

MINUTES
Indian Nations Presbytery
Coordinating Council
July 16, 2025
Meeting by Zoom Video and In-Person at INP Office

Members present:¹ RE Sharon Burton; RE Maribeth Culpepper, Cmte on Nominations Moderator; RE Rex Daly, COA Moderator; TE Chas Gowing, CPM Moderator; RE Debra Kauffman; TE Janet Ruark, COM Moderator; RE Holley Sanders; RE Farrel Smith; RE Rhonda George;

Ex-officio:

TE Tracy Evans, Stated Clerk; TE John McKinnon, INP Moderator; RE Mike Mize, Board of Trustees President; RE Russell Newville, INP Foundation President; TE Charlie Smith, Presbytery Pastor; TE Mary Ellen Waychoff, INP Vice Moderator;

Excused: RE Malcom Champlin; RE Dave Delana, CC Moderator; TE Dan Junkin; RE Tom Willoughby

Absent: TE Ernie Isch; TE Vicki Rucker; RE Dave Butler

Also in attendance: INP Staff RE Sue MacHugh; TE Elizabeth Affsprung, AC Chickasha Moderator; TE Chaz Ruark, Personnel Committee

Call to order, Opening Prayer, Quorum

The meeting was called to order with a prayer led by Interim Moderator Mike Mize at 1:01pm. A quorum was present.

Approval of Voice

Motion to approve voice for TE Chaz Ruark was approved.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda for the meeting was **approved**.

Approval of minutes

May 21, 2025, minutes were approved.

Officer and Staff Reports:

CC Moderator Report

- See attached report

Presbytery Pastor Report

¹ RE refers to a Ruling Elder; TE refers to a Teaching Elder also known as Minister of Word and Sacrament.
[https://indiannationspresbytery.sharepoint.com/shared documents/company/committees \(minus com\)/coordinating council/2025/minutes/7- jul/minutes july 17, 2025.docx](https://indiannationspresbytery.sharepoint.com/shared%20documents/company/committees%20(minus%20com)/coordinating%20council/2025/minutes/7-jul/minutes%20july%2017,%202025.docx)

- See attached report

Stated Clerk Report

- No report

INP Moderator

- No report
- Due to death of a family friend he will not be able to attend the August 9th Tri-Presbytery meeting

Committee Reports

Board of Trustees

- Working with the Administrative Commission on FPC Chickasha

Committee on Administration

- See attached report from the Search Committee for the Interim EP. There are two vacancies for TEs they hope to fill with female TEs. They hope to begin work in August.

Committee on Nominations and Representation

- Candidate Tylar Gregg has indicated an interest in serving on the Committee on Nominations (for which the CC is responsible). Since she will not be ordained until August the request was deferred until after ordination.

Committee on Ministry

- See attached report. They did not meet on July but did have an E-vote.

Committee on Preparation for Ministry

- See attached report

INP Foundation Board

- No report

Care of Pastoral Leaders Network

- No report

Unfinished Business

- TE Elizabeth Affsprung, moderator of the Administrative Commission for FPC, Chickasha reported on their work. The final worship service was Sunday, July 13, 2025. Paul Ravencraft, realtor with Price Edwards, has drafted a listing agreement for the Trustees to review. The church property will be listed for sale after August 1, 2025. The First Presbyterian Church Chickasha Legacy

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Fund has been established at the Presbyterian Foundation. The account was opened with a combination of \$25,000 cash and ExxonMobil stock. The interest earned on the account will be deposited in an INP account to be distributed according to a list of charities indicated by the Session. This account will be managed by the Committee on Administration. The COA will make suggested distributions to the Coordinating Council.

New Business

The Oklahoma Presbytery Task Force (OPTF) and the three Oklahoma Presbyteries (Cimarron, Eastern Oklahoma, and Indian Nations Presbyteries) will be meeting at First Presbyterian Church of Norman on August 9, 2025. Rev. Tony Larson, Co-Moderator of the 226th General Assembly (2024) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), will lead worship and preach. Rev. Sallie Watson, Interim Associate Director for Mid Council Relations, will present about mergers, reorganizations, and the “new things” that are happening in presbyteries across the country.

This is a Special Called Meeting of the Three Oklahoma Presbyteries for the purpose of approving or disapproving two motions.

- The Coordinating Council requested that INP Moderator John McKinnon call for a special meeting of Indian Nations Presbytery on August 9, 2025 to be held at First Presbyterian Church, Norman, OK. The purpose of the meeting is to consider two motions as follows:
- Motion 1: Indian Nations Presbytery formally commits to joining Cimarron and Eastern Oklahoma Presbyteries in together constructing and creating a new Oklahoma presbytery.
- Motion 2: As a sign of unity and commitment, Indian Nations Presbytery will meet with Cimarron and Eastern Oklahoma Presbyteries on these dates:
 - Nov 14-15, 2025 at Sequoyah Lodge in Hulbert, OK, hosted by EOP
 - Feb 21, 2026 hosted by Cimarron Presbytery
 - May 1-2, 2026 hosted by Indian Nations Presbytery,
 - August 8, 2026 meeting (location TBA)
 - November 6-7, 2026 meeting (location TBA)
- **Motion passed** for call for special meeting on August 9, 2025.
- The Coordinating Council requested that INP Moderator John McKinnon call for a second special meeting of Indian Nations Presbytery on August 9, 2025

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to be held at First Presbyterian Church, Norman, OK. The purpose of the meeting is to approve the sale of the building of Memorial Presbyterial Church, Norman, OK.

- **Motion passed** for call for second special meeting on August 9, 2025.

Sharing Time

- Prayer concerns and joys were shared.

Adjournment

- **Motion** to adjourn with prayer **passed**. The meeting was adjourned with prayer given by TE Chaz Ruark at 2:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue MacHugh
Administrative Assistant

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