

6/3/2025

RESOLUTION OF THE CONVOCATION OF THE MISSIONARY DIOCESE
OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN NAVAJOLAND

WHEREAS, The General Convention of The Episcopal Church has approved the petition of the Area Mission of the Episcopal Church in Navajoland to become a Missionary Diocese, and

WHEREAS, The process for the discernment, nomination and election of a bishop to serve as Bishop of the Missionary Diocese of the Episcopal Church in Navajoland requires appropriate rules of order for the discernment, search, nomination process, election and consecration of the new Bishop, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED: That the process for discernment of vocation to be a Bishop Diocesan for the Missionary Diocese of The Episcopal Church in Navajoland will accord with the Constitutions and Canons of The Episcopal Church and any special rules adopted by this Convocation. The Standing Committee shall have oversight of, and responsibility for any search, nomination, transition and election processes. The Standing Committee shall appoint members of a Search committee, which shall establish its procedures for nomination and transition that are in accord with Diné tradition.

And be it further resolved, that the following Rules Of Order For The Special Convention Of The Missionary Diocese Of The Episcopal Church In Navajoland For The Election Of Its First Bishop Diocesan are hereby adopted.

**RULES OF ORDER FOR THE
SPECIAL CONVENTION OF THE MISSIONARY DIOCESE OF THE EPISCOPAL
CHURCH IN NAVAJOLAND
FOR THE ELECTION OF ITS FIRST BISHOP DIOCESAN**

The special Convention (“Convention”) of the Missionary Diocese of the Episcopal Church in Navajoland (“Diocese”) adopts the following rules of order for the nomination and election of the first Bishop Diocesan of the Diocese on _____, and for any adjourned meeting of that Convention:

A. Registration of Delegates, Appointment of Election Officials and Other Organizational Matters

1. Prior to the Convention, the Provisional Bishop shall appoint the following Convention officials: the Secretary, one or more Assistant Secretaries, the Parliamentarian, Credentials Committee, and the Dispatch of Business Committee. Each of these persons shall register at the Convention site and the presence of such person shall be checked against a roll furnished by the Bishop.
2. The Provisional Bishop likewise shall appoint ushers, tellers and such other persons the Bishop deems necessary to assist the Convention in conducting its business. Ushers shall keep good order in the observance of these Rules of Order. Under the supervision of the Assistant Secretary(ies), tellers shall count ballots and otherwise assist the Convention with the voting process. In making such appointments the Bishop shall select such persons who are communicants in good standing of a congregation of the Diocese but, where reasonably possible, who are not otherwise entitled to seat, voice or vote at the Convention. Any person appointed by the Bishop as an usher or teller or to otherwise assist the Convention in conducting its business shall register at the Convention site and the presence of such person shall be checked against a roll furnished by the Bishop or Secretary.
3. Each member of the clergy who is both canonically and physically a resident of the Diocese and entitled to seat, voice and vote in the Convention under Canon 2, including the Bishop, shall register at the Convention site and his or her presence shall be checked against a roll furnished by the Bishop.
4. Each lay delegate representing a parish or mission and entitled to seat and vote in the Convention under Canon 3 shall register at the Convention site, and his or her presence shall be checked against a roll prepared under the direction of the Provisional Bishop based on certificates received from the congregations, following election of delegates at their 2025 Annual Meeting.
5. No clergy member or lay delegate eligible to vote, but who has failed to register, check-in, and receive credentials prior to the convening of the Convention, will be permitted to vote. No proxy voting or virtual voting shall be permitted; all clergy and all lay delegates must be present to vote.
6. The following persons not otherwise voting members of the Convention shall have seat and voice but no right to vote: the Secretary, the Assistant Secretary(ies), the Chair of the Dispatch of Business Committee, the Chancellor and the Parliamentarian.

7. Upon registration, a badge will be given to each registrant identifying the registrant as one or more of the following as applicable: (1) a clergy member, including the Provisional Bishop, with seat and vote; (2) a lay delegate representing a congregation with seat and vote; (3) the Bishop, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Chancellor or Dispatch of Business Committee member, as applicable; (5) a Shepherd for a nominee (see Section 12 below); or (6) a teller, usher or someone appointed by the Bishop to otherwise assist the Convention in conducting its business. Only those persons to whom badges have been issued shall have a seat on the floor of Convention and no person shall be admitted to the floor of Convention without his or her badge. Any voting delegate or clergy member departing from the Convention prior to adjournment must report his or her departure to the Secretary of the Convention. Such a departure may only take place between ballots, and may not take place after an election has occurred until the required testimonies are signed. In the case where a lay delegate needs to leave the Convention prior to an election, a duly elected and registered alternate delegate from the same congregation as the delegate may be seated as a delegate from that congregation with the approval of the Credentials Committee.
8. Appropriate seating provisions not on the floor shall be made for visitors and guests, who shall all be registered as guests and issued name badges indicating that designation.
9. When the Credentials Committee reports the presence of a quorum of both orders, the Bishop shall declare the existence of a quorum, shall announce the number of delegates in each order who are present in the Convention, and shall declare the Convention organized and ready for business. An election will have been achieved upon the concurrence of a majority vote in each order for one of the nominees.
10. When any member of Convention is about to speak or deliver any matter to the Convention, he or she shall rise and, with due respect, address the Provisional Bishop as presiding officer. If two or more members shall rise at the same time to speak, the Provisional Bishop shall decide who shall speak first.
11. Printed materials may be distributed on the floor of Convention only with the Provisional Bishop's permission and through the agency of the Dispatch of Business Committee.
12. The Chair of the Bishop Search Committee shall appoint for each nominee a person who, where reasonably possible, is not a voting member of the Convention, to be a liaison between the nominee and the Convention (a "Shepherd"). At any time before a balloting begins a nominee may withdraw his or her name from consideration in the election by so notifying the nominee's Shepherd. Although not required for a withdrawal, a Shepherd shall make every effort to have the nominee provide the Shepherd with written confirmation of the nominee's decision, which may be done in any manner, including an electronic message, and upon receipt the Shepherd shall promptly share a copy of the same with the Bishop through the Parliamentarian, the Dispatch of Business Committee Chair, or an Assistant Secretary, and also with the Secretary to be placed in the record of the Convention. No name shall be removed from the balloting unless it is directed to be removed by the Bishop.

B. The Election

1. The Provisional Bishop shall call the meeting to order.
2. The Provisional Bishop will recognize the Chair of the Credentials Committee, who will report on the registration of clergy and lay delegates and advise whether there is a quorum of one-half of

each order entitled to vote.

3. When the presence of a quorum has been established and declared by the Provisional Bishop, the Provisional Bishop will recognize the Chair of the Dispatch of Business Committee, who will move the adoption of the Agenda, being the agenda previously published on the Diocese's website in anticipation of the Convention, and the adoption of these Special Rules of Order. This motion must be seconded and adopted by vote of the Special Convention. The vote is a voice vote, unless a vote by Orders is properly requested.
4. The Secretary of Convention will move the adoption of Robert's Rules of Order for the Special Convention. It is the prerogative of each Convention or Special Convention to prescribe rules of order to govern the business of the convention. This motion must be seconded and adopted by vote of the Special Convention. The vote is a voice vote, unless a vote by Orders is properly requested.
5. When the Provisional Bishop announces it is in order to receive nominations for the election of a Bishop Diocesan, the Provisional Bishop shall call on the Chair of the Bishop Search Committee to nominate the candidate(s) selected. There shall be no nominating speeches. No second to the nominations shall be required.
6. There shall be no floor debate or speeches. Points of parliamentary procedure may be raised.
7. The form of the ballots to be used (including the order of the names of the nominees), and the method of use, shall be determined by the Provisional Bishop in consultation with the Dispatch of Business Committee. If no nominee is elected on the first ballot, the Convention shall proceed to a second and, as necessary, succeeding ballots until the Bishop shall declare that an election has occurred.
8. A valid ballot shows a single vote and has none of the characteristics of an 'Invalid Ballot' as described below. If the Tellers do not agree on the validity of a ballot, or determine that the voter's intention is unclear, the Bishop shall decide the matter after consultation with the Chancellor.
9. The vote shall be by Orders. The Secretary shall arrange for separate balloting by the clergy and lay delegates. Each Order shall cast its ballots separately, and the Secretary shall maintain a checklist for each Order prepared by the Secretary from the rolls of clergy and lay delegates who are eligible to vote. For each ballot, the clergy delegates shall deposit their ballots into the ballot box designated for taking of the clergy ballots. The lay delegates shall deposit their ballots into the ballot box designated for the taking of the lay ballots in such order as the Bishop may direct. The tellers shall check off the names of each delegate on the respective checklists, as each ballot is cast.
10. The Provisional Bishop may call on the Chancellor to explain the voting procedures.
11. When the tellers have completed their counting of a ballot, the Assistant Secretary(ies) will notify the Bishop and Shepherd of each nominee of the results of the ballot or designate one or more persons to do so. The Shepherd shall then notify each candidate before any announcement of ballot results. When the Bishop is satisfied that the nominees themselves have been notified of the result of the ballot, he shall announce the results of the ballot to the Convention by reading out and visually displaying: (a) the total number of votes cast in the clerical order and the total

number of votes necessary for an election in that order; and (b) the total number of votes cast in the lay order and the total number of votes necessary for an election in that order. Then the Provisional Bishop shall announce the number of clerical votes and lay votes cast for each nominee.

12. After the result of a ballot have been announced to the Convention, the Provisional Bishop may declare a recess until a time certain or may call for voting on the next ballot.
13. An election occurs upon a concurrent majority in both Orders on the same ballot. The Provisional Bishop shall direct the balloting to continue until a Bishop has been elected. Upon a majority vote of the Convention, the Convention may adjourn to a date certain after a sufficient number of ballots has been taken so as to reasonably establish that the Convention has reached a stalemate or has reached a time of day where it appears wise to do so, or both.
14. After the Provisional Bishop has declared that an election has occurred, the Provisional Bishop shall take the following action at an appropriate time before adjournment of Convention: appoint the President of the Standing Committee of the Diocese and the Chair of the Bishop Search Committee to join the Provisional Bishop in officially notifying the Bishop-elect; direct all delegates to sign the Canonical Testimonials to the election of a Bishop Diocesan before leaving the floor of Convention; and ask that a motion be made from the floor of Convention that the Standing Committee of the Diocese, as required by the canons of The Episcopal Church, be instructed to forward to the Presiding Bishop and to the Standing Committees of the several Dioceses the Canonical Testimonials and certificates required by the canons of The Episcopal Church evidencing the election of a Bishop Diocesan, and that the Standing Committee be authorized and requested to do all other things to ensure the ordination and consecration of the person elected Bishop Diocesan.
15. If the Standing Committee discovers new information about a nominee, during or immediately prior to the Convention, then upon the request of the President of the Standing Committee, the Provisional Bishop shall recess the Convention while the Standing Committee reviews the information. If the information appears to be material and from a credible source, the President and the Secretary of the Standing Committee, together with the Chancellor and the nominee's Shepherd will discuss the matter with the nominee who will have the option to request a further investigation or to withdraw his or her nomination. If the nominee requests a further investigation which cannot be completed within a few hours, then the Standing Committee may request that the Presiding Bishop seek a vote of Convention to postpone the Convention for up to 28 days for the further investigation to be completed by the Standing Committee.

C. Application of these Rules of Order; Amendments.

1. These Rules of Order shall apply only to the special Convention of the Missionary Diocese of the Episcopal Church in Navajoland to elect a Bishop Diocesan, or any postponement or recess thereof.
2. These Rules of Order may be amended by this Convention only by a concurrent of two-thirds vote by Orders of the delegates with seat, voice and vote that are present and voting.