

PROCEDURES FOR THE ELECTION OF THE BISHOP OF OREGON, 2020 Adopted by the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Oregon

1. Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, restrictions have been placed upon gatherings of people; therefore, a special Electing Convention will be held remotely on August 29, 2020. Delegates shall gather using an electronic communication and voting platform, casting their votes electronically until ~~At a special Electing Convention to be held at Trinity Cathedral on June 27, 2020~~ there shall be an election of the Bishop of Oregon. The search, nomination and election process for the Bishop of Oregon shall proceed under the canons of the Episcopal Church and of this Diocese, in accordance with the procedures set forth herein and the Rules of Order of Convention.

2. Before the Convention, pursuant to these procedures, there shall be selected "Committee Nominees," chosen by the Search Committee, and, if made in accordance with prescribed Procedures, there may also be "Petition" Nominees.

Before the Convention

3. The Search Committee shall determine its Committee Nominees by March 6, 2020 and shall publicly disclose the identity of the Nominees on that date. Such public disclosure shall be posted on the website for the Diocese of Oregon, announced on the Diocesan Digest, and noted in the next issue of *Oregon Episcopal Church News*.

4. Committee Nominees and Petition Nominees shall be invited to appear in the Diocese of Oregon prior to Convention at such times and places as the Transition Committee shall arrange, so that as many Members of Convention as possible have an opportunity **to learn about the ~~meet such~~ candidates.**

At the Convention

5 The election process at the Electing Convention shall be presided over by the 10th Bishop of Oregon, who serves as ex officio President of the Electing Convention. The Convention shall consider Nominees of the Search Committee and any Petition Nominees pursuant to procedures for Petition Nominations published by the Search Committee (under the title, *Rules for Nomination by Petition for Bishop of the Diocese of Oregon*) such Nominees shall have been subject to appropriate background checks supervised by the Search Committee and the results of those background checks shall be reported to Convention. Each Nominee shall sign a written declaration of intent to accept office if elected and shall have acknowledged that the compensation package approved by the Standing Committee and communicated to the finalists is satisfactory and acceptable. No others shall be eligible for nomination to Convention.

6. At the Convention, those entitled to vote with respect to the election of the Bishop shall be those entitled to vote at the 2020 Diocesan Convention. [Diocesan Constitution, Article 4.4, 4.5, 4.6] **These delegates will be considered "on the Convention floor" when they remotely log into the appropriate electronic platform.**

7. Written materials submitted by each person nominated to Convention shall be provided to all members of Convention, and no nominating speeches shall be permitted at Convention.

8. Prior to the commencement of the Electing Convention, the Transition Committee shall insure that each Nominee has been assigned a Member of the Transition Committee to serve as the authorized representative of each nominee (whether a Committee nominee or petition nominee). The Transition Committee shall inform the President of Convention of the representative for each Nominee and shall inform the President promptly of any change in representatives. The representative shall have full authority to withdraw the name of his/her assigned Nominee from further consideration of the Convention at any time, upon receipt of directions from his/her Nominee. No nominee shall be present on the Convention floor during Electing Convention.

9. At the beginning of the election process, the Slate of Candidates, together with any Nominee by Petition, shall be presented. There shall be no further nominations from the floor of the Electing Convention. The vote shall be by Orders with both the Clerical Order and the Lay Order voting **on each ballot simultaneously**.

10. Voting shall be by orders. There shall be successive ballots until the Bishop is elected. There shall be a minimum of fifteen minutes between ballots for conversation or other activity, as determined by the President of the Convention. The order in which Nominees' names appear on the ballot shall be chosen by random drawing. Members shall vote only for persons who have been nominated and have not withdrawn. Votes cast for other persons shall be deemed invalid.

11. At the beginning of the Electing Convention, a quorum shall be determined when Clergy from a majority of the congregations entitled to representation and Lay Delegates from a majority of the congregations entitled to representation are present on the electronic platform. Once quorum is determined, for each ballot cast, a concurrent majority of those voting in each Order shall determine the choice. If the total number of members present on the electronic platform is ever reduced by 20% or more from the original number of members established during the initial quorum count, a new count shall be done to determine a quorum is still present. In each ballot, the Clergy and Lay Delegates shall vote separately by Orders. When, in respect of any ballot, two-thirds of all the Clergy entitled to vote are present and two-thirds of all the Parishes and Missions entitled to vote are represented, then a concurrent majority of those voting in each Order shall determine the choice. If two-thirds of the Clergy and of the Parishes and Missions be not present, then two-thirds of those voting in each Order shall be necessary to determine a choice. In either case, a quorum must be present for each ballot.

12. A Nominee (whether a Committee Nominee or a Petition Nominee) may withdraw his/her name from consideration at any time during the Convention by means of oral communication with his/her designated representative to Convention, by email or other

electronic means, with a signed letter of withdrawal to follow, prior to the next ballot; provided that if the President of Convention is satisfied as to the legitimacy of the withdrawal, the President may post-pone or dispense with the requirement of the withdrawal letter.

13. Members of Convention shall not have any conversations with members of the Press while **the Electing Convention is in session** ~~on the floor of Convention~~. The President and Secretary of Standing Committee shall be the official spokespersons for Diocesan communications with the Press concerning this Episcopal election.

14. All cell phones, computers, and other communication devices and equipment shall be **used only for the sake of participating remotely in the Electing Convention. It is prohibited to communicate in any way (e.g., by phone, email, text, FaceBook, or any other communication application or device) to anyone other than members of Convention during the Electing Convention. No guests, alternate delegates, or media will be allowed onto the electronic communication or voting platform.** ~~prohibited on the floor of Convention (other than those in use by authorized officers of Convention for Convention business or otherwise as authorized by the President of Convention). This prohibition shall also apply to the sending and receiving of text messages and the use of devices to obtain access to the Internet. Access to the floor of Convention shall be limited to delegates and officers of Convention. Guests, alternate delegates and media shall be seated at the discretion of the President of Convention in designated seating areas.~~

15. ~~While the Convention is in session, every member shall remain seated unless rising to address the Chair or to cast a ballot.~~ When a member desires to speak on any question or deliver any matter to the Convention, **the member shall use the “raise hand” function in the electronic platform and wait to be recognized by the President or his designee.** ~~move to a microphone and address the Chair.~~

16. When the tellers have counted the ballots cast **and determined their validity**, the Chief Teller shall report in writing to the Secretary, for each order, the total number of votes cast, the number necessary for a simple majority, and the number of votes cast for each Nominee. The Secretary shall verify the presence or absence of a majority in each order and shall pass all the information to the President.

17. The President shall announce the report of the tellers to the Convention. If any Nominee shall have received a **concurrent** majority of those present and voting in both the clerical and lay orders, the President shall declare the Nominee elected.

18. If an election has not been achieved by the seventh ballot, the President of Convention **may** ~~shall~~ order a recess of the Convention, with an order to re-convene at a time and place certain to resume balloting. The President of Convention may also order such a recess at an earlier point in the balloting at his/her discretion.

19. Immediately following the election, while the Electing Convention remains in session, the President of the Convention shall arrange to **receive** have the **testimony signature** of a constitutional majority of the Electing Convention ~~affixed to the testimonial~~ required by Canon III.11.4(a) of the Episcopal Church, attesting to the due and lawful election of the Bishop of Oregon.

After the Convention

20. Promptly following the Convention, the Standing Committee shall examine to its satisfaction the following documents with respect to the Bishop-elect:

- a.** Evidence that the Bishop-elect was, prior to election, duly ordered Deacon and Priest of this Church and confirmation that he/she is at least 30 years of age;
- b.** Evidence that he or she has accepted the election to be Bishop of Oregon;
and
- c.** Certificates (using forms and procedures devised by the Presiding Bishop and the Church Pension Fund) from a licensed medical doctor and a licensed psychiatrist, both having been appointed by the Ecclesiastical Authority with the approval of the Presiding Bishop, attesting that such persons have thoroughly examined the Bishop-elect as to his or her medical, psychological and psychiatric condition and have discovered no reason why the Bishop-elect would not be fit to undertake the work for which he or she has been chosen. [EC Canon III.11.4]

21. Promptly following the Convention, the Standing Committee shall send to the Presiding Bishop and to the Standing Committees of all other Dioceses a certificate by the Secretary of Convention attesting to the election of the Bishop-elect, together with its statement that (a) evidence of the Bishop-elect's having been duly ordered Deacon and Priest has been received, (b) satisfactory certificates as to the Bishop-elect's medical, psychological and psychiatric health have been received, and (c) a testimonial in canonical form has been duly signed by a constitutional majority of the Convention, and requesting the consent of the majority of such Standing Committees to the ordination of the Bishop-elect. Such consents, when received by the Standing Committee, shall be forwarded to the Presiding Bishop, who (upon receipt of the requisite number of consents of Standing Committees and Bishops) shall arrange for the ordination and consecration of such person as the Bishop of Oregon. [EC Con. II.2; EC Canon III.11.4]

22. These Special Rules shall be effective when adopted by the majority vote of Convention. Once adopted, they may not thereafter be suspended or amended except upon motion duly made and seconded, and approved by two-thirds of Convention.