes.

4 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**

5 **Exception: Oct. 16, 2021** (BCO 13-9.b; 40-1) – Incomplete record of review of
6 records of church Session.

7 **Response:** At its Stated Meeting of October 15, 2022, Pittsburgh Presbytery adopted
8 the following response:

9 Pittsburgh Presbytery assumes that this exception refers to the 2020 records of church
10 Sessions since it is cited for the 2021 Presbytery minutes and churches do not submit
11 their 2021 minutes to Presbytery for review until 2022. At the October 16, 2021 Stated
12 Presbytery Meeting, the Presbytery’s Administrative Committee reported that there
13 were six churches who had not submitted 2020 minutes for review. The committee
14 provides a written report to Presbytery for each stated meeting which is included in
15 the Presbytery’s minutes. These reports make note of churches who have failed to
16 submit minutes to Presbytery for review. Any 2020 records that were not reviewed
17 was the result of individual churches’ failure to submit their 2020 minutes and not due
18 to negligence of the Presbytery or its Administrative Committee. The purpose of
19 highlighting negligent sessions is to facilitate the review of all session minutes. All
20 2020 records that were submitted were reviewed, and by the January 29, 2022 Stated
21 Presbytery Meeting there were only two churches who still had not submitted their
22 2020 records. It is presbytery’s intention to review all minutes every year, and our
23 Administrative Committee works diligently to that end.

24 **Exception: Jul 25, 2020** (BCO 21-4 c.1.a) – Incomplete record of exam – no record
25 of ordination candidate being examined in experiential religion.

26 **Response:** On October 16, 2021, Pittsburgh Presbytery adopted the following
27 response:

28 *“TE [name omitted] was most certainly examined in experiential religion as part of*
29 *his ordination exam, and the stated clerk is mystified by his oversight in not reporting*
30 *this fact, other than perhaps by distraction from his exuberance at finally having, after*
31 *34 years of ministry, an associate pastor, and one of such godly character, to share*
32 *in his ministry. He promises to do better in the future recording of ordination exams.*
33

34 67. That the Minutes of **Platte Valley** Presbytery: 55-0-1

35 a. Be approved without exceptions: **Aug 13, 2022; Oct 29, 2022; Oct 29, 2022 ES.**

36 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **Feb 5, 2022.**

37 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance:

38 **1. Exception: General 2022** (BCO 13-9.b; 40-1) – Incomplete Record of review of
39 records of church Sessions.

40 **2. Exception: Feb 5, 2022** (BCO 19-9) – Specific requirements of internship exam
41 not recorded.

42 **d. No response to previous assemblies is required.**

44 68. That the Minutes of **Potomac** Presbytery: 56-0-1

45 a. Be approved without exceptions: **Mar 19, 2022; Nov 19, 2022.**

- 1 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **None.**
- 2 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance:
- 3 1. **Exception: Jan 25, 2022; Sep 20, 2022 (BCO 21-6)** – No installation commission
- 4 appointed for associate pastor.
- 5 2. **Exception: Jun 7, 2022 (BCO 13-6)** – Minister from another denomination (EPC)
- 6 was examined as if he were a transfer from within the PCA rather than as one who
- 7 was coming from outside the denomination.
- 8 3. **Exception: Jun 7, 2022 (BCO 21-4)** – No record of transfer or dismissal of
- 9 members upon dissolving a church.
- 10 d. **No response to previous assemblies is required.**

11

12 69. That the Minutes of **Providence** Presbytery: 55-0-1

- 13 a. Be approved without exceptions: **None.**
- 14 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **Feb 1, 2022; Aug 2, 2022.**
- 15 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance:
- 16 1. **Exception: Feb 1, 2022 (BCO 8-7)** – No record that the Presbytery is assured that
- 17 an out-of-bounds TE will have full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of
- 18 our Church. No record that out-of-bounds TE is engaged in preaching and teaching
- 19 the Word.
- 20 2. **Exception: Feb 1, 2022 (BCO 19-1, 13-6; RAO 16-3.e.5)** – All specific
- 21 requirements of licensure views exam not recorded for TE from another
- 22 Presbytery being licensed.
- 23 3. **Exception: May 3, 2022; Nov 1, 2022 (BCO 15-1; RAO 16-3.e.4)** – Minutes of
- 24 commission not entered in Presbytery minutes.
- 25 4. **Exception: May 3, 2022 (BCO 34-7; 30-3)** – No record of trial or case without
- 26 process prior to suspending member from sacraments.
- 27 5. **Exception: Nov 1, 2022 (BCO 19-2; RAO 16-3.e.5)** – All specific requirements
- 28 of licensure exam not recorded.
- 29 6. **Exception: Nov 1, 2022 (BCO 15-3)** – No record of full statement of the case and
- 30 the judgment rendered by Judicial Commission.
- 31 7. **Exception: Nov 1, 2022 (BCO 46-8)** – No record of Presbytery assigning deposed
- 32 minister to membership of some particular church.
- 33 d. **That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory;**
- 34 **Exception: Feb 2, 2021; Aug 3, 2021 (BCO 21-4)** – All specific requirements of
- 35 ordination exam not recorded.
- 36 **Response:** Our Candidates & Credentials Committee reviewed the sermon and
- 37 knowledge of the Greek and Hebrew for each of these candidates, presenting their
- 38 recommendations to the Presbytery for a vote on these specific requirements. Each
- 39 candidate received a greater than 3/4 vote on the sermon portion, whether during
- 40 Licensure (where applicable) or Ordination. This response serves to update our
- 41 records to reflect what was done during these candidates exams and we are
- 42 endeavoring to keep diligent and faithful records in the future to specify all *BCO*
- 43 requirements have been met.
- 44 **Exception: Aug 3, 2021 [p. 25] (BCO 13-6)** – All specific requirements of transfer
- 45 exam not recorded.

1 **Response:** TE [name omitted] was examined in each of these areas on the floor of
2 Presbytery, but the Minutes unfortunately reflected a short-hand description of what
3 took place. This response serves to update our records to reflect what was done during
4 TE [name omitted]’s trans- fer exam and we are endeavoring to keep diligent and
5 faithful records in the future to specify all *BCO* requirements have been met.
6

7 70. That the Minutes of **Rio Grande Presbytery:** 56-0-0

- 8 a. Be approved without exceptions: **None.**
- 9 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **Directory; Apr 25-26, 2022.**
- 10 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance:
 - 11 **1. Exception: Jan 31, 2022; Apr 25-26, 2022 (BCO 18-2)** – No record of six-months
12 membership for candidate.
 - 13 **2. Exception: Sep 26-27, 2022 (RAO 16-10.a)** – No response to the Assembly
14 concerning disposition of exceptions of substance approved in Presbytery’s
15 minutes.
 - 16 **3. Exception: Sep 26-27, 2022 (BCO 13-5, 23-2)** – Presbytery adopted a policy
17 requiring honorably retired ministers to transfer their membership upon relocation
18 to another Presbytery.
- 19 **d. That responses shall be submitted to the following GA as no approved responses**
20 **were received in 2023:**
 - 21 **Exception: Jan 27-28, 2020 (BCO 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5)** – Stated differences not
22 properly recorded.
 - 23 **Exception: Sep 21, 2020 (Standing Rules)** – No provision in the standing rules for
24 conducting a meeting in this manner. The meeting may be invalid.
 - 25 **Exception: Apr 26-27, 2021 (BCO 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5)** – Exception not properly
26 recorded.
 - 27 **Exception: May 21, 2021 (BCO 13-12; RAO 16-3.c.1)** – Notice and purpose and those
28 calling the called meeting not recorded.
 - 29 **Exception: May 21, 2021 (BCO 18-19)** – No record of candidate coming under care,
30 licensure or ordination exams, or internship.
 - 31 **Exception: General (BCO 13-9.b)** – No record of review of records of church
32 Sessions.
 - 33 **Exception: Apr 29-30, 2019 (BCO 13-6; 21-4)** – Incomplete record of transfer exam
34 of TE transferring into presbytery.
 - 35 **Exception: Sep 23-24, 2019 (BCO 13-6)** – Incomplete record of transfer for minister.
36 Type of transfer from a Korean language presbytery or another denomination not
37 specified.
 - 38 **Exception: Sep 23-24, 2019 (BCO 21-4)** – No record of requiring a statement of
39 differences with our Standards.
 - 40 **Exception: Sep 23-24, 2019 (BCO 13-6)** – Incomplete record of transfer for minister
41 from another presbytery.
 - 42 **Exception: Sep 23-24, 2019 (BCO 13-6)** – Incomplete record of transfer exam for
43 minister from another denomination.

- 1 71. That the Minutes of **Rocky Mountain** Presbytery: 56-0-1
2 a. Be approved without exceptions: **Sep 20, 2022.**
3 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **Directory; General 2022; Jan 27, 2022; Apr**
4 **21, 2022; Oct 6, 2022.**
5 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance:
6 **1. Exception: General 2022 (BCO 8-7) – No record of annual reports of TEs**
7 **laboring out of bounds.**
8 **2. Exception: General 2022 (BCO 13-9.b; 40-1) – No record of review of records**
9 **of church Sessions.**
10 **3. Exception: Jan 27, 2022; April 21, 2022; Oct 6, 2022 (BCO 18-2) – No record**
11 **of endorsement by candidate’s session or six-months membership for candidate.**
12 **4. Exception: Jan 27, 2022 (BCO 15-1, RAO 16-3.e.4) – Minutes of commission not**
13 **entered in presbytery minutes.**
14 **5. Exception: Jan 27, 2022 (Preliminary Principle 6) – No record that members of**
15 **interim/provisional Session were called by the congregation.**
16 **6. Exception: Jan 27, 2022 (BCO 18-3) – No record of examination of candidates in**
17 **experiential religion and motives for seeking the ministry.**
18 **7. Exception: Jan 27, 2022 (BCO 8-6) – Presbytery acted to move TE from**
19 **Evangelist to Church Planter with temporary Session, then acted to renew terms as**
20 **Evangelist.**
21 **8. Exception: Jan 27, 2022; April 21, 2022; Oct 6, 2022 (BCO 13-6) – Incomplete**
22 **record of examination of TE transferring into presbytery.**
23 **9. Exception: Jan 27, 2022 (BCO 19-2,3,4, RAO 16.e.5) – All specific requirements**
24 **of licensure exam not recorded.**
25 **10. Exception: Jan 27, 2022 (BCO 19-3, 19-4) – No record of licensure questions,**
26 **response, prayer, or declaration.**
27 **11. Exception: April 21, 2022 (BCO 13-6, 21-4) – Incomplete record of exam for**
28 **minister seeking admission from another denomination**
29 **12. Exception: April 21, 2022 (BCO 21-4, RAO 16-3.e.5) – Incomplete record of**
30 **ordination exam.**
31 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**
32 **Exception: Oct 1, 2020 (BCO 13-6; 21-4.c) – Incomplete exam for transfer from**
33 **another denomination.**
34 **Response [2022]: Rocky Mountain Presbytery agrees with the exception and will**
35 **correct our record (if possible), will correct our action (if possible), and promises to**
36 **be more careful in the future**
37 **Rationale [2022]: Presbytery has not corrected their minutes to address the exception**
38 **and submitted for review (RAO 16-10.b).**
39 **Response [2023]: Minutes corrected as indicated below:**
40 **CORRECTED MINUTES: Authorized at Oct 6, 2022 Stated Meeting. According to**
41 **the Credentials Committee, Mr. [name omitted] was examined and approved as**
42 **detailed in BCO 21-4, but each element of the exam was not appropriately listed in the**
43 **process nor in the minutes.**
44 **Exception: Oct 1, 2020 (BCO 13-5) – Minister transferring from another**
45 **denomination with no call to a definite work without deeming the transfer necessary.**

1 **Response [2022]:** Rocky Mountain Presbytery agrees with the exception and will
2 correct our record (if possible), will correct our action (if possible), and promises to
3 be more careful in the future.

4 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery has not corrected their minutes to address the exception
5 and submitted for review (*RAO* 16-10.b).

6 **Response [2023]:**

7 CORRECTED MINUTES: Authorized at Oct 6, 2022 Stated Meeting.

8 The Credentials Committee mistakenly used language of transferring Mr. [name
9 omitted]'s ordination from another denomination. The intent was to examine him
10 according to *BCO* 19-2 for licensure. Error attributed to COVID restrictions,
11 temporary chairman of Credentials Committee, and temporary Stated Clerk due to
12 unexpected resignation of previous Stated Clerk. Mr. [name omitted] is approved as a
13 licentiate

14 **Exception: Oct 1, 2020** (*BCO* 21-4.c; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – Stated differences not
15 recorded in the minister’s own words (the minister said, “it is possible that I have a
16 scruple or exception in connection with the language about ‘recreations’” but never
17 said what that scruple is).

18 **Response [2022]:** Rocky Mountain Presbytery agrees with the exception and will
19 correct our record (if possible), will correct our action (if possible), and promises to
20 be more careful in the future.

21 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery has not corrected their minutes to address the exception
22 and submitted for review (*RAO* 16-10.b).

23 **Response [2023]: Minutes corrected as indicated below**

24 CORRECTED MINUTES: Authorized at Oct. 6, 2022 Stated Meeting. Difference #2
25 use of word "scruple" clarified and approved on the floor of presbytery Better defined
26 as indicating a view open to a variety of recreation on the Sabbath.

27 **Exception: Jan 23, 2020; Oct 1, 2020** (*BCO* 21-4.a, c) – Incomplete ordination exam
28 (no Hebrew/Greek requirement completed; no internship completed).

29 **Response [2022]:** Rocky Mountain Presbytery agrees with the exception and will
30 correct our record (if possible), will correct our action (if possible), and promises to
31 be more careful in the future.

32 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery has not corrected their minutes to address the exception
33 and submitted for review (*RAO* 16-10.b).

34 **Response [2023]: Minutes corrected as indicated below:**

35 RE: Jan 23, 2020

36 CORRECTED MINUTES: Authorized at Oct. 6, 2022 Stated Meeting. 1)
37 Hebrew/Greek requirements verified by seminary transcript - Denver Seminary; 2)
38 Internship verified - Rocky Mountain Presbytery at [church name omitted]

39 RE: Oct 1, 2020

40 CORRECTED MINUTES: Authorized at Oct. 6, 2022 Stated Meeting. 1)
41 Hebrew/Greek requirements verified by seminary transcript – Greenville Presbyterian
42 Seminary; 2) Internship verified - Calvary Presbytery at [church name omitted].

43 e. **That the following responses to the 50th GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore**
44 **new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

1 **Exception: Jan 24, 2019** (*BCO* 21-4.c.(1)(g)) – All specific requirements of
2 ordination examination not recorded. (No record of examination in history of PCA.)
3 **Response:** Rocky Mountain Presbytery agrees with the exceptions and corrects its
4 record (if possible), corrects its action (if possible), and promises to be more careful
5 in the future. (*RAO* 16-10, b, 1)
6 **Rationale:** No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). The
7 Presbytery should act to include appropriate documentation in its record.
8 **Exception: Apr 25, 2019; Apr 22, 2021** (*BCO* 21-4.c.(1)(g)) – All specific
9 requirements of licensure exam not recorded. (Apr 25, 2019 - No record of written
10 sermon; Apr 22, 2021 - No record of approval of sermon)
11 **Response:** Rocky Mountain Presbytery agrees with the exceptions and corrects its
12 record (if possible), corrects its action (if possible), and promises to be more careful
13 in the future. (*RAO* 16-10, b, 1)
14 **Rationale:** No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). The
15 Presbytery should act to include appropriate documentation in its record.
16 **Exception: Apr 22, 2021** (*BCO* 13-6) – No record of Transfer being examined on
17 views touching sacraments or church government.
18 **Response:** Rocky Mountain Presbytery agrees with the exceptions and corrects its
19 record (if possible), corrects its action (if possible), and promises to be more careful
20 in the future. (*RAO* 16-10, b, 1)
21 **Rationale:** No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). The
22 Presbytery should act to include appropriate documentation in its record.
23 **Exception: General** (*BCO* 13-9.b, 40-1) – Incomplete record of review of records of
24 church Sessions. (Received and reviewed 7 churches. At Spring Stated Meeting,
25 Session record of churches north of Denver are reviewed. (SR1.072) No report of
26 reviewed records at Fall Stated Meeting. At Fall Stated Meeting, Session records of
27 churches in and south of Denver are reviewed. (SR 1.072)
28 **Response:** Rocky Mountain Presbytery agrees with the exception and will correct our
29 record (if possible), will correct our action (if possible), and promises to be more
30 careful in the future.
31 **Rationale:** No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). The
32 Presbytery should act to include appropriate documentation in its record.
33 **Exception: Oct 3, 2019** (*BCO* 21-4.d) – Apparent use of $\frac{3}{4}$ clause during transfer
34 exam of minister from the OPC not explicitly demonstrated in the minutes.
35 **Response:** Rocky Mountain Presbytery agrees with the exceptions and corrects its
36 record (if possible), corrects its action (if possible), and promises to be more careful
37 in the future. (*RAO* 16-10, b, 1)
38 **Rationale:** No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). The
39 Presbytery should act to include appropriate documentation in its record.
40 **Exception: Feb 1, 2018; Apr 26, 2018; Oct 4, 2018** (*BCO* 23-1) – No record of
41 congregational concurrence in dissolution of pastoral relations.
42 **Response:** Rocky Mountain Presbytery agrees with the exception and will correct our
43 record (if possible), will correct our action (if possible), and promises to be more
44 careful in the future

1 **Rationale:** No record that Presbytery corrected its record (RAO 16-10.b.1). The
2 Presbytery should act to include appropriate documentation in its record.

3
4 72. That the Minutes of **Savannah River** Presbytery: 55-0-1

5 a. Be approved without exceptions: **Jan 22, 2022; Apr 19, 2022; May 24, 2022; Jul 15-**
6 **16, 2022.**

7 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **None.**

8 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance:

9 **1. Exception: Oct 17, 2022 (BCO 23-1)** – No record of congregational meeting
10 dissolving pastoral relation or presbytery approval of dissolution.

11 **2. Exception: Oct 17, 2022 (BCO 25-11)** – No record that Presbytery confirmed that
12 a 30-day notice was given by Session for congregational meeting to withdraw from
13 the denomination.

14 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**

15 **Exception: Jan 23, 2021; Apr 20 2021 (BCO 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5)** – All specific
16 requirements of ordination exam not recorded.

17 **Response:** Although not specifically stated, the examination of Church History
18 included the History of the PCA. The three candidates (two in January and one in
19 April) examination included the History of the PCA. Future presbytery minutes will
20 more accurately include all specific requirements.

21 **Exception: Oct 15, 2019 (BCO 41)** – No constitutional basis for declaring a non-
22 judicial reference out of order.

23 **Response [2022]:** The Moderator did not believe a “constitutional basis” was needed
24 since the full court, by vote, agreed with him.

25 **Rationale [2022]:** Declaring a constitutionally allowed practice out of order without
26 giving a constitutional basis is out of order.

27 **Response [2023]:** The Moderator in October 2019 (and current Stated Clerk) does not
28 recall the specifics for ruling the Request to Refer out of order. The Savannah River
29 Presbytery understands that a constitutional basis is required to declare a
30 constitutionally allowed practice out of order and will strive to ensure it does not occur
31 again. It should be noted that the action taken by the Moderator to appoint an Ad-Hoc
32 Committee to provide counsel to the two churches actually addressed the Request to
33 Refer.

34
35 73. That the Minutes of **Siouxlands** Presbytery: 52-0-0

36 a. Be approved without exceptions: **Apr 28, 2022.**

37 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **Sep 22-23, 2022.**

38 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance:

39 **1. Exception: Jan 28-29, 2022 (BCO 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5)** – Stated differences not
40 recorded in the candidate’s own words.

41 **2. Exception: Jan 28-29, 2022; Sep 22-23, 2022 (BCO 13-6, 19-2)** – TE was
42 examined for licensure when it appears it was a transfer from another PCA
43 Presbytery.

44 **3. Exception: Sep 22-23, 2022 (BCO 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5)** – Stated differences not
45 recorded in the candidate’s own words.

1 **4. Exception: Sep 22-23, 2022 (BCO 19-16)** – ¾ vote for waiving internship not
 2 recorded.

3 **5. Exception: Sep 22-23, 2022 (BCO 18-2)** – No record of six-months membership
 4 for candidate.

5 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**

6 **Exception: Sep 23, 2021 (BCO 13-6)** – Incomplete record of transfer exam from
 7 another Presbytery.

8 **Response:** The Presbytery acknowledges its typographical error in omitting the
 9 sustaining of the examination on Church Government for the transferring Teaching
 10 Elder from another Presbytery. We have amended the minutes of the 122nd meeting
 11 on September 23, 2021 by adding the following: Sustain examination on Church
 12 Government.

13 Furthermore, we failed to record the administering of the 18-3 vows put to the
 14 candidate coming under care of the Presbytery. The candidate was, in fact, asked and
 15 subsequently affirmed the questions following the sustaining of his examination. We
 16 have, therefore, amended the minutes to record this fact and will be careful in the
 17 future to record all the areas of examination.

18 **e. That the following response to the 50th GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore a
 19 new response shall be submitted to the following GA:**

20 **Exception: Jan 22, 2021 (BCO 21-4; RAO 16.3.e.5)** – All specific requirements of
 21 ordination exam not recorded.

22 **Response:** Presbytery had previously examined the candidate on two separate
 23 occasions, once for licensure (Sept 2019) and once to complete the portions of the
 24 ordination exams not recorded on Jan 22, 2021 meetings minutes (the 120th meeting
 25 of Siouxlands Presbytery). We acknowledge the lack of clarification in our meeting
 26 minutes and have amended them by adding the following information to the minutes
 27 of January 22, 2021:

28 At the 117th Meeting in September 2019, the candidate was examined and sustained
 29 in the following areas for licensure: Christian experience, English Bible, theology,
 30 *BCO* church government, any stated exceptions to our Constitution, and a sermon
 31 preached by the candidate before the presbytery.

32 At the 119th Meeting in September 2020, the licentiate was examined and sustained
 33 in the following areas as a partial exam for ordination: theological paper and
 34 sacraments

35 **Rationale:** The relationship between the examinations at the September 2019 and
 36 September 2020 meetings remains unclear, and there is no evidence of examination in
 37 church history, PCA church history, or exegetical paper.

38

39 74. That the Minutes of **South Coast** Presbytery: 53-0-0

40 a. Be approved without exceptions: **None.**

41 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **Jan 25, 2022.**

42 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance:

43 **1. Exception: Jan 25, 2022; Apr 26, 2022; Sep 27, 2022 (BCO 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5)**

44 – Stated differences not recorded in the minister’s/candidate’s own words.

- 1 **2. Exception: Jan 25, 2022** (*BCO* 19-16) – $\frac{3}{4}$ vote for waiving internship
2 requirement not recorded.
- 3 **3. Exception: Jan 25 2022; Mar 12, 2022** (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) – Minutes of
4 commission not entered in Presbytery minutes.
- 5 **4. Exception: Mar 12, 2022** (*BCO* 13-12; *RAO* 16-3.c.1) – Purpose of called meeting
6 not recorded verbatim in the minutes.
- 7 **5. Exception: Apr 26, 2022** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – Stated differences not
8 judged with the prescribed categories.
- 9 **6. Exception: Apr 26, 2022** (*BCO* 20-1) -- No record of call to a definite work.
- 10 **7. Exception: Apr 26, 2022** (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) – Minutes of commission
11 not entered in Presbytery minutes.
- 12 **8. Exception: Sep 27, 2022** (*BCO* 5-9.B.g, h, i) – No record of members of the
13 mission church petitioning Presbytery to proceed to organization. No record of
14 Presbytery appointing an organizing commission. No record of an organizing
15 commission or that the service of organization included the necessary elements.
- 16 **9. Exception: Sep 27, 2022** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – No record of requiring
17 statement of differences with our Standards.
- 18 **10. Exception: Sep 27, 2022** (*BCO* 18-2, 18-3, 19-9, 19-10) – No record of
19 endorsement by candidate’s Session. No record of six-months membership for
20 candidate. No record of charge given to candidate. No record of Examination for
21 internship. No declaration of Internship by Moderator recorded.

22 **d. That responses shall be submitted to the following GA as no responses were**
23 **received in 2023:**

24 **Exception: General** (*RAO* 16-3.e.4) – Commission minutes not provided.

25 **Exception: General** (*BCO* 13-9.b, 40-1) – Incomplete record of review of records of
26 church Sessions.

27 **Exception: Apr 24, 2021** (*BCO* 34-4) – A minister was found contumacious, but
28 Presbytery did not make “record... of the fact and of the charges under which he was
29 arraigned.”

30 **Exception: Apr 24, 2021** (*BCO* 23-1) – No record of the congregation having
31 approved the dissolution of the call of the former pastor.

32 **Exception: Aug 14, 2021** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – Stated differences not judged
33 with the prescribed categories.

34 **Exception: Aug 14, 2021** (*BCO* 13-6) – All specific requirements of transfer exam
35 not recorded.

36 **Exception: Jan 26, 2019; May 4, 2019; Sep 24, 2019** (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.2.4)
37 – Minutes of commission not entered into Presbytery minutes.

38 **Response [2022]:** These minutes were received by our administrative commission
39 and reported to the presbytery, but we failed to enter them into the minutes. We will
40 revise our processes to include them in the future.

41 **Rationale [2022]:** When GA takes exception to a Presbytery's minutes for failure to
42 record or take a required action, and Presbytery agrees with the exception, a
43 satisfactory response should indicate that they have taken the required action, if
44 possible, and properly recorded the same in their minutes, amending and resubmitting
45 relevant portions of past minutes if necessary.

1 **Exception: Jan 25, 2020 (BCO 19-2.a)** – No exam/statement of Christian experience
2 and inward call.

3 **Response [2022]:** Our ordination team has historically received a statement of
4 Christian experience and inward call when candidates come under care in the
5 presbytery. In the future, we will make sure this is added to licensure candidates as
6 well.

7 **Rationale [2022]:** When GA takes exception to a Presbytery's minutes for failure to
8 record or take a required action, and Presbytery agrees with the exception, a
9 satisfactory response should indicate that they have taken the required action, if
10 possible, and properly recorded the same in their minutes, amending and resubmitting
11 relevant portions of past minutes if necessary.

12 **Exception: Jan 25, 2020 (BCO 13-6; 21-4)** – Incomplete transfer exam (no theology,
13 Bible content or Sacraments).

14 **Response [2022]:** Our ordination team recognizes and agrees with this error and will
15 remedy it in future transfer exams.

16 **Rationale [2022]:** When GA takes exception to a Presbytery's minutes for failure to
17 record or take a required action, and Presbytery agrees with the exception, a
18 satisfactory response should indicate that they have taken the required action, if
19 possible, and properly recorded the same in their minutes, amending and resubmitting
20 relevant portions of past minutes if necessary.

21 **Exception: July 23, 2019 (BCO 13-6)** – Incomplete record of transfer exam (no
22 record of questions on views of sacraments or church government).

23 **Response [2022]:** Our ordination team recognizes and agrees with this oversight and
24 will work to conduct a complete transfer exam in the future.

25 **Rationale [2022]:** When GA takes exception to a Presbytery's minutes for failure to
26 record or take a required action, and Presbytery agrees with the exception, a
27 satisfactory response should indicate that they have taken the required action, if
28 possible, and properly recorded the same in their minutes, amending and resubmitting
29 relevant portions of past minutes if necessary.

30 **Exception: Jan 25, 2020 (BCO 19-7)** – No indication of Mr. [name omitted] having
31 completed his presbytery internship prior to ordination.

32 **Response [2022]:** Our ordination team agrees with this oversight and will work to
33 insure it is completed in the future.

34 **Rationale [2022]:** When GA takes exception to a Presbytery's minutes for failure to
35 record or take a required action, and Presbytery agrees with the exception, a
36 satisfactory response should indicate that they have taken the required action, if
37 possible, and properly recorded the same in their minutes, amending and resubmitting
38 relevant portions of past minutes if necessary.

39 **Exception: Jan 25, 2020 (BCO 21-4)** – No record that theological thesis or exegetical
40 papers submitted.

41 **Response [2022]:** Our ordination team agrees with this oversight and will work to
42 insure it is completed in the future.

43 **Rationale [2022]:** When GA takes exception to a Presbytery's minutes for failure to
44 record or take a required action, and Presbytery agrees with the exception, a
45 satisfactory response should indicate that they have taken the required action, if

1 possible, and properly recorded the same in their minutes, amending and resubmitting
2 relevant portions of past minutes if necessary.

3
4 75. That the Minutes of **South Florida** Presbytery: 58-0-0

- 5 a. Be approved without exceptions: **Dec 15, 2022.**
- 6 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **Directory; May 10, 2022; Nov 8, 2022.**
- 7 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance:
- 8 1. **Exception: Feb 8, 2022 (BCO 13-6)** – Incomplete record of examination of TE
9 transferring into Presbytery.
- 10 2. **Exception: Feb 8, 2022 (BCO 13-11)** – Motions not fully recorded.
- 11 3. **Exception: May 10, 2022 (BCO 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5.)** – Stated differences not
12 judged with prescribed categories.
- 13 4. **Exception: May 10, 2022 (BCO 24-4.f.)** – Presbytery implicitly granted a
14 doctrinal exception that needs further clarity for proper review. Mr. [name omitted]
15 appears to advocate for paedo-communion (*WLC 177*).
- 16 5. **Exception: May 10, 2022 (BCO 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5.)** – No record of ordination
17 exam.
- 18 6. **Exception: May 10, 2022; Aug 8, 2022 (BCO 38-1)** – *BCO 38-1* Confession for
19 a case without process not recorded in minutes.
- 20 7. **Exception: May 10, 2022 (BCO 15-1; RAO 16-3.e.4.)** – Minutes of commission
21 not entered in Presbytery minutes.
- 22 8. **Exception: May 10, 2022; Nov 8, 2022 (BCO 18-2)** – No record of endorsement
23 by candidates' Session.
- 24 9. **Exception: May 10, 2022; Nov 8, 2022 (BCO 18-2)** – No record of six-months
25 membership for candidates.
- 26 10. **Exception: May 10, 2022; Nov 8, 2022 (BCO 13-11)** - Presbytery failed to
27 provide a full and accurate record of judicial cases.
- 28 11. **Exception: Aug 8, 2022 (BCO 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5)** – Incomplete record of
29 ordination exam.
- 30 d. **That responses shall be submitted to the following GA as no responses were**
31 **received in 2023:**
- 32 **Exception: General (BCO 13-9.b, 40-1)** – No record of review of Session minutes.
- 33 **Exception: Directory (BCO 15-1, 21; RAO 16-3.e.4)** – No record of ordination for a
34 man who is listed in the 5/18/21 and 8/17/21 minutes as licensed, but in 11/9/21
35 minutes as ordained.
- 36 **Exception: Feb 9, 2021; Nov 9, 2021 (BCO 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5)** – Stated differences
37 not recorded in minister's own words.
- 38 **Exception: Feb 9, 2021 (BCO 19-5)** – No record that the examination for transfer of
39 licensure was completed.
- 40 **Exception: Feb 9, 2021 (BCO 13-6)** – No record of transfer exam from another
41 Presbytery.
- 42 **Exception: Feb 9, 2021; May 18, 2021; Aug 17, 2021 (BCO 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5)** –
43 All specific requirements of ordination exam not recorded
- 44 **Exception: May 18, 2021 (BCO 18-5; 22-5)** – Student supply approved without
45 licensure.

- 1 **Exception: May 18, 2021** (*BCO* 13-6) – Incomplete record of transfer exam from
 2 another Presbytery.
 3 **Exception: May 18, 2021** (*BCO* 13-6, 21-4) – Incomplete record of transfer exam for
 4 minister from another denomination.
 5 **Exception: Aug 17, 2021** (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) – Minutes from commission not
 6 entered in Presbytery minutes.
 7 **Exception: Feb 11, 2020; Aug 11, 2020** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – All specific
 8 requirements of ordination exam not recorded.
 9 **Exception: Nov 10, 2020** (*BCO* 15-1) – Minutes of commission not entered into
 10 Presbytery minutes.
 11 **Exception: Nov 10, 2020** (*BCO* 13-6, 21-4) – Unclear record of transfer exam for
 12 minister from another denomination.
 13 **Exception: Feb 13, 2018; May 8, 2018** (*BCO* 21-4, *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – Differences of
 14 three candidates not judged to prescribed categories.
 15 **Response [2022]:** Agreed. Categories now being used for all determinations of
 16 exceptions to the standards.
 17 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery’s judgment of stated differences using the prescribed
 18 categories need to be submitted for review.
 19 **Exception: Feb 13, 2018; May 8, 2018** (*BCO* 21-4, *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – Differences not
 20 stated in candidates’ own words.
 21 **Response [2022]:** Agreed. Candidate’s words now being recorded in the minutes.
 22 **Rationale [2022]:** The candidate’s own words must be recorded and entered in the
 23 minutes and submitted for review.
 24 **Exception: May 9, 2017; Aug 8, 2017** (*BCO* 18-2; *BCO* 21-4) – Stated difference not
 25 recorded in the minister’s/candidate’s own words (*RAO* 16-3.e.5).
 26 **Response [2021]:** Actually, it was. If the candidate says he is taking the “Continental
 27 Exception to the Sabbath per 21-8” then that is what he said in his own words.
 28 **Rationale [2021]:** Candidate must state “specific instances in which he” (*BCO* 19-
 29 2.e) differs from *WCF*, *LC*, *SC*; not simply name a view.
 30 **Response [2022]:** Agreed; candidate’s actual words now being recorded.
 31 **Rationale [2022]:** The candidate’s own words must be recorded and entered in the
 32 minutes and submitted for review.
 33

- 34 76. That the Minutes of **South Texas** Presbytery: *50-0-1*
 35 a. Be approved without exceptions: **Jan 28-29, 2022; Aug 12-13, 2022; Oct 28-29,**
 36 **2022.**
 37 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **Jan 28-29, 2022; Apr 29-30, 2022.**
 38 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance:
 39 **1. Exception: General 2022** (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) – No minutes of any
 40 committee empowered as commissions submitted for GA review.
 41 **2. Exception: Jan 28-29, 2022; Aug 12-13, 2022; Oct 28-29, 2022** (*BCO* 18-2) –
 42 No record of endorsement by candidate’s Session, and/or no record of six-months
 43 membership for candidate.
 44 **3. Exception: Jan 28-29, 2022** (*BCO* 40-2.1) – Minutes state that the presbytery
 45 voted to receive the commission report to ordain and install [name omitted], but

- 1 referenced Attachment speaks only of a report to Commission to Ordain/Install a
2 Mr. [name omitted]. Minutes make no mention of Mr. [name omitted].
- 3 **4. Exception: Apr 29-30, 2022; Oct 28-29, 2022 (BCO 15-1)** – It appears
4 committees are empowered to act as if they were commissions.
- 5 **5. Exception: Apr 29-30, 2022 (RAO 16-3.e.5)** – Minutes do not indicate which
6 areas transfer candidates were examined in.
- 7 **6. Exception: Apr 23, 2022; Aug 20, 2022 (BCO 13-6)** – Incomplete record of
8 examination of TE transferring into Presbytery.
- 9 **7. Exception: Apr 29-30, 2022 (BCO 13-1)** – Minutes indicate honorably retired TE
10 is a member of a church.
- 11 **8. Exception: Apr 29-30, 2022 (BCO 8-7; 20-1)** – No record of the reasons why
12 Presbytery considers an out-of-bounds work to be a valid Christian ministry. No
13 record that the Presbytery has full assurance that the TE will have full freedom to
14 maintain and teach the doctrine of our Church.
- 15 **9. Exception: Apr 29-30, 2022 (BCO 23-1)** – No record that Congregation/Session
16 concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.
- 17 **10. Exception: Apr 29-30, 2022 (BCO 19-2; RAO 16-3.e.5)** – All specific
18 requirements of licensure exam not recorded.
- 19 **11. Exception: Apr 29-30, 2022 (BCO 13-6)** – Incomplete record of examination of
20 TE transferring into Presbytery.
- 21 **12. Exception: Apr 29-30, 2022; Aug 12-13,2022; Oct 28-29, 2022 (BCO 46-6)** –
22 No record of dismissal from original presbytery.
- 23 **13. Exception: Aug 12-13, 2022; Oct 28-29, 2022 (BCO 15-3; 36-7; 38-1; 40-2; RAO**
24 **16-3.e.4)** – Minutes provide an incomplete record of cases of discipline, and
25 complaints received. Minutes indicate commission received confession of a TE
26 and imposed censures of deposition from office and indefinite suspension from
27 the sacraments. This may have been a *BCO* 38-1 case without process but there is
28 no indication; it appears from the AC report that this commission was retroactively
29 authorized and therefore had no authority to conduct the case or impose censure;
30 also no indication procedures in *BCO* 36-7 were followed; also not clear if accused
31 was a church officer; confession is not in minutes.
- 32 **14. Exception: Aug 12-13, 2022 (BCO 21-2)** – Presbytery did not find extraordinary
33 circumstance or record super-majority vote to waive six-month requirement to be
34 taken under care.
- 35 **15. Exception: Oct 28-29, 2022 (BCO 21-1)** – No record that transfer candidate
36 received a call or that the presbytery approved the call.
- 37 **16. Exception: Oct 28-29, 2022 (BCO 15-1)** – Committee cannot deliberate and
38 conclude the business referred to it. It can only examine, and make
39 recommendations in its report to the Presbytery.
- 40 **17. Exception: Oct. 28-29, 2022 (BCO 21-1)** – No record that candidate received a
41 call or that the presbytery approved the call.
- 42 **d. That responses shall be submitted to the following GA as no responses were**
43 **received in 2023:**
- 44 **Exception: Apr 23-24, 2021 (BCO 20-1)** – No record of call to a definite work.

1 **Exception: Apr 23-24, 2021; Aug 13-14, 2021** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – All
 2 specific requirements of ordination exam not recorded.

3
 4 77. That the Minutes of **Southeast Alabama** Presbytery: *54-0-1*

5 a. Be approved without exceptions: **None**.
 6 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **General 2022; Jan 25, 2022; Mar 31, 2022;**
 7 **Apr 26, 2022; Aug 23, 2022.**

8 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance:
 9 **1. Exception: General 2022** (*BCO* 8-4) – No record of annual reports received from
 10 TEs doing work needful to the Church.

11 **2. Exception: General 2022** (*BCO* 13-2) – No record of annual reports received from
 12 TEs without call.

13 **3. Exception: Jan 25, 2022** (*BCO* 23-1) – No record that Congregation (/Session)
 14 concurrred with dissolution of pastoral relations.

15 **4. Exception: Jan 25, 2022; Apr 26, 2022; Aug 23, 2022** (*BCO* 18-2) – No record
 16 of six-months membership for candidate.

17 **5. Exception: Jan 25, 2022** (*BCO* 18-2) – No record of examinations (Under Care /
 18 Internship).

19 **6. Exception: Mar 31, 2022** (*BCO* 13-12; *RAO* 16-3.c.1) – Notice for called meeting
 20 not in order and purpose of called meeting not recorded verbatim in the minutes.

21 **7. Exception: Apr 26, 2022** (*BCO* 19-1, 22-6) – Stated supply is not listed in
 22 directory or minutes as an elder or licentiate.

23 **8. Exception: Apr 26, 2022** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – Incomplete record of
 24 ordination exams.

25 **9. Exception: Apr 26, 2022** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – Stated differences not
 26 judged with the prescribed categories.

27 **10. Exception: Apr 26, 2022** (*BCO* 21-4, *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – Candidate’s stated
 28 difference appears to be incompletely recorded.

29 **11. Exception: Apr 26, 2022** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – No record of requiring
 30 statement of differences with our standards.

31 **12. Exception: Apr 26, 2022** (*BCO* 21-5, 10-4) – Incomplete record of ordination and
 32 installation.

33 **13. Exception: Oct 25, 2022** (*BCO* 13-10) – No record of transfer or dismissal of
 34 members upon dissolving a church.

35 **14. Exception: Oct 25, 2022** (*BCO* 13-10) – At least 60-day notice to presbytery to
 36 dissolve a church not in order. (Not indicated/recorded).

37 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**
 38 **Exception: General** (*BCO* 13-9.b, 40-3) – Incomplete record or review of records of
 39 church sessions.

40 **Response:** We agree with this exception and will try to make a more diligent effort to
 41 get our churches to send in their minutes. We review all the minutes that are sent to
 42 us, but many of our smaller churches do not send in their minutes. In the future, we
 43 will reflect in the minutes of Presbytery which churches did not submit records and
 44 follow up with those churches to correct their actions

1 **Exception: Oct 26, 2021** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16.3.e.5) – All specific requirements of
2 ordination exam not recorded.

3 **Response:** We agree with this exception. These portions of the exam did take place,
4 but we failed to record them in our minutes. At our January 24, 2023 meeting, we
5 will amend the previously approved minutes of October 26, 2021 to show that Mr.
6 [name omitted] preached a sermon before the committee on October 12, 2021 on
7 Psalm 42; and that he was examined on the floor of Presbytery in the area of PCA
8 history.

9 **Exception: Apr 23, 2018** (*BCO* 21-4) – Stated differences not judged with prescribed
10 categories, and not recorded in candidates' own words.

11 **Response [2022]:** We agree with this exception and will correct our actions in the
12 future.

13 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to correct their minutes to include the judgment
14 of stated differences with prescribed categories.

15 **Response [2023]:** Presbytery did not meet on April 23, 2018 so we will assume that
16 the minutes in question are from April 28, 2018. If this is the case, we agree with the
17 exception. While the candidates did state their differences in their own words, the
18 minutes do not make this clear. At our January 24, 2023 meeting we will amend the
19 previously approved minutes of April 24, 2018 with the following amendments:

20 B.2.i - TE [name omitted]'s stated ~~differences with the standards are as follows~~ the
21 following differences with the standards in his own words:

22 B.3.ii - TE Carmichael's ~~stated differences with the standards are as follows~~ the
23 following differences with the standards in his own words:

24 B.4.ii.a. - Mr. [name omitted]'s stated: ~~differences with the standards are as follows~~
25 the following differences with the standards in his own words:

26 B.5.i. Moved and approved that TE [name omitted]'s stated differences ~~as stated and~~
27 ~~that he is allowed to teach said differences~~ are more than semantic but “not out of
28 accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine” (*BCO* 21-4).

29 B.5.iii. Moved and approved that TE [name omitted]'s stated differences ~~as stated and~~
30 ~~that he is allowed to teach said differences~~ are more than semantic but “not out of
31 accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine” (*BCO* 21-4).

32 B.5.v. Moved and approved that Mr. [name omitted]'s stated differences ~~as stated and~~
33 ~~that he is allowed to teach said differences~~ are more than semantic but “not out of
34 accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine” (*BCO* 21-4).

35 **Exception: Jun 2, 2020** (*BCO* 13-10) – Dissolution of church occurred without
36 designation of members to Presbytery's care or another Session.

37 **Response [2022]:** We agree with this exception and will correct our actions in the
38 future.

39 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to submit minutes indicating that the members of
40 the dissolved church have been designated to Presbytery's care or another Session.

41 **Response [2023]:** We agree with this exception and are sorry for this oversight. Since
42 some time has passed since those churches were dissolved and those members have
43 dispersed to other churches, we are uncertain of how to respond to this exception. The
44 members of [church name omitted] were transferred to the care of the Session of

1 [church name omitted] initially. The members of [church name omitted] have moved
 2 to various churches within the Presbytery and beyond.

3
 4 78. That the Minutes of **Southern Louisiana** Presbytery: 55-0-1

- 5 a. Be approved without exceptions: **Jun 18, 2022.**
- 6 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **Directory; General 2022; Apr 23, 2022; Aug**
 7 **2, 2022.**
- 8 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance:
 - 9 **1. Exception: General 2022 (BCO 8-7)** – No record of annual report(s) of TE(s)
 10 laboring out of bounds.
 - 11 **2. Exception: General 2022 (BCO 13-9.b; 40-1)** – No record of review of records
 12 of church Sessions.
 - 13 **3. Exception: Jan 22, 2022 (BCO 19-2)** – Incomplete record of licensure exam: no
 14 statement of Christian experience and inward call.
 - 15 **4. Exception: Apr 23, 2022 (BCO 21-4)** – Incomplete record of ordination exam:
 16 experiential religion, especially his personal character and family management;
 17 history of the PCA.
 - 18 **5. Exception: Apr 23, 2022 (BCO 15-1)** – Commission minutes not recorded in
 19 Presbytery minutes.
 - 20 **6. Exception: Jun 18, 2022 (BCO 21-5, 6, 7)** – Incorrect ordination procedure.
 - 21 **7. Exception: Aug 2, 2022 (BCO 23-1)** – Presbytery did not act to dissolve a TE’s
 22 call and place him on the rolls without call after his church left the denomination
 23 and he left the field.
 - 24 **8. Exception: Aug 2, 2022 (BCO 23-1)** – No record that Congregation concurred
 25 with dissolution of pastoral relations.
 - 26 **9. Exception: Aug 2, 2022 (BCO 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5)** – Stated differences not
 27 judged with the prescribed categories.
 - 28 **10. Exception: Oct 22, 2022 (BCO 5-9)** – Presbytery organized a church that had not
 29 elected ruling elders or called a pastor.
 - 30 **11. Exception: Oct 22, 2022 (BCO 21-9)** – Presbytery installed a pastor without
 31 having received or approved a call.
- 32 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**
 - 33 **Exception: Jan 23, 2021 (BCO 25-11)** – No record of 30-days notice to dismiss
 34 congregation from the PCA.
Response: Southern Louisiana Presbytery apologizes for failing to have this record in
 35 our minutes. We reached out to [church name omitted] and requested written
 36 conformation but received only verbal confirmation from the pastor. It was with that
 37 verbal confirmation that we acted as a presbytery. At a later presbytery meeting we
 38 recognized the difficulty that this presented and our member churches agreed that if
 39 they decided to leave the PCA that they would send in written confirmation of their
 40 actions. We recognize that this does not remedy the situation in regards to [church
 41 name omitted], however, we have taken steps to make sure that it doesn’t happen
 42 again.
Exception: Jan 23, 2021 (BCO 25-11) – No record of congregational vote to leave
 43 the PCA.
 44
 45

1 **Response:** Southern Louisiana apologizes for failing to have the congregational vote
2 recorded in our minutes. We would like to answer this exception with reference to the
3 above exception as they are related. We have taken steps to ensure that this doesn't
4 happen again.

5 **Exception: Jun 23, 2021** (BCO 13-12) – Notice for called meeting not in order; 10-
6 days notice of meeting not indicated or recorded.

7 **Response:** Southern Louisiana Presbytery apologizes for failing to indicate in our
8 minutes that the required 10 day notice for the called meeting held on June 23, 2021
9 was given. Please find the attached email correspondence dated June 9, 2021 which
10 informs the Presbytery of the meeting called by the Moderator on June 23, 2021.

11 **Exception: Jun 23, 2021** (BCO 5-9.g) – No record of petition to particularize.

12 **Response:** The Clerk of Southern Louisiana apologizes for failing to include the
13 petition in the 2022 RPR report. Please find it attached to this document.

14
15 79. That the Minutes of **Southern New England** Presbytery: 56-0-0

16 a. Be approved without exceptions: **None.**

17 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **Jan 15, 2022; Mar 5, 2022; Apr 29, 2022;**
18 **May 21, 2022; Jun 11, 2022; Sep 17, 2022; Dec 17, 2022.**

19 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance: **None.**

20 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**

21 **Exception: Sep 18, 2021** (BCO Preliminary Principle 6) – No record that members of
22 interim/provisional Session were called by the congregation of a particularized
23 church.

24 **Response:** Southern New England Presbytery agrees with the exception and promises
25 to be more careful in the future. SNEP is also pleased to report that the [church name
26 omitted] has been particularized and has its own session.

27 **Exception: Sep 18, 2021** (BCO 15-2) – No record of quorum for commission meeting.
28 (2 TEs required for commission with power to install a TE.)

29 **Response:** Southern New England Presbytery agrees with the exception and promises
30 to be more careful in the future. The minutes of the Commission listed one Teaching
31 Elder as being present but there were two additional Teaching Elder commissioners
32 present who were not listed. This mistake was not caught by the Presbytery when it
33 approved the minutes of our September 2021 meeting.

34 The clerk of the Commission has submitted minutes with the full list of commissioners
35 reflected. SNEP has approved these commission minutes at their September 2022
36 stated meeting and submits them for the Assembly's reference.

37
38 80. That the Minutes of **Southwest Florida** Presbytery: 56-0-2

39 a. Be approved without exceptions: **Feb 12, 2022; May 10, 2022; Nov 8, 2022.**

40 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **General 2022.**

41 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance:

42 **1. Exception: Sep 10, 2022** (BCO 23-1) – No record that Congregation/Session
43 concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.

44 **d. No response to previous assemblies required.**

45

- 1 81. That the Minutes of **Suncoast Florida** Presbytery: 56-0-0
2 a. Be approved without exceptions: **None.**
3 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **Directory; General 2022; Feb 8, 2022; May**
4 **10, 2022; Sep 13, 2022.**
5 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance:
6 **1. Exception: Feb 8, 2022 (BCO 8-4; 20-1)** – No record that the Presbytery is assured
7 that an out-of-bounds TE will have full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine
8 of our Church. No record of the reasons why Presbytery considers an out-of-
9 bounds work to be a valid Christian ministry.
10 **2. Exception: May 10, 2022 (BCO 13-9a; 46-6)** – No record of vote to dismiss TEs
11 called to other Presbyteries. Further, there is no evidence that the men were
12 received by these other presbyteries.
13 **3. Exception: May 10, 2022; Sept. 13, 2022 (BCO 15-1)** – Report of Commission
14 established at the May Stated Meeting to install 2 TEs is not noted or included in
15 subsequent minutes.
16 **4. Exception: May 10, 2022 (BCO 20-1)** – No record of the reasons why Presbytery
17 considers an out-of-bounds work to be a valid Christian ministry.
18 **5. Exception: May 10, 2022 (BCO 46-6)** – TE is received from another PCA
19 presbytery but no evidence of action of other Presbytery.
20 **6. Exception: Nov 9, 2022 (BCO 19-1)** – Presbytery gives permission to a man to
21 preach in a pulpit on a regular basis without proper licensure.
22 **d. No response to previous assemblies required.**
23
24 82. That the Minutes of **Susquehanna Valley** Presbytery: 57-0-0
25 a. Be approved without exceptions: **Feb 12, 2022; Mar 22, 2022; Jul 20, 2022; Sep 30,**
26 **2022; Nov 1, 2022; Nov 19, 2022.**
27 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **None.**
28 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance:
29 **1. Exception: May 21, 2022 (BCO 13-6; 21-4)** – Incomplete record of transfer exam
30 for minister from another denomination.
31 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**
32 **Exception: Jun 15, 2021 (BCO 13-6; 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5)** – All specific requirements
33 of transfer exam from another PCA presbytery not recorded; no mention of
34 examination on Sacraments and Govt and Discipline of PCA.
35 **Response:** We examined TE [name omitted] in the areas of Theology, Sacraments,
36 and Church Government but did not specify each category thoroughly in our
37 presbytery minutes. We apologize for our negligence and will be diligent to record
38 these exams in better detail in future presbytery minutes.
39 **Exception: Sep 21, 2021 (BCO 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5)** – All specific requirements of
40 transfer exam from another PCA presbytery not recorded; no mention of examination
41 on Theology, Sacraments and Govt and Discipline of PCA.
42 **Response:** We examined TE [name omitted] in the areas of Theology, Sacraments,
43 and Church Government but did not specify each category thoroughly in our
44 presbytery minutes. We apologize for our negligence and will be diligent to record
45 these exams in better detail in future presbytery minutes.

1 **Exception: Nov 20, 2021** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – All specific requirements of
2 transfer exam from another PCA presbytery not recorded; no mention of examination
3 on Theology, Sacraments and Principles Govt and Discipline of PCA.

4 **Response:** We examined TE [name omitted] in the areas of Theology, Sacraments,
5 and Church Government but did not specify each category thoroughly in our
6 presbytery minutes. We apologize for our negligence and will be diligent to record
7 these exams in better detail in future presbytery minutes.
8

9 83. That the Minutes of **Tennessee Valley** Presbytery: 50-0-0

10 a. Be approved without exception: **None.**

11 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **Directory; General 2022; Jan 8, 2022; Apr**
12 **9, 2022; Jul 12, 2022; Oct 18, 2022.**

13 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance:

14 **1. Exception: General 2022** (*BCO* 40-1; *RAO* 16-10) – Report of review by GA of
15 2021 minutes not included in the minutes of Presbytery, and no response to the
16 Assembly concerning disposition of the exceptions of substance.

17 **2. Exception: Jan 8, 2022** (*BCO* 15-1) – Commissions are formed to install
18 previously ordained TEs but no commission reports are found in subsequent
19 minutes.

20 **3. Exception: Jan 8, 2022** (*BCO* 8-7; 20-1) – No record that the Presbytery is assured
21 that an out-of-bounds TE will have full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine
22 of our Church. No record of the reasons why Presbytery considers an out-of-
23 bounds work to be a valid Christian ministry.

24 **4. Exception: Jan 8, 2022; Apr 9, 2022; Jul 12, 2022; Oct 18, 2022** (*BCO* 46-6) –
25 TEs are received from other PCA presbyteries but no evidence of action of other
26 Presbytery.

27 **5. Exception: Apr 9, 2022** (*BCO* 19-7-10) – Presbytery “forms an internship” for a
28 candidate, but does not approve the nature of the internship, does not examine the
29 man, and does not address the intern as required.

30 **6. Exception: Apr 9, 2022; Jul 12, 2022; Oct 18, 2022** (*BCO* 18-2; *RAO* 16-6.c.2)
31 – No record of six-months membership requirement and one month application
32 deadline for man coming under care. This was an Exception of Form also in the
33 report on the 2021 minutes.

34 **7. Exception: Apr 9, 2022** (*BCO* 8-7; 15-1; 20-1; 21-1) – A TE’s status is changed
35 from Honorably Retired to Out of Bounds, but specific arrangements of call not
36 shown to be approved. No record that the Presbytery is assured that an out-of-
37 bounds TE will have full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of our Church.
38 No record of the reasons why Presbytery considers an out-of-bounds work to be a
39 valid Christian ministry.

40 **8. Exception: Apr 9, 2022; Oct. 18, 2022** (*BCO* 15-1; 23-1) – A commission
41 dissolves men’s call, but no evidence of congregational (or sessional) concurrence,
42 and sometimes the matter is not included in the minutes of Presbytery.

43 **9. Exception: Jul 12, 2022** (*BCO* 18-2, 3) – No record of endorsement by candidate’s
44 session, six-months membership, charge given to candidate, nor of his answering
45 the required questions.

- 1 **10. Exception: Jul 12, 2022** (*BCO* 5-9; 15-1; 24-1) – There is no report in the October
2 meeting of the commission to organize the mission work and to show that *BCO* 5-
3 9.i was followed even though the work is listed in the Directory as being organized.
- 4 **11. Exception: Oct 18, 2022** (*BCO* 15-1; 13-6; *RAO* 16-1.e.5) – Report and minutes
5 of Theological Examining Committee, acting as a commission to conduct a
6 transfer exam not included.
- 7 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**
- 8 **Exception: Jan 12, 2019** (*BCO* 23-1; 22-4) – Presbytery approved the dissolution of
9 pastoral relations with no record of congregational meeting or any record of the church
10 commissioners appearing before Presbytery.
- 11 **Response:** The Tennessee Valley Presbytery acknowledges and apologizes for the
12 lack of record in our minutes. This was a recording error made by the stated clerk. We
13 have updated our minutes.
- 14 **Exception: Jul 9, 2019** (*BCO* 21-6) – TEs installed as assistant pastors, but
15 constitutional questions were addressed to the congregation instead of the session.
- 16 **Response:** The Tennessee Valley Presbytery acknowledges and apologizes for this
17 mistake. The constitutional questions were correctly addressed to the session, however
18 the minutes were incorrectly recorded by the installation commission.
- 19 **Exception: Jul 9, 2019** (*BCO* 13-6) – The commission record indicates that
20 presbytery re-ordained a minister transferring from another denomination.
- 21 **Response:** The Tennessee Valley Presbytery acknowledges and apologizes for this
22 mistake. The stated clerk has spoken with the members of the commission and with
23 the Presbytery about this mistake and we will endeavor to not make this mistake in the
24 future.
- 25 **Exception: Jan 11, 2020** (*BCO* 19-2) – Stated differences with standards not recorded
26 in licensure examination.
- 27 **Response:** The Tennessee Valley Presbytery acknowledges and apologizes for the
28 lack of record in our minutes. This was a recording error made by the stated clerk, the
29 stated differences will be updated in our minutes and resent to the RPR staff.
- 30 **Exception: Jun 13, 2020** (*BCO* 13-12) – Committee report given that was not
31 included in the purpose of called meeting.
- 32 **Response:** The Tennessee Valley Presbytery acknowledges and apologizes for the
33 mistake. We will endeavor to not make this mistake in the future.
- 34 **Exception: Jul 14, 2020** (*BCO* 13-11) – Complaint appealed to Presbytery not
35 recorded in the minutes.
- 36 **Response:** The Tennessee Valley Presbytery acknowledges and apologizes for the
37 lack of record in our minutes. This was a recording error made by the stated clerk. The
38 complaint has been updated in our minutes and submitted the complaint to the RPR
39 staff.
- 40 **e. That responses shall be submitted to the following GA as no approved responses**
41 **were received in 2023:**
- 42 **Exception: Jan 9, 2021** (*BCO* 22-5; 20-1) – Improper status granted to TE who has
43 no pastoral call but is stated supply, pending approval from other presbytery.
- 44 **Exception: Jul 13, 2021** (*BCO* 15-1, 2) – An individual may not take an action on
45 behalf of a court; a commission is required.

1 **Exception: Oct 19, 2021** (*BCO* 19-1) – Candidate under care preaching regularly in
2 PCA pulpits without a license.

3
4 84. That the Minutes of **Tidewater** Presbytery: 59-0-0

5 a. Be approved without exceptions: **May 16, 2022; Oct 6, 2022.**

6 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **None.**

7 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance:

8 1. **Exception: Feb 5, 2022** (*BCO* 15-3) – Action of Presbytery judicial commission
9 was not approved or disapproved by vote of Presbytery.

10 2. **Exception: Feb 5, 2022** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – Two stated differences not
11 judged with the prescribed categories; one stated difference not judged at all.

12 3. **Exception: Feb 5, 2022** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – One stated difference not
13 judged with the prescribed categories; and a difference the candidate did not state
14 or was not recorded was judged.

15 4. **Exception: Feb 5, 2022** (*BCO* 15-2) – Commission established to take action on
16 behalf of Presbytery without meeting minimum membership requirement.

17 d. **That the following responses to the 50th GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore**
18 **new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

19 **Exception: Aug 1, 2019** (*BCO* 19-5) – Incomplete record of a licensure transfer exam.

20 **Response [2022]:** The Presbytery disagrees with this exception. We suggest that the
21 language of 19-5 is confusing at best.

22 In the first sentence we read, “the latter Presbytery may, at its discretion, on his
23 producing proper testimonials from the former, repeat any portion of the previous
24 Presbytery’s examination it desires.” The following sentence then reads, “The
25 Presbytery into whose bounds the licentiate is moving, however, must at least examine
26 the man concerning: a. his Christian experience, b. his call to preach the Gospel, c. his
27 views in theology, d. Bible content, e. church government.” We erred in the favor of
28 the “at its discretion” finding the examination of the previous presbytery and the
29 documentation provided to as sufficient and decided to only repeat his testimony and
30 views.

31 **Rationale [2022]:** *BCO* 19-5 mandates a minimum exam that must be given to
32 licentiate transfers. The whole *BCO* 19-2 exam need not be repeated, but the 19-5
33 elements must be.

34 **Response [2023]:** The Presbytery understands its error and has taken every step to
35 correct this for the future. The membership committee has been apprised of the
36 requirements of *BCO* 19-5 and moving forward a minimum exam will be given. The
37 Tidewater Presbytery approved these actions in our 2/4/2023 Stated Meeting.

38 **Rationale [2023]:** No record that Presbytery corrected its actions (*RAO* 16-10.b.1).
39 Presbytery has not properly resolved the examination of the licentiate through proper
40 examination. If the man seeks to have his license renewed *BCO* 19-5 must be
41 followed.

42 **Exception: Feb 1, 2020** (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) – Minutes of commission (to
43 ordain and install) TEs [names omitted] not entered into presbytery minutes.

1 **Response [2022]:** The Presbytery agrees with this omission. This was purely an
2 oversight of the Clerk. The Sessional Oversight Commission was appointed to ordain
3 and install and I failed to note that in the minutes
4 **Rationale [2022]:** Presbytery needs to submit the commission minutes for review.
5 **Response [2023]:** While I failed to record the make up of the commissions to ordain
6 the two candidates, the minutes of these commissions were not approved until a later
7 Stated Meeting. At the Feb 1, 2020 meeting the candidates were examined and
8 approved for ordination, the dates and times were not set at that meeting. One
9 candidate left the PCA before his ordination, and the other did have his ordination
10 commission at a later date.
11 **Rationale [2023]:** No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1).
12 Presbytery has not submitted the commission minutes for review.
13 **Exception: Feb 6, 2021** (*Bylaws* 7.2.1) – Taking action at virtual meeting expressly
14 prohibited by Presbytery bylaws.
15 **Response:** Due to extraordinary circumstances of that week, the Executive Committee
16 had to make a meeting decision. The meeting was scheduled to meet in a school, which
17 closed due to a Covid outbreak. The local gas prices shot up and many stations were
18 closed due to shortages, so the Executive Committee agreed that on the short notice
19 of a change, rather than cancel the meeting, to hold it virtually. The Presbytery was in
20 the process of making the Bylaws Change to allow this but had not had all the
21 necessary readings. The Bylaws have since been amended, Covid shut downs are a
22 thing of the past, and this will no longer be an issue.
23 **Rationale:** No record that Presbytery corrected its actions (*RAO* 16-10.b.1).
24 Presbytery has not ratified the actions taken without proper authority.
25 **Exception: Feb 6, 2021; Oct 7, 2021** (*BCO* 15-1, 2) – An individual may not take an
26 action on behalf of a court; a commission is required.
27 **Response:** In the Feb 6 Minutes [p4] recommendation 3 reads; “Recommendation 3
28 – refer to admin committee and clerk to develop a plan of action – MSP. The Admin
29 Committee and the Clerk were to serve together to develop the plan of action. As can
30 be seen in the “Report of the Commission,” a commission was appointed to adjudicate
31 the case and Recommendation 3, from the Commission, was for the Admin
32 Committee with the clerk to handle one aspect of the resolution. At no time was an
33 individual taking action on behalf of the court.
34 **Rationale:** The original exception related to the item on ll. 11–12 on p. 4 of the Feb
35 6, 2021 minutes and ll. 33–34 on p. 4 of the Oct 7, 2021 minutes. Presbytery did not
36 respond to the identified exception of substance.
37 **Exception: Feb 6, 2021** (*BCO* 15-3) – Presbytery took action on a recommendation
38 from a judicial commission without receiving a full statement of the case.
39 **Response:** During the verbal report to the TWP, a full statement was made of the case.
40 Due to the sensitive nature of the case, the Commission and the TWP concurred that
41 a printed copy would not be distributed but the summary with the report. We will, in
42 the future, make sure we clearly follow 15-3.
43 **Rationale:** No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1).
44 Presbytery has not provided the statement in written form to the Presbytery or
45 submitted the record for review.

1 **Exception: Oct 7, 2021 (BCO 13-11)** – Complaint and Appeal sent to Presbytery not
2 recorded in Presbytery’s minutes.

3 **Response:** We were in error for not including all of the email correspondence as the
4 majority of the complaint and appeal were handled via email conversations. We have
5 since cleaned up our process for receiving and handling complaints and appeals.

6 **Rationale:** No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO 16-10.b.1*). Presbytery
7 has not submitted the records for review.

8
9 85. That the Minutes of **Warrior Presbytery:** 58-0-1

10 a. Be approved without exceptions: **Jan 25, 2022; Apr 19, 2022; Jul 22, 2022.**

11 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **None.**

12 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance:

13 **1. Exception: General 2022 (BCO 8-7)** – No record of annual report(s) of TE(s)
14 laboring out of bounds.

15 **2. Exception: Oct 18, 2022 (BCO 15-1; RAO 16-3.e.4)** – Minutes of commission
16 not entered in Presbytery minutes.

17 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**

18 **Exception: Jan 26, 2021 (BCO 21-4.e; RAO 16-3.e.5)** – Stated differences not
19 recorded in the minister’s own words.

20 **Response:** Warrior Presbytery apologizes for failing to follow appropriate procedures
21 for recording a minister’s exceptions. The minister in question stated, “I take
22 exception with WCF 21 regarding the Sabbath. I disagree with the idea that all
23 recreation is forbidden on the Sabbath. The Sabbath is intended as a day of rest,
24 worship, and acts of mercy. In so far as the recreation does not interfere with the other
25 aspects it should be permissible, especially when these activities foster family and
26 community. In addition, I take exception with WLC 109. I disagree that all mental or
27 material images of Jesus are violations of the second commandment. I am uncertain
28 how we can totally avoid any mental image of Jesus ever being formed in our minds,
29 especially as we read the narrative accounts of His life. So far as material images, I
30 believe the core issue is in the use of images for worship. While we should always be
31 cautious, I believe we fail to address the heart of the second commandment when we
32 put icons and a cartoon depiction of Jesus in children’s literature on the same level.”
33 This failure has already been addressed and exceptions are now being recorded in the
34 presbytery minutes in the minister’s own words.

35 **Exception: Jan 26, 2021 (BCO 21-4.e; RAO 16-3.e.5)** – Stated differences not judged
36 with the prescribed categories.

37 **Response:** Warrior Presbytery apologizes for failing to utilize the correct categories
38 when judging stated differences. As relates to the stated differences of this minister,
39 the court judged them to be merely semantic. This error has been brought to the
40 presbytery’s attention and we will use the correct categories moving forward.

41 **Exception: Jan 26, 2021 (BCO 22-5)** – Mr. [name omitted] is regularly preaching in
42 a local church but is specifically noted as not being licensed.

43 **Response:** Warrior Presbytery recognizes and apologizes for its failure to provide
44 appropriate oversight for this church. This church does not currently have a pastor or
45 stated supply and Mr. [name omitted] agreed to provide assistance to them. Mr. [name

1 omitted] was familiar to the church and had worked in Christian ministries for many
 2 decades. The church and Warrior Presbytery have addressed the situation and are
 3 working together to ensure it does not happen again. The church leadership
 4 acknowledges the necessity of regular preaching being handled by men who have been
 5 examined by the presbytery. Warrior Presbytery is working to assist them in finding
 6 appropriate pulpit supply. Both this church and Warrior Presbytery regret that this
 7 situation occurred and are striving to improve communication and processes so that
 8 nothing like this occurs again.

9
 10 86. That the Minutes of **West Hudson Presbytery:** 56-0-1

- 11 a. Be approved without exceptions: **Nov 17, 2022.**
- 12 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **Directory; Sep 9, 2021.**
- 13 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance:
 - 14 **1. Exception: General 2021; General 2022 (BCO 8-7)** – No record of annual
 - 15 reports of TEs laboring out of bounds.
 - 16 **2. Exception: May 3, 2021 (BCO 23-1)** – No record if presbytery determined “the
 - 17 dissolution of the pastoral relationship with the senior pastor was brought about in
 - 18 Christian love and good order on the part of the parties concerned.”
 - 19 **3. Exception: May 3, 2021 (BCO 15-2)** – No record of commission members or a
 - 20 motion to empower anyone to appoint members.
 - 21 **4. Exception: Sep 9, 2021 (BCO 8-7)** – No record of presbytery determining that a
 - 22 TE laboring out of bounds will “be assured he will have full freedom to maintain
 - 23 and teach the doctrine of our Church.”
 - 24 **5. Exception: Nov 18, 2021 (BCO 40-4)** – Presbytery failed to “deliberate and judge
 - 25 in the whole matter” regarding a report received according to BCO 40-4.
 - 26 (“Whether [church name omitted] erred by sustaining [name omitted] as Youth
 - 27 Director”—the committee chose not to make a recommendation because the
 - 28 person in question was no longer employed, and presbytery approved this
 - 29 recommendation).
 - 30 **6. Exception: Feb 10, 2022 (BCO 23-1)** – No mention that the pastoral relationship
 - 31 was dissolved “in Christian love and good order on the parties concerned.”
 - 32 **7. Exception: Apr 26, 2022 (BCO 13-6)** – No record of which presbytery TE is
 - 33 transferring from and whether he is a member in good standing.
 - 34 **8. Exception: May 9, 2022 (BCO 21-4)** – Presbytery granted a doctrinal exception
 - 35 that needs further clarification for proper review.
 - 36 **9. Exception: May 9, 2022 (BCO 19-1, 5)** – Presbytery transferred a licentiate
 - 37 without a proper examination.
 - 38 **10. Exception: May 9, 2022 (BCO 38-2)** – Divesting a TE takes two meetings of
 - 39 presbytery. No record that he made the request at a previous meeting of presbytery.
- 40 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**
 - 41 **Exception: May 6, 2019 (BCO 23-1)** – No record of congregational meeting
 - 42 requesting Presbytery to change TE [name omitted] from senior pastor to associate
 - 43 and TE [name omitted] from associate to senior at [church name omitted] or a record
 - 44 of the requisite 80% congregational vote by secret ballot.

1 **Response:** West Hudson agrees with the exception. At the thirteenth stated meeting,
2 the following motion was approved: to amend the minutes of the second stated
3 meeting to include [church name omitted] congregational meeting minutes changing
4 the calls of TE [name omitted] and TE [name omitted] as Attachment 2. Presbytery
5 promises to be more careful in the future.

6 **Exception: Nov 12, 2020** (*BCO* 12-7; 13-9.b; *RAO* 16-3.e.6) – Record does not
7 indicate that all 2019 Session records were reviewed by Presbytery in 2020.

8 **Response:** West Hudson Presbytery agrees with the exception. At the thirteenth stated
9 meeting, the following motion was approved: to docket the review of Session records
10 from 2019 to 2021 for the September 2022 stated meeting. West Hudson promises to
11 be more careful in collecting and reviewing Session minutes in the future.

12
13 87. That the Minutes of **Westminster** Presbytery: 57-0-1

- 14 a. Be approved without exceptions: **Mar 12, 2022; Aug 13, 2022; Nov 12, 2022.**
- 15 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **Directory.**
- 16 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance: **None.**
- 17 **d. No response to previous assemblies required.**

18
19 88. That the Minutes of **Wisconsin** Presbytery: 59-0-0

- 20 a. Be approved without exceptions: **None.**
- 21 b. Be approved with exceptions of form: **Jan 22, 2022; Jan 22, 2022 ES; Apr 23, 2022.**
- 22 c. Be approved with exceptions of substance:
 - 23 **1. Exception: Jan 22, 2022; Apr 23, 2022** (*BCO* 21-5) – Constitutional vows for
24 ordination not propounded to an ordinand. (Vows given were installation only -
25 *BCO* 21-9).
 - 26 **2. Exception: Jan 22, 2022; Jul 23, 2022; Oct 22, 2022** (*BCO* 19-2.a) – All specific
27 requirements of licensure exam not recorded. (Christian experience; Inward call to
28 preach the gospel.)
 - 29 **3. Exception: Mar 8, 2022** (*BCO* 13-12) – Notice for called meeting not in order
30 (10-day notice).
 - 31 **4. Exception: Apr 23, 2022** (*BCO* 38-3) – Teaching elder removed from the rolls
32 without specifying nature of removal, and without including either the
33 “irregularity” (*BCO* 38-3.a) or the “full record of the matter” (*BCO* 38-3.b).
 - 34 **5. Exception: Apr 23, 2022** (*BCO* 18-2) – No record of six-months membership for
35 candidate or of endorsement by candidate’s Session.
 - 36 **6. Exception: Apr 23, 2022; Oct 22, 2022** (*BCO* 19-9) – All specific requirements
37 of internship not recorded (inward call to the ministry of the Word).
 - 38 **7. Exception: Apr 23, 2022; Jun 3, 2022; Oct 22, 2022** (*BCO* 21-4) – Incomplete
39 record of ordination exams. (Experiential religion, especially his personal
40 character and family management.)
 - 41 **8. Exception: Jul 23, 2022** (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) – Minutes of commission not
42 entered in Presbytery minutes.
- 43 **d. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found satisfactory:**
 - 44 **Exception: Jan 23, 2021** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – Presbytery policy as described
45 does not require ministers/candidates to state differences in their own words.

1 **Response:** The first motion adopted by the Presbytery under item 21-11 during this
 2 meeting was in no way intended to restrict or require ministers/candidates to state
 3 anything other than “differences in their own words.” It was merely a
 4 recommendation to its candidates and credentials committee on how certain
 5 interpretations or views of the creation account, when expressed by a candidate in the
 6 candidates own words, could be handled. All candidates are required, and only ever
 7 have been required, to submit exceptions in their own words.

8 **Exception: Jan 23, 2021** (*BCO* 5-2.c.; 5-3; 13-11) – Unclear why members were
 9 added to a provisional Session when the mission church was dissolved.

10 **Response:** Because certain members of the existing temporary government needed to
 11 resign from the commission and other members were willing to serve during the
 12 remaining sixty-day period the Presbytery wanted to give members of the mission
 13 church notice and an opportunity to transfer, in accordance with *BCO* 13-10.

14 **Exception: Apr 24, 2021** (*BCO* 13-2) – All specific requirements of admitting
 15 ministers without call not recorded.

16 **Response:** There are no requirements for acknowledging that a minister that had a
 17 call, no longer has a call. In this case an RUF minister was replaced, due to his
 18 transitioning to a Call into the Anglican Church in North America, but he was not yet
 19 transferring out of the Presbytery (that has since happened and he has been removed
 20 from the rolls in accord with *BCO* 38-3 at the April 2022 Stated Presbytery Meeting).

21 **Exception: Sep 25, 2021** (*BCO* 18-2) – No record of six-months membership for
 22 candidates.

23 **Response:** The Presbytery apologizes for now specifying that their membership
 24 exceeded six months, but all three men had been members of their respective churches
 25 longer than six months: [name omitted] since November 10, 2020, [name omitted]
 26 since 2016, and [name omitted] since August 2020.

27 **Exception: Jan 23, 2021 [pp. 7-9]; Apr 24, 2021 [p. 6]; Sep 25, 2021 [pp. 11-12]**
 28 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16- 3.e.5) – All specific requirements of ordination exam not
 29 recorded. (No Hebrew and Greek; No Approval of Theological/Exegetical Papers;
 30 Personal Character; Family Management.)

31 **Response:** All candidates were examined, thoroughly, in these areas. The Presbytery
 32 apologizes if this is not clear in its recorded minutes. It will do a better job in the
 33 future of noting acceptance of a thesis on some theological topic, exegesis on the
 34 assigned portion of Scripture, acceptance of a seminary degree that included the study
 35 of original languages in lieu of an oral exam in his knowledge of Greek and Hebrew
 36 languages, and the examination of a candidate’s character and family management
 37 during the acquaintance with experiential religion portion.

38 **Exception: Aug 7, 2021** (*BCO* 13-1) – Notice for called meeting not in order; 10-day
 39 notice not indicated.

40 **Response:** The Presbytery apologizes for failing to note when the notice was sent out.
 41 Said notice was sent out on Tuesday, July 27, 2021, well before the 10-day
 42 requirement.

43 **e. That the following responses to the 50th GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore**
 44 **new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

1 **Exception: Jan 23, 2021** (*BCO* 19-2.a) – All specific requirements of licensure exam
2 not recorded.

3 **Response:** As noted in the minutes, both Mr. [name omitted] and Mr. [name omitted]
4 had been examined in the area of the “inward call to the ministry,” which included
5 their inward call to preach the gospel, during their exams for coming under care. Mr.
6 [name omitted] had been examined at the Stated Presbytery meeting on September 26,
7 2020, and Mr. [name omitted] had been examined at the Stated Presbytery meeting on
8 April 27, 2019.

9 **Rationale:** Candidates coming under care are required to be examined “on
10 experiential religion and on his motives for seeking the ministry” (*BCO* 18-3).
11 Licensure requires a “statement of his Christian experience and inward call to preach
12 the Gospel,” which seeks greater scrutiny than to come under care (*BCO* 19-2.a).
13 Furthermore, “No Presbytery shall omit any parts of examination except in
14 extraordinary cases; and whenever a Presbytery shall omit any of these parts, it shall
15 always make a record of the reasons therefore, and of the trial parts omitted.” (*BCO*
16 19-2).

17 **Exception: Jan 23, 2021** (*BCO* 19-7) – All specific requirements of internship not
18 recorded.

19 **Response:** Mr. [name omitted] was a candidate under the care of the Presbytery since
20 being examined at the Stated Presbytery meeting on September 26, 2020. He had
21 given an oral statement of his inward call to the ministry of the Word during that
22 Stated Presbytery meeting and the Presbytery did not choose to re-examine him in this
23 area at the Stated Presbytery in January, but accepted his statement from September
24 26, 2020. The internship program was presented and approved, he was given the
25 requisite charge, and he was prayed for. It is unclear what further requirements need
26 to be recorded.

27 **Rationale:** Candidates coming under care are required to be examined “on
28 experiential religion and on his motives for seeking the ministry” (*BCO* 18-3). The
29 process for becoming an intern requires a statement “of his inward call to the ministry
30 of the Word” (*BCO* 19-10). These questions are different, and a single candidate must
31 be examined on both questions.

32 **Exception: Jan 23, 2021** (*BCO* 19-2.f; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) – Stated differences not
33 recorded in the candidate’s own words.

34 **Response:** Actually these are exactly the words the candidate submitted. Attached as
35 Exhibit A is the document the Presbytery received from Mr. [name omitted] in
36 preparation of this meeting.

37 **Rationale:** Presbytery had adopted a motion classifying the Framework Interpretation
38 as “an allowable exception” (Jan 23, 2021, p. 4), and the candidate declared, “I humbly
39 submit my exception to the phrase ‘in the space of six days’ as I personally hold to a
40 Framework Interpretation.” Stating one’s differences from our confessional standards
41 in one’s own words requires more than citing a different doctrine; a candidate must
42 give his own biblical rationale for exactly what he believes, since “it is the right and
43 responsibility of the Presbytery to determine if the candidate is out of accord with any
44 of the fundamentals of these doctrinal standards and, as a consequence, may not be
45 able to in good faith sincerely to receive and adopt the *Confession of Faith* and

1 *Catechisms* of this Church as containing the system of doctrine taught in the Holy
2 Scriptures” (*BCO* 21-4.e).

3 **Exception: Apr 24, 2021** (*BCO* 21-5) – Constitutional vows for ordination not
4 propounded to two ordinands.

5 **Response:** The Presbytery apologizes for this typo in its Commission’s Report. The
6 actual questions asked and vows taken were the ones from *BCO* 21-5, not 21-9.

7 **Rationale:** No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1).

8 **Exception: Apr 24, 2021** (*BCO* 5-9) – All specific requirements for the organization
9 of a particular church not recorded.

10 **Response:** The Presbytery apologizes for failing to note the reception of petitions
11 from each of the three churches. Petitions were received from the members of all
12 three missions and can provide copies of the same upon request.

13 **Rationale:** No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1).

14 **Exception: Aug 7, 2021** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16- 3.e.5) – All specific requirements of
15 ordination exam not recorded. (No Approval of Theological/Exegetical Papers;
16 Personal Character; Family Management.)

17 **Response:** Mr. [name omitted] had been examined in the area of his acquaintance
18 with experiential religion, personal character, and family management at the Called
19 Presbytery meeting in July 2019, and was not re-examined in these areas. As noted
20 in the minutes, it was acknowledged that Mr. [name omitted] submitted the necessary
21 theological papers, which includes the Theological and Exegetical Papers required
22 under *BCO* 21-4(c)(2) and (3). The Presbytery does not see where *BCO* 21-4 requires
23 it to approve of said papers, only that preparation by the candidate is necessary.

24 **Rationale:** Licensure requires a “statement of his Christian experience and inward
25 call to preach the Gospel” (*BCO* 19-2.a). Ordination, requires “A careful examination
26 as to...his acquaintance with experiential religion, especially his personal character
27 and family management (Based on the qualifications set out in 1 Timothy 3:1–7, and
28 Titus 1:6–9)” (*BCO* 21-4.c.(1).(a)). Thus, questions for ordination are different from
29 questions for licensure, requiring a higher level of Presbytery’s scrutiny. Additionally,
30 all parts of the trials of ordination must be approved, including submitted theological
31 and exegetical papers, since the Presbytery must be “fully satisfied of his
32 qualifications for the sacred office” (*BCO* 21-4.g). Furthermore, “No Presbytery shall
33 omit any of these parts of trial for ordination except in extraordinary cases, and then
34 only with three-fourths (3/4) approval of Presbytery” (*BCO* 21-4.c).

35 **Exception: Sep 25, 2021** (*BCO* 5-4) – The nature of provision for pastoral ministry
36 for a mission church not clearly defined.

37 **Response:** The Presbytery apologizes that this is not clear in its minutes, but Rev.
38 [name omitted] was hired as the Prospective Church Planter for [church name
39 omitted].

40 **Rationale:** No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1).

41 **Exception: Sep 25, 2021** (*BCO* 21-5) – Constitutional vows for ordination not
42 propounded to an ordinand.

43 **Response:** The Presbytery apologizes for this typo in its Commission’s Report. The
44 actual questions asked and vows taken were the ones from *BCO* 21-5, not 21-9.

45 **Rationale:** No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1).

1 **VII. Officers Elected for 2023-2024**

2 Chairman: TE Jon Anderson
3 Vice-Chairman: TE Eddie Lim
4 Secretary: TE Jacob Gerber
5 Assistant Secretary: TE Thomas Rickard
6

7 **VIII. Roster of Members Present**

8 <i>Presbytery</i>	9 <i>Representative</i>
9 Arizona	TE Joshua Harp
10 Ascension	RE Jay Neikirk
11 Blue Ridge	TE Jon Anderson
12 Calvary	TE Robert Cathcart
13 Catawba Valley	RE Steve Stout
14 Central Carolina	TE Flynt Jones
15 Central Florida	TE Kevin Gardner
16 Central Georgia	RE Elliot Everitt
17 Central Indiana	RE Mike McBride
18 Chesapeake	TE Donald Dove
19 Chicago Metro	TE Caleb Hughes
20 Columbus Metro	TE Chris Mabee
21 Covenant	RE Bob Barber
22 Eastern Canada	RE Mark Hare
23 Eastern Pennsylvania	RE Terry Carnes
24 Evangel	TE Greg Poole
25 Fellowship	TE Branden Williams
26 Georgia Foothills	RE Marty Moore
27 Great Lakes	TE Elliot Pinegar
28 Heartland	TE Dale Thiele
29 Heritage	TE Jonathan Hatt
30 Highlands	TE Jim Curtis
31 Houston Metro	TE Dennis Hermerding
32 Illiana	TE Harris Adams
33 Iowa	TE Brian Janssen
34 James River	RE Matt Fender
35 Korean Capital	TE David Bae
36 Korean Central	TE Brian Park
37 Korean Northeastern	TE Paul Lee
38 Korean Southeastern	TE Eddie Lim
39 Metro Atlanta	TE Rush Hill
40 Metropolitan New York	TE Jim Fredere
41 Nashville	TE Matt Bradley
42 New Jersey	TE Stephen O'Neill
43 New York State	TE Tim LeCroy
44 North Florida	TE Tommy Park
45 North Texas	RE Randall Gradle

1	Northern California	TE Brad Mills
2	Northern New England	TE Tom Powell
3	Northwest Georgia	TE Robbie Baxter
4	Pacific	TE Nicholas Whitaker
5	Pacific Northwest	TE Jerid Krulish
6	PeeDee	RE Paul Goodrich
7	Piedmont Triad	TE Derek Radney
8	Pittsburgh	TE David Schweissing
9	Platte Valley	TE Jacob Gerber
10	Potomac	RE Mark Doehbert
11	Providence	TE Adam Tisdale
12	Rocky Mountain	TE Del Farris
13	Savannah River	TE Ken McHeard
14	South Texas	RE Joshua Torrey
15	Southeast Alabama	TE Reed DePace
16	Southern Louisiana	RE Ken Kostrzewa
17	Southern New England	RE Patrick Sewell
18	Southwest Florida	TE Freddy Fritz
19	Suncoast Florida	TE David Stewart
20	Tennessee Valley	TE Sean Morris
21	Warrior	TE Michael Perry
22	West Hudson	TE Christopher Diebold
23	Westminster	TE Thomas Rickard