

DRAFT: Corrections in these minutes should be submitted in writing to the Stated Clerk within ten days of receipt. If no corrections are received within that period all items shall be considered to be correct. These minutes are not an official record of the Presbytery until approved by the body.

**MAUMEE VALLEY PRESBYTERY  
Stated Meeting**

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN, FINDLAY, OH  
Tuesday, September 17, 2019**

**3:02 GETTING ORGANIZED .....**

Tom Polker

Moderator Tom Polker opened the meeting with prayer and led us in singing Alleluia. The Moderator called the meeting to order and determined a quorum was present.

Adoption of the Docket

Dean McGormley

*ON MOTION:* To approve the docket. **So Ordered.**

Approval of Minutes of May 21, 2019

*ON MOTION:* To approve the minutes of May 21, 2019 as written. **So Ordered.**

Seating of Corresponding Members

*ON MOTION:* To seat as corresponding members Buzz Reed (Kirkmont Camp). **So Ordered.**

Privileges of the Floor:

*ON MOTION:* to give privileges of the floor to Jo Salvage (Perrysburg), Rich Reid (Defiance). **So Ordered.**

Report of the Clerk

- General Council Minutes (attachment 2)
- **ON MOTION** to receive with deep sadness the resignations by Gene McEvoy from her positions on COM and the MVP personnel committee effective 9/1/2019. **So Ordered.**
- **ON MOTION** to receive the reports of the Administrative Commissions that installed Doug Holmes, James Hodsdon, and Rose Jones and dismiss the Commissions with thanks. (attachment 3). **So Ordered.**

Recognition of First Time Commissioners

Welcome from the Host Pastor

Jessie Commeret

**3:15 Report of the General Presbyter (attachment 4)**

**3:20 ITEMS FOR ACTION**

**Actions Taken to the Presbytery from Nominations**

Rose Jones

**ON MOTION** to elect according to procedures approved by Roberts Rules of Order:

To the Leadership Team:

|                 |                |    |      |
|-----------------|----------------|----|------|
| Ron Boyd        | Upper Sandusky | RE | 2020 |
| Jessie Commeret | Findlay First  | TE | 2020 |
| Ben Shaw        | Ottawa         | TE | 2021 |
| Tom Steensma    | West Unity     | TE | 2021 |
| Ann Wasson      | Defiance       | TE | 2022 |
| Julie Kling     | Fremont First  | TE | 2022 |

To the Discipleship Team:

|                       |               |    |      |
|-----------------------|---------------|----|------|
| Jim Miller            | Pemberville   | TE | 2020 |
| Ken Krieger           | Tiffin        | RE | 2020 |
| Jay Salvage           | Perrysburg    | RE | 2021 |
| Lanie Sipes           | Toledo Christ | TE | 2021 |
| David Hammond         | Tecumseh      | RE | 2022 |
| Karol Farris Shilling | Bluffton      | TE | 2022 |

To the Mission Team:

|             |                    |    |      |
|-------------|--------------------|----|------|
| Doug Holmes | Blissfield/Palmyra | TE | 2020 |
| Norma Wible | Sandusky           | RE | 2020 |
| Chas Myers  | Ottawa             | RE | 2021 |
| Cathi King  | Tecumseh           | TE | 2022 |
| Jim Baker   | Findlay First      | RE | 2022 |

To Central Support:

|               |                         |    |      |
|---------------|-------------------------|----|------|
| Ken Wessler   | Upper Sandusky          | TE | 2020 |
| Rose Jones    | Pemberville/Clyde       | RE | 2020 |
| Peter Haff    | Upper Sandusky          | RE | 2021 |
| Dane Nelson   | Adrian First            | RE | 2021 |
| Ed Bettendorf | Firelands, Port Clinton | RE | 2022 |
| Diana Wagar   | Findlay First           | RE | 2022 |

There were no nominations from the floor. Nominations were closed. **So Ordered.**

**ON MOTION** to elect according to procedures approved by Roberts Rules of Order:

For the continuing work of the Committee on Ministry:

|                 |                 |    |      |
|-----------------|-----------------|----|------|
| Janeane Hopkins | Huron           | RE | 2022 |
| Ken Wessler     | Upper Sandusky  | TE | 2022 |
| Joel Youkers    | Defiance        | RE | 2022 |
| Tom Emery       | Venedocia Salem | TE | 2022 |
| Jeanne Gay      | Collingwood     | TE | 2022 |

There were no nominations from the floor. Nominations were closed. **So Ordered.**

**ON MOTION** to elect according to procedures approved by Roberts Rules of Order:

Synod Commissioner

|           |             |    |      |
|-----------|-------------|----|------|
| Tom James | Eastminster | TE | 2022 |
|-----------|-------------|----|------|

There were no nominations from the floor. Nominations were closed. **So Ordered.**

**ON MOTION** to elect according to procedures approved by Roberts Rules of Order:

Moderator, Committee on Ministry

|                   |            |    |      |
|-------------------|------------|----|------|
| Karen VanderPloeg | Waterville | TE | 2020 |
|-------------------|------------|----|------|

Moderator, Leadership Team

|                 |               |    |      |
|-----------------|---------------|----|------|
| Jessie Commeret | Findlay First | TE | 2020 |
|-----------------|---------------|----|------|

Moderator, Discipleship Team

|             |            |    |      |
|-------------|------------|----|------|
| Jay Salvage | Perrysburg | RE | 2020 |
|-------------|------------|----|------|

Moderator, Mission Team

|            |          |    |      |
|------------|----------|----|------|
| Cathi King | Tecumseh | TE | 2020 |
|------------|----------|----|------|

There were no nominations from the floor. Nominations were closed. **So Ordered.**

**Actions Taken to the Presbytery from COM** (attachment 5)

Ron Boyd

**ON MOTION** there be no increase in Minimum Total Effective Salary for 2020 for Ordained Ministers of Word and Sacrament. It further recommends an increase in Reimbursables: Professional Expenses from \$3,075 to \$3,500 and Continuing Education Reimbursables from \$871.25 to \$900. **So Ordered.**

**ON MOTION** that CRE minimums calculated at 70% of ordained minister minimums. **Referred back to committee.**

**ON MOTION** to refer the CRE minimums motion back to committee so additional questions about reimbursables and potential impact on churches with CRE's currently serving can be addressed. **So Ordered.**

**ON MOTION** that, beginning January 1, 2021, the Minimum Total Effective Salary for Ordained Ministers of Word and Sacrament be 80% of the church wide median salary for all ministers (as determined by the Board of Pensions) from the previous calendar year. Reimbursables for 2021 would remain the same as for 2020. **So Ordered.**  
*The details and rationale of these recommendations are explained in the enclosed attachments.*

**Actions Taken to the Presbytery from General Council**

Jay Salvage

**ON MOTION** to approve an increase of \$2.50 to the Presbytery portion of the Per Capita. **So Ordered.**

**ON MOTION** to approve a revised suggested distribution of the General Mission next year and would be 70% for Presbytery, 27% to G.A. and 3% to Synod. **So Ordered.**

**ON MOTION** to amend the 2020 budget as presented (#6) (the numbers in the budget presumes passage of the first two motions on Per Capita and Mission distribution) to allow the teams to reallocate their budgets according to the new vision. **So Ordered.**

**ON MOTION** to approve the current budget with the ability for the teams to reallocate their budgets according to the new vision. **So Ordered.**

**ON MOTION** to receive and approve the third party financial review for Presbytery finances for the year ending 2018. "This Third-Party financial review was made for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The additional information shown is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the financial review of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as whole." (attachment 6) **So Ordered.**

**Actions Taken to the Presbytery from Toledo Grace Commission**

Tom Schwartz

**ON MOTION** to allow the Toledo Grace Commission to negotiate and sell the property of the former Toledo Grace Church with a minimum price of \$150,000 and to appoint Rev. Tom Schwartz authority to sign all documents on behalf of MVP in addition to either David Bartley or Ken Wessler. (The purchaser named in the May minutes of Presbytery failed to meet its obligations by the contracted date.) **So Ordered.**

**Actions Taken to the Presbytery from Mt. Sinai Commission**

Janeane Hopkins

**NO ACTION** is being presented at this time.

**Actions Taken to the Presbytery from the Grand Rapids Commission**

Karen VanderPloeg

**NO ACTION** is being presented at this time.

**ON MOTION** that the docket be changed to allow Branch of Congregational Life to report now. **So Ordered.**

- 3:35 Branch of Congregational Life** (attachment 7) Pamela Short  
 Mourning Song event honoring victims of Violent Crimes  
 Professional Misconduct Training  
 Communion Training  
 Youth Retreat Lanie Sipes  
 Spiritual Retreat at Lial Nan Clancy  
 Kirkmont Report Dave Bartley  
 Triennium Report Jo Salvage, Rich Reid, Ann Wasson

**4:40 ACTIONS TAKEN ON BEHALF OF MAUMEE VALLEY PRESBYTERY**

**Actions Taken on Behalf of the Presbytery by COM**

1. *Clyde* - with effect from June 23, 2019- 1) **Approved** the appointment of CRE Rose Jones to moderate session, 2) **authorized** her to administer the sacraments and 3) **approved** the contract between her and the session of First Presbyterian Church, Clyde for a period of one year commencing June 23, 2019. The contract is as follows: this is a part-time position not to exceed 19 hours per week:

|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| Salary               | \$13,000                                 |
| Housing Allowance    | 12,000                                   |
| Continuing Education | 400                                      |
| Mileage (Maximum)    | 1,200 vouchered                          |
| Cell Phone           | <u>480</u> (vouchered at \$40 per month) |
| <b>TOTAL</b>         | <b>\$27,080</b>                          |

Vacation 4 weeks (4 Sundays), Continuing Education 2 weeks (2 Sundays)  
 No pension payments are provided as Rose has benefits through State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio.

2. *Norwalk* – **Approved** the following to serve on the Commission to install Rev James Hodsden as pastor of First Presbyterian Church Norwalk on Sunday June 9, 2019 at 3 pm – Moderator of Commission **Janeane Hopkins**, Presbytery Vice Moderator, **Rev Robert Butcher**, **Rev Clair Brewer**, **Rev Jessica Myers**, **Elder Greg Graves**, Norwalk and **Elder Ann Pullano**, Huron. The Commission has the authority to add/replace members if needed. Approval is also given for the following to participate in the service – **Rev Dr Joan Gray** member of the Atlanta Presbytery, **Rev Sara Hodsden** member of Philadelphia Presbytery and **Rev Kenneth Walther** member of Muskingum Valley Presbytery.
3. *Huron* – **Authorized** RE Karen Gerber, a member of Committee on Ministry, to moderate the congregational meeting to be held on June 2, 2019 if requested to do so by Rev James Hodsden, the designated moderator. **Approved** their MIF for circulation on the Church Leadership Connection website.
4. *Palmyra/Blissfield* – **Approved** the following to serve on the Commission to install Rev Douglas Holmes as Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Blissfield and Community United Presbyterian Church, Palmyra on Sunday June 16, 2019 at 6.30 pm at Bachmayer Park, S Monroe Street, Blissfield: Moderator of Commission Tom Polker (Moderator of Presbytery), Rev Cathi King (Tecumseh),

Rev Dr Matt Meinke (General Presbyter), Elder Connie Graff (Blissfield) and Elder Steve Swendsen (Palmyra). The Commission has the authority to add/replace members if needed. Approval is also given for the following to participate in the service: Rev Steven Werth, a member of Pittsburgh Presbytery. (Rev Werth did not ultimately take part in the service and, due to inclement weather, the service was held in the Blissfield church).

5. Toledo Collingwood – **Appointed** Rev Jeanne Gay as moderator with effect from July 1, 2019. **Approved** the contract between Rev Jeanne Gay and the session of Collingwood for a period of one year commencing July 1, 2019. This is a half-time contract averaging out at 25 hours per week.

|                                     |               |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|
| Salary                              | \$20,000.00   |
| Housing                             | 5,000.00      |
| Board of Pensions Dues              | 9,250.00      |
| Expenses (inc. Travel & Technology) | 1,537.50      |
| Continuing Education                | <u>871.25</u> |
| Total                               | \$36,658.75   |

Vacation: 4 weeks (4 Sundays). Continuing Education 2 weeks (2 Sundays).

6. Adrian- **Approved** the amended Terms of Call as Rev Sarah Ross goes from full time to half time. The Terms of Call are effective August 19, 2019 and for the remainder of 2019, as follows:

|                              |               |
|------------------------------|---------------|
| Total Effective Salary       | \$28,000      |
| Pension                      | 3,080         |
| Medical                      | 11,000        |
| Death and Disability         | 280           |
| SECA                         | 2,142         |
| Travel/Professional Expenses | 1,537.50      |
| Continuing Education         | <u>435.63</u> |
| Total                        | \$46,475.13   |

Vacation: 4 weeks (4 Sundays), Continuing Education: 1 week (1 Sunday)

7. Bowling Green – At the request of the congregation **Approved** the dissolution of the pastoral relationship between the church and the Revs Mary Jane and Gary Saunders on the occasion of their retirement effective September 30, 2019, **and** designate both Rev Mary Jane Saunders and Rev Gary Saunders as Honorably Retired and add them to the presbytery’s Roll of Honorably Retired pastors.

8. **Approved** the terms of the contract between the session of First Presbyterian Church Bowling Green and Rev David Montgomery for the position of Interim Pastor for a period of one year, commencing October 1, 2019, as follows:

|                                  |              |
|----------------------------------|--------------|
| Salary                           | \$41,000     |
| Housing                          | 15,000       |
| Pension and Medical Benefits     | 20,720       |
| Dental (PPO)                     | 905          |
| SECA                             | 4,284        |
| Professional and Cont. Education | <u>3,075</u> |
| Total                            | \$84,984     |

Vacation: 4 weeks (4 Sundays), Continuing Education 1 week (1 Sunday)

9. Tontogany – **Approved** the appointment of Rev David Montgomery as moderator, effective November 1, 2019, following the retirement of Rev Pamela Short.

10. Cadmus – **Approved** the covenant between the session and Rev Cathy Johnson as Parish Associate to the congregation effective September 1, 2019. The Parish Associate will participate in shared ministry with the installed pastor as time and interest permit and the position is without remuneration.
11. **Approved** the transfer, on receipt of request, of Rev Deb Bowsher to Muskingum Valley Presbytery.
12. **Authorized** Rev Matthew Zuehlke, a member of Western Reserve Presbytery, to labor within our bounds.
13. **Approved** the transfer of Rev Matthew Zuehlke from Western Reserve Presbytery to Maumee Valley Presbytery.
14. **Approved** the transfer of Rev Jeanne Gay from Baltimore Presbytery to Maumee Valley Presbytery.
15. **Approved** the addition of Ruling Elder Lora Manon to the presbytery’s Pulpit Supply List. (Lora has completed the CRE Training Class).
16. **Approved** the addition of Ruling Elder Jason Armstrong to the presbytery’s Pulpit Supply List. (Jason has completed the Lay Preaching Class).
17. **Approved** a Parish Associate Policy to be added to the presbytery’s policies.
18. **Approved** the additional Terms of Call and Contracts received since the last presbytery meeting as detailed in red in the attachment.

**Actions Taken on Behalf of the Presbytery by General Council**

1. **Approved** the locations and times for presbytery meetings as presented: First, Findlay on September 19 (3:00), First, Van Wert on November 19 (10:00), First, Defiance on February 20 (10:00), and Cadmus Presbyterian (MI) on September 20 (3:00) .

- 4:45 Open Spaces** (attachment 8)
- 5:45 DINNER**
- 6:30 WORSHIP**
- 7:45 Presbyterian Women**
- 7:50 Reflections from the Font - Matthew 25**
- 7:55 Comings and Goings**  
 Comings: Rev Matthew Zuehlke (UCC Church in Sycamore, Ohio)  
 Rev Jeanne Gay (Toledo Collingwood)
- Retirements: Revs Mary Jane and Gary Saunders (Bowling Green) effective Sept 30, 2019  
 Rev Pamela Short (Tontogany) effective October 31, 2019
- 8:00 Recognition of Honorable Retirement** (attachment 9) – Revs Mary Jane & Gary Saunders
- 8:13 ON MOTION** that the meeting be adjourned with prayer. **So Ordered.**
- 8:15 MEETING ADJOURNED WITH PRAYER**

Respectfully submitted,

Attest:

Karen VanderPloeg  
Journal Clerk

Dean McGormley  
Stated Clerk

**The next regular meeting of Maumee Valley Presbytery will be Tuesday, November 19, 2019 at the First Presbyterian Church, Van Wert, Ohio beginning at 10:00 a.m.**

Attachments

1. Attendance
2. Council Minutes
3. Administrative Commission Minutes
4. Report of General Presbyter
5. COM minimums
6. Audit
7. Branch of Congregational Life
8. Open Spaces
9. Honorable Retirement