

Quick Primer for Presbytery Meetings

MEETING PACKET: The docket (agenda) for each meeting is established prior to the meeting and posted on the presbytery website with reports for consideration one week prior to the meeting. Business is balanced with worship (an offering for mission is collected), business, and education/information. It is important to read the packet as soon as possible after it is posted; copies of the packet are not provided at the meeting so come prepared.

LOCATION: Stated meetings are ordinarily held at a congregation in the presbytery, rotating among the north, central, and south regions of our boundaries. Occasionally, a special meeting is conducted via Zoom for which special rules will be posted with the packet.

REGISTRATION: Registration for meetings is available on the presbytery website. If you want to purchase lunch at the meeting location, a lunch reservation is required. It is especially important for ruling elder commissioners elected by a church session to register in advance to ensure proper certification.

CONDUCTING BUSINESS: The current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised* is the parliamentary authority for meetings. The *Book of Order* and our Standing Rules posted on our website take priority, if in conflict. Most of the business is presented by presbytery committees based upon careful research and deliberation to form motions for presbytery action. The Standing Rules found on the presbytery website define who has voice and vote.

COMMISSIONER NOT DELEGATE: It is important to understand the distinction between a commissioner and a delegate. Commissioners listen, engage in discussion, and decide how they vote based upon the information available. Delegates vote according to directions from their sending body. Presbyterian polity requires commissioners who prayerfully seek the will of Christ for the Church.