

Yellowstone Presbytery, PCUSA  
Permanent Judicial Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
2/12/19 7:30 p.m.

Members present: Neva Rathbun, Sharla Helland, Pam Jackson, John Patterson and Jody McDevitt. Jim Tarr also attended as Stated Clerk

The telephone meeting was called by Jody McDevitt specifically to 1) Elect a moderator and 2) To determine our recommendations to the Presbytery relative to proposed Amendments to the Book of Order.

The opening devotion, very pertinent to the PJC, was a discussion of Proverbs 12:1-3 and an opening prayer by Jody McDevitt.

Jim Tarr, Stated Clerk, spoke with the Commission about our responsibility relative to selecting a Moderator and Secretary and making a recommendation at the March Presbytery Meeting relative to the proposed Amendments to the Book of Order.

Jody McDevitt was nominated and elected as Moderator of the PJC. John Patterson offered to serve as Secretary, at least for this meeting.

It was moved and approved that the Commission concurs with the proposed Amendments to the Book of Order:

D-2.0203b “b. An offense is any act or omission by a member or a person in an ordered ministry of the church that is contrary to the Scriptures or the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). *Sexual abuse as defined in Section D-10.-4-1c shall be considered contrary to the Scriptures or Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), and therefore an offense for purposes of these rules.*”

D-10.0401b “b. For instances of sexual abuse of another person, the five-year time limit shall not apply. *There is also no time limit for charging that a person who knew or reasonably should have known of the reasonable risk of sexual abuse of another as defined in D-10.0401c (1) or (2) failed to take reasonable steps to minimize the risk. Both charges may be brought regardless of the date on which an offense is alleged to have occurred.*”

D-10.0401c “(1) any person under the age of eighteen years or anyone ~~over the age of~~ ~~eighteen years~~ without the ~~mental~~ capacity to consent, or”

Jody McDevitt, as PJC Moderator will present the PJC’s concurrence with the Amendments at the March Presbytery meeting.

The meeting was closed in prayer by Neva Rathbun.