Approved by Council: May 22, 2018

Electronic Meetings

**Electronic Meetings for Committees of the Presbytery**

It is permissible for any committee of Presbytery to hold meetings by electronic means. Electronic means includes:

* Conference call
* Skype, Zoom or other technology that at a minimum allows all participants to hear each other.
* Joining one or more individuals to a meeting electronically as described above.

Rules to govern these meetings:

* Every participant must have the same materials before them
* Voting is permitted
* The moderator conducts the meeting and sets the guidelines on how speakers are recognized
* Minutes of said meetings should be written up as is the norm for the committee

**Electronic Meetings for Commissions of the Presbytery**

1. Examinations Commission: The Examinations Commission of the Presbytery may hold electronic meetings according the policy above at the discretion of the moderator.
2. Administrative Commissions (AC’s) appointed by the COM within their scope of powers may hold electronic meetings according to the policy above at the discretion of the moderator.
3. An Administrative Commission (AC) appointed by the Presbytery must have its initial meeting and training in person. Future meetings of the AC may be held electronically at the discretion of the moderator.
4. The Permanent Judicial Commission: In the event of an allegation in a Disciplinary proceeding, the Investigating Committee (IC) which has been appointed must have its initial meeting and training in person. Future meetings of the Investigating Committee may be held electronically at the discretion of the moderator.

Interviews done by the Investigating Committee may be done by electronic means if the person to be interviewed lives outside the presbytery. Interviews of the accused and the person submitting the allegations shall be done in person. Interviews done by the Investigating Committee of other people in the investigation who live in the bounds of the presbytery, may be done by electronic means at the discretion of the moderator.

In the event of a trial, electronic and/or digital recording of the proceedings is acceptable as long as it is verbatim. The trial itself shall not be conducted by electronic means.

All other places in the Rules of Discipline which discuss the use of electronic means, is permissible by this presbytery.