

Excerpts from the Standing Rules of NT Presbytery
most relevant for the
Candidates Committee

2-9 Committee Reports (see Appendix D for suggested format)

All reports to be acted upon by Presbytery shall be distributed in written form with the docket for the meeting (SR 4-2.2.b.iii). Reports which do not meet this criterion may be acted on at a meeting after a representative of the Committee explains the providential hindrance to the timely distribution of the report, and then, only by a simple majority vote of Presbytery.

2-10 Committee Plans

After the annual Presbytery committee elections in February, the convener of each committee (SR 4-2.1.b.v) shall call a meeting before March 15 to:

1. Elect a chairman for the new year
2. Elect a clerk for the new year
3. Prepare an action plan and budget for the next fiscal year to carry out the work of the committee. (The committee shall consult the Standing Rules job description for the committee, previous plans and budgets, the BCO 13, 14-1, other BCO references, the Scriptures and other sources as desired.)

The new committee chairman shall submit the action plan and budget request in writing to the Administrative Committee Chairman by April 1.

7 CANDIDATES COMMITTEE

7-1 Composition and Quorum

This Committee shall be composed of six elders in three classes. Members of this Committee shall be elected at the February meeting of Presbytery for a three-year term effective at the end of the meeting at which the member(s) is elected (for unexpired terms, see SR 4-2.4b). Each class shall have one Teaching Elder and at least one Ruling Elder.

Whenever a vacancy occurs on the Committee, the Chairman shall report it to the Nominations Clerk (SR 4-2.4.b).

A quorum shall be three members and must include one Ruling Elder and one Teaching Elder.

7-2 Candidates Under Care

7-2.1 Overview

This Committee shall receive all applications from men seeking to become Candidates under the care of Presbytery, examine them in accordance with BCO 18-2 and 18-3 and, if approved, recommend they be received by Presbytery.

7-2.2 Application

Each man's application, consisting of the written endorsement of his Session (BCO 18-2), must be in the hands of the Stated Clerk of Presbytery at least *six weeks* before the meeting of Presbytery at which the applicant requests to become a Candidate under care.

7-2.3 Session Endorsement

The Session's written endorsement (BCO 18-2) shall include testimony that the Session met with the man (and his wife, if married) and shall reflect the Session's view of the following:

- a. The applicant's household management (including but not limited to: whether his wife is supportive of his calling; whether his children are respectful; his Christian leadership in the home; well-ordered and stable financial management)
- b. The applicant's Christian character (as required in I Timothy 3 and Titus 1)
- c. The applicant's promise of usefulness in the ministry, and the activities of ministry in which the applicant has participated, with a brief evaluation (BCO18-2).

7-2.4 Examination

This Committee shall lead the examination of prospective Candidates on the floor of Presbytery. The entire examination of each Candidate before the Presbytery (BCO 18-3) shall not exceed

ten minutes. The time limit may be extended for additional five-minute periods by a simple majority vote of the Presbytery.

7-2.5 Care of Candidates

In order to provide for the general care and oversight of Presbytery's Candidates, this Committee shall:

- a. Give each Candidate counsel and guidance in regard to his studies, his practical training and the institutions of learning he should attend. (BCO 18-4)
- b. Include in the Committee's report to be distributed with the docket (SR 2-9, SR 4-2.2.b.iii), one or two sentences describing the current status and progress of each Candidate under care
- c. Secure from his instructors annual reports concerning each Candidate's department, diligence and progress in study (BCO 18-6) and review these reports for the purpose of assessing the Candidate's progress
- d. Receive a brief written report from each Candidate and distribute it to the Presbytery at the August meeting (BCO 18-6)
- e. Recommend Candidates eligible for scholarships and loans from funds administered by the Presbytery or a seminary, when said funds require such recommendation and approval by the Presbytery.

7-3 Internship

7-3.1 Overview

This Committee shall oversee Interns as described in BCO 19-7 through 19-16.

7-3.2 Process

This Committee shall:

- a. Receive applications from any man who desires to become an Intern in the Presbytery, examine him in accordance with BCO 19-9, and, if approved, recommend to Presbytery that he be approved as an Intern
- b. Evaluate written proposals for internship programs, and, when acceptable, recommend that Presbytery approve such programs, and closely supervise the Intern during the trial period (BCO 19-7)
- c. Include in the Committee's report to be distributed with the docket (SR 2-9, SR 4-2.2.b.iii), one or two sentences describing the current status and progress of every Presbytery Intern (BCO 19-12)

- d.** Receive a brief written report from each Intern and distribute it to the Presbytery at the August meeting (BCO 19-12)
- e.** Evaluate, at the end of the period of internship, whether the requirements for internship have been satisfied and submit a recommendation to Presbytery (BCO 19-13).

7-4 This Committee shall act as the liaison between the Presbytery and Covenant Theological Seminary and inform the Presbytery regarding its work.