**Stated Meeting of Mission Presbytery**

**Via ZOOM Video Conferencing**

**October 24, 2020**

**9:00 A.M. Worship – A Service of Word & Sacrament**

**The Installation of Stated Clerk Laurie Wirth Palmer**

**Presbytery Meeting Convened**

Moderator TE Stacy Ikard called the Stated Meeting of Mission Presbytery to order on October 24, 2020, at 9:42 A.M. via Zoom Video Conferencing, and opened the meeting with prayer. A quorum was present.

**Procedures for This Meeting**

The Moderator explained to the commissioners how this electronic meeting would work, including voting procedures, ways to facilitate discussion, and how to seek the Moderator’s recognition.

**Approval of the Docket**

The Interim Stated Clerk **MOVED** that the Docket be approved as posted on the Presbytery’s website, with the adjustment of ending the business portion of the meeting with the installation of the Moderator, and with the understanding that the times noted there are for guidance, and not Orders of the Day. The Motion was seconded and **approved.**

The Interim Stated Clerk also **MOVED** that the Presbytery receive all reports as posted on the Presbytery’s website, with the exception of recommendations or motions annotated as requiring vote on the floor of the Presbytery, and approve the Minutes of the Stated meeting of June 5-6, 2020, and the Minutes of the Called Meeting of October 3, 2020. The Motion was seconded and **approved.**

**Seating of Corresponding Members**

There was one Teaching Elder present who could have been seated as a Corresponding Member, but her presence was not noted by the Stated Clerk, and so there was no vote to seat her properly. Since she is currently serving one of our congregations, it is appropriate to list her as a Corresponding Member in the attendance roll of this meeting, even though she never asked to exercise the privilege of the floor.

**Presenters with Voice and No Vote**

The Interim Stated Clerk **MOVED** that the following persons be given voice without vote: Chelsea Mae LaRue (Hope, Austin), Sonja Miller (Central, Austin), Kimbol Soques (Shepherd of the Hills, Austin), and Karen Sprouse (Community Fellowship, New Braunfels, now under care of Mission Presbytery). The Motion was seconded and **approved.**

**Report of the Commission on Ministry (COM)**

The Moderator recognized TE Monica Smith, Chair of the COM, to bring the committee’s report to the Presbytery. She reported on actions undertaken by COM as a commission of the Presbytery:

**For information**:

The Commission on Ministry has adopted a Conflict of Interest Policy, in response to the recommendation from the General Assembly Permanent Judicial Commission.

**Approved the following Terms of Call and Contracts**:

Brian Wiggins & Memorial, Fredericksburg, effective July 1, 2020

Compensation

 Salary & Housing 75,000

Benefits

 Board of Pensions 27,750

Reimbursed Expenses

 Prof. Exp. 5,000

Edward L. Boyce, III & First, Rockport, effective Aug. 15, 2020

 Compensation

 Salary 37,700

 Housing 32,300

 Benefits

 Board of Pensions Full

 Reimbursed Expenses

 Auto @ IRS Rate

 Professional Expenses 2,500

Carl McCauley (Interim) & Gonzales, Gonzales, effective August 1, 2020 (12 months)

 Compensation

 Salary 28,500

 Housing 9,000

 Employer’s Contr. 403(b) 5,000

 Benefits

 Board of Pensions 5,100

 Reimbursed Expenses

 Travel 5,000

 Con. Ed., etc. 1,800

Caz Minter & Live Oak, Leander, effective Sept. 1, 2020

Compensation

 Salary 16,440.00

 Housing 35,341.92

Benefits

 Bd. of Pensions 19,159.20

 ½ SECA 3,961.32

CP Cindy Myers & First, Refugio, effective July 19, 2020 (half-time)

Compensation

 Salary 10,400

Reimbursed expenses

 Travel 1,100 ($.55/mi)

Benefits

 4 weeks paid vacation

 1 week Cont. Ed.

TE Kris Marie Crawford & Gonzales, Gonzales, effective November 15, 2020

Compensation

 Salary 25,000

 Housing 25,000

Benefits

 Bd. of Pensions 19,915

 ½ SECA 3,825

 Dental 905

Reimbursed expenses

 Mileage 5,000

 Cell Phone 2,500

 Cont. Ed. 1,000

4 weeks’ vacation

2 weeks’ study leave

Actual Moving Expenses

TE Laurie Wirth Palmer & Mission Presbytery (Stated Clerk), effective November 9, 2020

Compensation

 Salary 30,196

 Housing 30,196

Benefits

 Bd. of Pensions Full

 ½ SECA 4,620

Reimbursed Expenses

 Professional 6,000

 Cont. Ed. 1,000

4 weeks’ vacation, 2 weeks study leave

Moving expenses

TE Vanessa Potter & Emmanuel, San Antonio, effective Nov. 1, 2020 (Stated Supply – ½ time, 1 yr)

Compensation

 Salary & Housing 21,300

Benefits

 Vacation 2 weeks, plus 1 Sunday off per month

 Cont. Ed. 1 week

Reimbursed Expenses

 Auto $.58/mi.

**Triennial Visits Completed**

* Covenant, San Antonio, June 15, 2020. RE Joyce Batty & TE Carl McCauley
* Six Mile, Port Lavaca – August 16, 2020 – REs Bonnie & William Wilkinson.
* St. Andrew, San Antonio – August 25, 2020 – RE Joyce Batty & TE Carl McCauley
* Oak Hills, San Antonio – September, 2020 – RE Joyce Batty & TE Carl McCauley
* First, New Braunfels – September, 2020 – RE Joyce Batty & TE Carl McCauley

**Ordination and Installation Commissions Approved and Dismissed**

Approve the Administrative Commission to Ordain & Install Ezequiel Herrera as Rio Grande Valley Evangelist for Mission Presbytery, Sunday, June 28, 2020, at 2:00 P.M. at First, McAllen:

Teaching Elders:

 Stacy Ikard, Preside and Propound the Constitutional Questions

 Eric Dittman

 Kathryn Escandell

 Matt Gaventa, Preach the Sermon

 Thomas W. Currie, Charge the Pastor

 Monica Thompson Smith, Offer Ordination Prayer

 Sallie Watson

Ruling Elders:

 Jennifer Rektorik, First, Weslaco

 Carlos & Shannon Perales, First, Mission

 David Rowland, First, McAllen

Invited to Sit with the Commission:

 RE Rene Cardona, PC(USA), Connecticut, Charge the Congregation

 Usama Malik, Interfaith Representative (Muslim)

Dismiss the Administrative Commission to Ordain and Install Ezequiel Herrera.

Approve the Administrative Commission to Ordain and Install Ed Sackett as a Minister of Word and Sacrament as the Disaster Response Coordinator for Mission Presbytery, Saturday, August 15, 2020, at 2:00 P.M. at First, Kerrville:

Teaching Elders:

 Stacy Ikard, Preside and Propound the Constitutional Questions

 Dick Powell, President of Mo Ranch

 Sallie Watson, General Presbyter, to Charge the Pastor

Elizabeth McLean, to Preach the Sermon

Ruling Elders:

Ray Lopez, First, Austin

Fred Gamble, First, Kerrville, to Charge the Congregation

Caitlin Supcoff, University, Austin, to Lead the Ordination/Installation Prayer

To dismiss the Administrative Commission to Ordain and Install Ed Sackett.

Approve the Administrative Commission to Ordain and Install Angela Grace Williams to be the faith and outreach coordinator for the Texas Freedom Network, a validated ministry, Saturday, September 5, 2020, at 7:00 P.M. At Canyon Lake Presbyterian Church, Canyon Lake, TX:

Teaching Elders:

 Carolina Treviño, Central, Austin, to lead the ordination/installation prayer

 Remington Johnson, Chaplain, to propound the questions to the congregation

 Jack Barden, Presbyterian Church of Lake Travis, Austin

Stacy Ikard, Westlake Hills, Austin & Presbytery Moderator – to preside and propound the constitutional questions

Ruling Elders:

 Sonja Miller, Central, Austin, to charge the pastor

 Caly Fernández, First, McAllen

 Gary Matthews, APTS

Others invited to sit with the commission:

 TE abby mohaupt, San Francisco Presbytery, to preach the sermon

 TE James “Carrot” Williams, Providence Presbytery

 TE Alex McNeill, Western North Carolina Presbytery, to charge the congregation

 Rev. Erika Forbes, Texas Freedom Network

 Rabbi Kelly Levy, Congregation Beth Israel, Austin

To dismiss the Administrative Commission to Ordain and Install Angela Grace Williams.

Approve the Administrative Commission to install TE Brian Wiggins as Pastor, Memorial Presbyterian Church, Fredericksburg, TX on Sunday, October 25, 2020 at 11:00 A.M.:

Teaching Elders:

Sallie Watson, to preside, propound the constitutional questions, lead the ordination prayer, and charge the pastor

 David Jones, to preach the sermon

 William Karlson, to propound the questions to the congregation

 Carol Clarke

Ruling Elders:

 RE Glenn Miller, FPC, Brady

 RE Rita Odom, FPC, Kerrville

 RE Paul Bierschwale, Harper, Harper

**Interim Contracts:**

Renew the Interim Contract between Gonzales, Gonzales and TE Carl McCauley, August 1, 2020 – July 29, 2021.

**Approved the Election of a Pastor Nominating Committee**

St Mark, Boerne

**Ministerial Changes**

* Dissolve pastoral relationship – Meagan Ludwig & First, Beeville
* Dismiss Meagan Ludwig to Milwaukee Presbytery – Chaplain, Ascension Hospital System
* Dissolve pastoral relationship (associate) – Krystal Leedy & University, Austin and move to Member-at-Large status
* Dismiss Eric Peterson to Grace Presbytery – Associate Pastor, Grace, Temple
* Dissolve pastoral relationship -- Elise Neal & Northminster, San Antonio and move to Member-at-Large status
* Move TE Susan Montoya from First, Kerrville to Member-at-Large status
* Receive TE Edward L Boyce, III from Salem Presbytery, to Pastor at First, Rockport
* Receive TE Brian Wiggins from New Covenant Presbytery to Pastor at Memorial, Fredericksburg
* Dismiss TE Tricia Tedrow to Grand Canyon Presbytery, effective May 30, 2020.
* Receive TE Laurie Wirth Palmer from the Presbytery of Tampa Bay, effective November 9, 2020.
* Receive TE Kris Crawford from Arkansas Presbytery, effective November 15, 2020.
* Receive the Rev. Manjung Abraham Tsai from the Evangelical Formosan Church, effective August 19, 2020.

**Examinations Committee**

* Sustain the examination of TE Ed Boyce to serve as pastor of First, Rockport, and enroll him as a member of Mission Presbytery.
* Sustain the examination of TE Paula J. Sanders to labor within our bounds for an extended time, specifically with New Hope, La Feria. She will remain a member of Presbytery of the Twin Cities.
* Sustain the examination of TE Kris Crawford to serve as pastor of Gonzales, Gonzales, and enroll her as a member of Mission Presbytery.
* Sustain the examination of TE Laurie Wirth Palmer to serve as Stated Clerk of Mission Presbytery (Elected 10/5/20 at a Called Meeting of Presbytery), and enroll her as a member of Mission Presbytery.
* Sustain the examination of CRE Beth Truax to serve one of three pastoral positions at New Hope, La Feria. She will be presented for examination at the Presbytery meeting.

**Honorably Retired Status Granted**

* Nancy Marroquin, from Dripping Springs, Dripping Springs, effective June 1, 2020.

**Deaths Reported**

* John Bradshaw (HR) died July 19, 2020 in Rockport, TX
* Louis Zbinden (HR) died September 11, 2020, in San Antonio, TX

Also presented for examination was CP Beth Truax (New Hope, La Feria) and CP Mark Stoddard (First, Pleasanton). Beth was asked how she might explain the Trinity to someone completely new to Christianity. She was also asked about her use of *Jeshua* as a name for Jesus in her statement of faith. Monica **Moved** that her examination be sustained and that she be commissioned to serve as CP for New Hope, La Feria. The Motion was **approved.**

Mark Stoddard was asked what passage of Scripture informs your ministry. He quoted the passage at the end of Romans 8 that promises that there is nothing that can “get in the way” of God’s love for us. He was also asked to speak to God being Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer in all three persons. He also responded to a question about what has drawn him to the Pleasanton church. Monica **Moved** that his examination be sustained and that he be commissioned to serve as CP for First, Pleasanton. The Motion was **approved.**

Monica offered prayer for both Beth and Mark.

The committee presented the following transferring ministers who have been received as members of Mission Presbytery: TE Edward L. Boyce, III (First, Rockport), John H. (Jack) Haberer (First, Kerrville [Interim]), and TE Brian Wiggins (Memorial, Fredericksburg). Also introduced was TE Paula Sanders, a member of the Presbytery of Twin Cities, who will be assisting in ministry with New Hope, La Feria.

The Moderator offered prayers of thanksgiving for the ministries of these colleagues.

**Report of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry**

The Moderator recognized TE Kathy Escandell to present the report of the committee. She reported that candidate Janine Zabriskie (Central, Austin) has been certified ready to receive a call. She also reported that inquirer Laurel Dixon has been removed from the roll of inquirers at her own request, and that Savannah Shivers has been enrolled as an Inquirer. On behalf of the committee, Kathy **Moved** that Laurel Dixon be removed from the roll of Inquirers at her own request.

The committee presented four prospective candidates to be enrolled by the presbytery: Chelsea Mae LaRue (Hope, Austin), Sonja Miller (Central, Austin), Kimbol Soques (Shepherd of the Hills, Austin), and Karen Sprouse (Community Fellowship, New Braunfels, now under the care of Mission Presbytery). Each candidate was examined in Christian faith, service to the church, and motives for entering the ministry. The committee **Moved** that the examinations be sustainedand the candidates enrolled. The Motion was **approved** and the Moderator posed the constitutional questions to each candidate. TE Malcolm McQueen offered prayer for the new candidates.

**General Presbyter’s Report**

General Presbyter Sallie Watkins reported to the Presbytery. She expressed frustration with what the pandemic has forced upon us, but thankful for Zoom. Living in the time of Covid is a marathon, and not a sprint. She encouraged churches to express their care for their pastors, who are dealing with unprecedented pressures. She also encouraged churches to take advantage of the 3rd Sunday sermons provided by the presbytery. The Austin region pastors are offering a pre-election worship service online, and Sallie invited others in the presbytery to take part. She also took a few moments to express her gratitude and the gratitude of the Presbytery to the Interim Stated Clerk and the outgoing Chair of General Council for their service.

**Interim Stated Clerk’s Report**

Interim Stated Clerk Bill Poe offered the following written report to the Presbytery:

First of all, I can hardly express how thankful I am to see a new Stated Clerk coming to Mission Presbytery! I look forward to working with Laurie Palmer in whatever way I can be helpful as she “gets her feet on the ground.” It has been my great pleasure and privilege to work for a brief time alongside Sallie Watson and an extraordinarily gifted staff, and to have had the opportunity to interact with so many of you – pastors, ministers, elders, and churches – over the past six months or so. Thank you all for your warm friendship and prayerful support!

Betty Anne and I are looking forward to a return to retirement and to whatever adventures await us down the road. She continues her work as a Deacon for First, Georgetown, and we anticipate good times with our children and grandchildren, all of whom are close by.

**Upcoming Presbytery Meetings**

According to the formula laid out in the By-Laws and Operating Manual of Mission Presbytery, the dates for the Stated Meetings for 2021 are as follows:

 March 5-6 (by Zoom or at Holy Trinity, San Antonio)

 June 18-19 (by Zoom or at Trinity University, San Antonio)

 October 22-23 (by Zoom or at a venue to be determined)

**Per Capita**

In August, your church office received a letter from me about your per capita amount for 2021. As Sallie reminded us in her Ponderings column a few weeks ago, this amount is a “pass-through.” In other words, none of it stays here in Mission Presbytery but is sent on for the operation of the General Assembly. The per capita amount for 2021 is $8.98 per member, up from $8.95 per member in 2020. Enclosed in that letter was a request to sessions and congregations to consider making a commitment to Shared Mission Giving in 2021, along with a Commitment Card to be sent back to the Presbytery Office. Shared Mission Giving is what supports the mission and ministries of Mission Presbytery, and we hope that your return of that Commitment Card will give us a better idea of what our congregations intend to give in the new year.

**Regional ZOOM Groups**

One of the parts of this work I have enjoyed the most has been the regular regional meetings with pastors and other church representatives over Zoom. Sallie and I have made these meetings a priority during this pandemic time, with all the change, upheaval, and trauma that our churches have experienced since last March. The regional gatherings have been a blessing that God has brought to us during the pandemic. We have remained in touch with each other, supported and encouraged each other, and listened while some of us ranted and grieved. We have prayed together, shared ideas, and looked to the future. A monthly group of those engaged in specialized ministries has also started, along with some embryonic efforts at a group for retired clergy.

**Church Closures**

As you will see later on in your Docket for today, we have observed the closing of three of our churches this year. Working with the Administrative Commissions and the Trustees of the presbytery, the following churches have been closed:

 Pilgrim, San Antonio, effective April 19, 2020

 First, Taft, effective August 31, 2020

 Community Fellowship, New Braunfels, effective September 16, 2020

As an addition to his printed report, the Interim Stated Clerk also reported that he has received a formal request from the Session of the Crestholme Presbyterian Church in San Antonio that they be granted a waiver from the Book of Order requirement on term limits for 2021 [G-2.0404]. It was **Moved and seconded** that the waiver be granted. The Motion was **approved.**

For the Presbytery’s information, the Interim Stated Clerk reminded commissioners that the Board of Pensions has announced a change in their provider agreement for prescription medications – as of January 1, 2021, that provider will change from Optum to Express Scripts. Please be watching for communications from the Board of Pensions to help guide ministers and other employees through this change.

**Report of the General Council**

The Moderator recognized TE Peter Crouch, Chair of the General Council, to present the report of the Council. TE Crouch reported on actions that General Council took on Presbytery’s behalf. General Council:

General Council:

* **approved** a revised Youth Ministry Manual for the approval of General Council.
* **received,** as a first reading, a Proposed Child & Youth Protection Policy for Mission Presbytery by the Youth Connection Committee. A second reading is docketed for the first General Council meeting of 2021.
* **endorsed** the recommendation of the John Knox Ranch Committee to enter a conservation easement agreement through the Hill Country Conservancy.
* **approved** a recommendation from the Pastoral Care Committee top move its Necrology Report to October, beginning in 2021.
* **approved** an updated job description for the Presbytery’s Rio Grande Valley Commissioned Evangelist by the Human Resources Committee.
* **approved** a three-part recommendation of the Commission on Ministry
1. That Mission Presbytery not change the minimum Terms of Call for 2021, urging sessions and congregations to express their deep gratitude to their pastors for their hard work during this pandemic year.
2. That three new members be added to COM, one in each of the classes: 2021, 2022, 2023.
3. That a new section 4.5 be added to the COM Manual to provide for an Associate Pastor Coordinator on COM.
* **approved** the recommendation of the Church Development & Evangelism Committee (CDE) that the committee have a “pause” in its normal work in 2021 so that they might re-vision the committee’s purpose. While they will continue their essential functions (RGV Evangelist, Vital Congregations, etc.), they will undertake no new work and instead spend time looking towards the future.
* **approved** a similar proposal from the Education & Congregational Nurture Committee for a “sabbatical” from its normal workload so that it might explore and re-vision the committee’s purpose and scope. Essential functions of the committee will continue.
* **approved** the proposed 2021 budget for Mission Presbytery (which includes John Knox Ranch) by the Stewardship & Fiscal Oversight Committee.
* **received,** as a first reading, a recommendation of the Disaster Preparedness & Assistance Committee to adopt a new Firearms Policy for Mission Presbytery (but not necessarily for all of the congregations of the Presbytery). A second reading is docketed for the first General Council meeting of 2021.
* **approved** the following persons to serve as Committee Chairs in 2021, upon recommendation of the Committee on Representation & Participation:

 CDE –

 COM – Monica Smith (Chair); Gordon Ringler (Vice-Chair)

 CORP – Kris Bair & Elizabeth Duhan, Co-Chairs

 CPM – Malcolm McQueen

 DPAC – Jennifer Rektorik

 ECN – Jennifer Mitchell

 HMK – Kris Brown

 HRT – Lisa Ringler

 JKR – Sarah Allen

 MOJC – Andries Coetzee & Caly Fernández, Co-Chairs

 PCC – Marsha Brown

 SFOC – Fred Gamble

 Trustees –

 YCC – Ellen Hensle & Katy Walters, Co-Chairs

 Moderator-elect – Nancy Chester McCranie

The Moderator recognized RE Fred Gamble (First, Kerrville), Chair of the Stewardship & Fiscal Oversight Committee, to present the Presbytery Budget for 2021, which has been approved by General Council.

**Report of the Youth Connection Committee**

The Moderator recognized TE Katy Walters and Ellen Hensle, who reported for the Youth Connection Committee. They encouraged churches to sign up for the YCC e-newsletter and to participate in Mage-Youth activities. The plans for Mid-Winters are for an exciting virtual experience for youth, January 22-24, 2021. The theme is “Overcoming Together.”

**Report of the Mission Outreach & Justice Committee**

RE Caly Fernández presented the report of the committee, along with TE Chad Lawson, who is chairing the grants committee of MOJC. He invited churches and ministry partners to apply for the grants available through MOJC. Caly drew attention to the flier about the Border conference coming soon.

**Report on Mission Committee Training:** Ellen Sherby, PC(USA) Mission Engagement has indicated that she is willing to work with us to produce a single Zoom event for multiple congregations: format is similar to what we have done in the past, involving Ellen’s materials: <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/world-mission/mission-resources/mission-toolkits/mission-committee-toolkit/>. This training could be a one-half day presentation using Zoom breakout rooms. Staffing has included: Presbyter, Pastor, Ellen Sherby and a couple of MOJC Committee members to facilitate the breakout sessions.

**Global Missions:** The Johnsons have evacuated from Zambia due to COVID-19. Charles Johnson has recently retired as a PC(USA) Mission Co-worker.

**Immigration Task Force:** Is no longer active. Caly Fernández suggested that the Mission Presbytery Immigration Task Force join the Texas Border Collaboration Network (TBCN) due to lack of leadership. The TBCN meets monthly and provides informational webinars. (See attached flyer).

**Presbyterian Border Region Outreach (PBRO):** Presbyterian Border Ministries is hosting a virtual border conference, November 6th – 8th: Gospel, Hospitality and the Kingdom of God. (See attached flyer). Registration is still open at <https://presbyterianborder.org/events>. Puentes de Cristo located in Hidalgo, Texas is one of the five border ministry sites. Puentes de Cristo fall newsletter is posted on the MOJC website. The direct link to the newsletter is:

<https://14321e2b-2537-4ebb-90c2-cad7d32faa5c.filesusr.com/ugd/e1e8df_53b33a318b3a4a6ba40c05e46d1c6edd.pdf>.

**Immigration Overture:** Because of the pandemic the docket for overtures was severely restricted. Mission Presbytery’s Overture had sufficient concurrences to be on the docket, but the overture was tabled to 2022. Rev. Meagan Ludwig was selected by MOJC as the advocate for the Overture and will need to be replaced as she has resigned from the Immigration Task Force and moved out of state. The Overture will need to be updated to reflect ambient circumstance in the next several months.

**Grants Subcommittee:** Guidelines and applications for 2021 MOJC Grants are available on the Mission Presbytery website at <https://www.mission-presbytery.org/outreach-justice>.

Rev. Chad Lawson has agreed to chair the Grants Committee.

**Cuba Partnership:** Jo Ella Holman the PC(USA) Mission Co-worker, Caribbean Liaison retired on September 30, 2020. The Cuba Partners Network virtual gathering was held on September 25th – 26th and focused on the 130th Anniversary of the Iglesia Presbyteriana Reformada de Cuba. A 30-minute video documented the celebration with an excellent review of their history and connection with the PC(USA). Due to well-orchestrated computer connections and syncing of videos, communication with our Cuban partners worked very well and we were able to worship and pray together, sharing thoughts and comments on issues our countries are facing.

God’s love is abundant!

**Report of the John Knox Ranch Committee**

TE Sarah Allen reported on behalf of the John Knox Ranch Committee. They have been going through a strategic planning process with Run River consultants. They see their purpose to be offering the best camp and retreat center experience possible, centered around the three themes of Christian Community, the Beauty of Creation, and Good Food! The committee showed a video about JKR and the proposed conservation easement.

The committee **Moved** the following three-part motion, being a joint motion of the John Knox Ranch Committee and the Trustees of Mission Presbytery:

That Mission Presbytery:

1. approve the joint recommendation of the John Knox Ranch Committee and the Trustees of Mission Presbytery that Mission Presbytery and John Knox Ranch enter into a conservation easement agreement on a portion of the property of John Knox Ranch through the Hill Country Conservancy of Texas; and
2. authorize the Trustees of Mission Presbytery to complete and sign the necessary documents on behalf of Mission Presbytery to consummate this agreement; and
3. direct that proceeds received from the completion of this agreement be placed with the Texas Presbyterian Foundation and invested to benefit John Knox Ranch.

The Motion was **approved.**

**Report of the General Assembly Commissioners**

The Moderator turned the chair over to Moderator- elect Carlos Baladez, who recognized several of this year’s General Assembly Commissioners to speak briefly about their experience of the 224th General Assembly. Those who spoke were TE Michelle Vetters, TE Bill Clark, RE Cara Herlin, and YAAD Zach Shrull.

**Report of the Committee on Representation & Participation**

CP Kris Bair reported for the committee. On behalf of the committee, she **Moved** that the Presbytery elect the nominees listed below, along with those named aloud at the meeting, to the committees and classes indicated:

**CDE**

TE Leon Bloder

TE Rachel Huntley

RE Caren Cobb

**COM**

RE Andy Anzaldua (CC)

CP Rick Carlson (V)

TE Kathy Escandell (RGV)

RE Steve Frazier (RGV)

TE Regina Maas (HC)

CP Duane Manning (HC)

TE David McCann (RGV)

TE Fred Morgan (A)

RE Gordon Ringler (SA)

TE Lana Russell (A)

RE Lou Williams (SA)

Vacancy (2021)

**CORP**

TE Walter Lee

TE Jim Berbiglia

RE Larry Sears (A)

Vacancy (2022)

**CPM**

TE Consuelo Donohue

TE Malcolm McQueen

TE Jon Wasson

RE Debbie Warden

RE Clark Weatherby (2021)

**ECN**

TE Linda Bourianoff

RE Dillon Vanderford

RE Melissa Kirkpatrick (2022)

Vacancy (2023)

**DPAC**

RE Charlie Dismore (A)

RE Charlie Felts (SA)

RE Lisa Davis (RGV)

TE Jim Barker (HC)

Vacancies (HC, CC)

**GC (Regional Reps)**

RE Liz Anzaldua (CC)

TE Dan Fultz (Vict)

TE Dan Milford (SA)

RE Dan Bautista

**HMK Trustees**

TE Naomi Ingram

RE Geoff Leech

TE Carl McCauley

RE Dennis Whitley (2022)

TE Bart Rousch (2021)

**JKR**

RE Andrew Brock

RE David Junkin

RE Lynn Ware

**HRT**

TE Nancy Reeves

RE Bonnie Wilkinson

Vacancy (2022)

**MOJC**

RE Mac Holmes

TE Chad Lawson

TE Nicole Talkington

RE June Oliver

TE Remington Johnson

**PCC**

RE Phil Barnes

TE Marsha Brown

RE Barbie Haberer

TE Charles Walden

**SFOC**

RE Joy Durrant (2021)

RE Tom O/Meara (2022)

RE Fred Gamble

RE Mary Ellen Summerlin

RE Carl Spinner

RE Pam Power

**MP Trustees**

TE Dick Powell (2025)

RE Alex Villalpando (2025)

**YCC**

TE Alex Serna-Wallendar (2022)

RE Katie Henderson (2021)

RE Christina Moore

RE Neil McKown

**Report of the Commissioned Pastor Task Force**

It was **Moved and seconded** that the report and recommendations of the Commissioned Pastor Task Force be referred back to the Task Force for appropriate consultation with the groups and entities that will be affected by the report and recommendations, with the expectation that the Task Force will bring a report back to the March, 2021 Presbytery Meeting. The Motion was **approved.**

**Report of the Education & Congregational Nurture Committee**

TE Mandi Richey presented a written and informational report on behalf of the committee.

The ECN Committee met on July 21 and September 15, 2020 via Zoom.

ECN Members: Mandi Richey, Chair (TE, Genesis– Austin), Sam Baublit, Secretary (RE, FPC– Kerrville), Jennifer Mitchell (TE, FPC– Karnes City), David Roach (HR), Ismael Cantu (RE, New Braunfels-New Braunfels), Dillon Vanderford (RE, Brownsville), Margot Whittaker (RE, Corpus Christi), Sallie Watson, ex-officio (General Presbyter)

Items to Report:

* Sabbatical Year in 2021
	+ ECN will take a sabbatical year from January 1 – December 31, 2021 to discern the needs of the congregations of Mission Presbytery in regards to Christian education and nurture, and how they can best be supported. The Sabbatical request was approved by General Council at its meeting on September 26, 2020.
	+ Rev. Jen Mitchell (TE, FPC – Karnes City) will serve as ECN chair in 2021.
	+ During the Sabbatical year, ECN will:
		- Create a survey to be sent out to all the congregations in the presbytery asking what would be most helpful to them in the areas of Christian education and congregational nurture. Meet once or twice during the year to examine and discuss the results of the survey and the gathering and assess how best to move forward and make a recommendation to General Council.
		- Host a gathering of those responsible for Education Ministry in Mission Presbytery of all experience levels to brainstorm ways the presbytery can continue to support the education and congregational nurture ministries of the diverse congregations of Mission Presbytery.
		- Create a small task force to receive scholarship and grant applications and act on them as needed.
* Commissioned Ruling Elder program
	+ The following Candidates will be transferred to CPM to complete their training/mentoring and then be handed off to COM as part of the new process for CRE/CP in the presbytery.
		- Dan Bautista - McAllen
		- Ron Anderson – First, Llano
		- Charley Kidder – New Hope-La Feria applying soon
* ECN Grow Grants
	+ The Grow Grant deadline of April 15 is now waived. ECN will receive rolling applications year round.
	+ Smithville, First used their Grow Grant in a little different way than expected because of Covid. Instead of doing a week-long children's musical in the summer, they have been creating puppet-based messages to put on their website and Facebook page. They have also been incorporating puppets during their streaming services on Sunday.
	+ The Presbyterian Church of Lake Travis used their Grow Grant to help improve technology capabilities. The Zoom capabilities of the church were upgraded and a video channel acquired. This allows the technology based worship services to be accessible to all congregation members, especially to shut-ins, and also allows for archiving the worship services.
* Workshops/Trainings/Online Resources
	+ Rev. Jen Mitchell (FPC – Karnes City) has established a Mission Presbytery Educator Facebook group. Please join!
	+ There are no workshops or trainings scheduled at this time due to Covid.
* Merger with Pastoral Care Committee
	+ The conversation about merging has been put on hold at the time.

The final ECN meeting for 2020 will be held Tues., November 17, 2020, at 10:30am via Zoom.

**Report of the Pastoral Care Committee**

PCC Chair TE Marsha Brown presented a written report, and then led the Presbytery through a time of celebration for four retirees (Kristin Huffman, Jack Haberer, Nancy Marroquin, and Faith Jongewaard); and a time of remembrance and thanksgiving for four congregations which have closed in the past year (Pilgrim, San Antonio; First, Taft; Community Fellowship, New Braunfels; and First, Taylor).

**Report of the Disaster Preparedness & Assistance Committee**

The Committee included an informational written report in the Presbytery Packet.

MISSION PRESBYTERY DISASTER PREPAREDNESS GUIDELINES This comprehensive document has been developed by DPAC and sent to all congregations in Mission Presbytery. Each congregation is encouraged to make this part of their Manual of Operations.

THANK YOU TO HOPE PRESBYTERIAN-AUSTIN We thank Hope Presbyterian for their donation of two generators, chain saws and other tools to be used for disaster recovery. Several individuals have donated funds and equipment and we are grateful. Our tools and equipment are being stored at our new storage facility at Mo Ranch.

COVID-19 RESPONSE Churches are encouraged to follow the pandemic guidelines at the Mission Presbytery website. All congregations are encouraged to share best practices during this pandemic. The Mission Presbytery Reopening Worship Panel videoconference on September 19 was well received.

FIREARMS POLICY FOR MISSION PRESBYTERY EVENTS The Committee has proposed a Firearms Policy for Mission Presbytery events. The proposed policy is with General Council for approval.

DPAC DISPLAY TABLE AT EACH PRESBYTERY MEETING As soon as we are meeting in person again, we plan to have a display table at Presbytery meetings to provide information about the work of DPAC.

DPAC HANDBOOK We plan to have ready for approval by General Council, the DPAC handbook for the Mission Presbytery Manual of Operations.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MISSION PRESBYTERY’S DIRECTOR OF RECOVERY COORDINATOR, ED SACKETT Ed is officially Mission Presbytery’s newly ordained as Minister of Word and Sacrament! We are grateful for Ed and for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance which has funded this position for nearly three years.

RESPONSE TO WESTERN LOUISIANA STORM DAMAGE Ed and volunteers hauled 420 box fans, 200 hygiene kits and clean-up buckets to Lake Charles, LA. Our two generators are in Bell City, LA.

HYGIENE KITS AND CLEAN-UP BUCKETS All congregations are encouraged to build a supply of hygiene kits and clean-up buckets to keep in storage for future disasters. Ed is setting up a Google Doc at the Presbytery website. Congregations will be able to update the supplies they have so that we can know at a glance who has what.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS INVITED If interested in being a part of this Committee, please go to the Presbytery website and find the Committee on Representation and Participation (CORP) Nomination Form, fill it out and email to the office. We are looking to form sub-committees: Grant Writing, Communication, Equipment (Maintenance, Monitor, and Moving)

ON THE WISHLIST -FORD F-350 TRUCK! We would like to find a donation of a truck to haul our shower and flatbed trailers.

NEXT DPAC MEETING November 2, Monday, Noon, via ZOOM videoconference. Join us!

DPAC Members: Jennifer Rektorik-Chair, Robert Serrata-Vice Chair, Ben Henderson-Treasurer, Sandy Pinaire-Secretary, Alan Ford, Kathy Kerr Kubatzky (PDA trainer), Rev. Babs Miller (PDA trainer), Danita Nelson (PDA trainer), Ed Sackett, MP Disaster Recovery Coordinator.

**The Installation of a Moderator**

Moderator Stacy Ikard proceeded to the Installation of Moderator-elect Carlos Baladez into the office of Moderator for 2021.

**Attendance, Adjournment and Closing Prayer**

The attendance for this electronic Stated Meeting was:

 Teaching Elders – 91

 Ruling Elder Commissioners – 80

Members of General Council (not TEs) – 5

Commissioned Pastors – 3

Certified Christian Educators (REs) – 2

Certified Associate Christian Educators (REs) – 3

Subtotal, Voting Members – 184

Corresponding Members – 1

 Presenters given voice – 8

Visitors/Guests –

Presbytery Staff – 4

Subtotal, non-voting present – 13

Total Attendance – 197

The meeting was closed with prayer by the Moderator at 12:06 P.M. The Presbytery will gather again March 5-6, 2021, either by Zoom or at Holy Trinity, San Antonio.

Respectfully submitted,

TE William C. Poe, Interim Stated Clerk