

DRAFT MINUTES
Indian Nations Presbytery
Coordinating Council
October 15, 2025
Meeting by Zoom Video and In-Person at INP Office

Members present:¹ RE Sharon Burton; RE Malcom Champlin; RE Maribeth Culpepper, Cmte on Nominations Moderator; RE Rex Daly COA Moderator; RE Rhonda George; TE Chas Gowing, CPM Moderator; RE Debra Kauffman; TE Janet Ruark, COM Moderator; TE Vicki Rucker; RE Holley Sanders; RE Tom Willoughby

Ex-officio: TE Tracy Evans, Stated Clerk; TE John McKinnon, INP Moderator; RE Mike Mize, Acting Moderator and Board of Trustees President; TE Charlie Smith, Presbytery Pastor; TE Mary Ellen Waychoff, INP Vice Moderator.

Excused: TE Dan Junkin; RE Ernie Isch; RE Dave Delana, CC Moderator;

Absent: RE Farrel Smith;

Also in attendance: INP Staff RE Sue MacHugh; TE Elizabeth Affsprung

Call to order, Opening Prayer, Quorum

The meeting was called to order with a prayer led by Acting Moderator Mike Mize at 1:05 pm. A quorum was present.

Approval of Voice

Voice but not vote was given to TE Elizabeth Affsprung and TE Chaz Ruark.

Approval of Agenda

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

Approval of minutes

September 17, 2025 minutes were approved as corrected.

Officer and Staff Reports:

CC Moderator Report

- Expressed gratitude to Administrative Assistant Sue MacHugh who got the meeting packets out on a holiday.
- Reminded the body to ask to be called upon before speaking.

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%20documents/company/committees%20\(minus%20com\)/coordinating%20council/2025/minutes/10-oct/minutes%20october%2015%20,2025.docx](https://indiannationspresbytery.sharepoint.com/shared%20documents/company/committees%20(minus%20com)/coordinating%20council/2025/minutes/10-oct/minutes%20october%2015%20,2025.docx)

- **Motion** to place RE Deb Kaufman (Chisholm Trail) class of 2026, TE Tylar Grant, class of 2027, and RE Rhonda George (FPC, Norman) class of 2028 and moderator, on the Nominating Committee was seconded and **approved**.

Presbytery Pastor Report

- Reminded the body that technology grants have been present since he arrived at the presbytery, and that we need to be reminded of the abundance that God provides. He hopes that saying “yes” comes easily, but that “no” is sometimes needed. There is high anxiety in our churches, especially those with great need.
- Requested that assistance be provided to those who may need it to attend the upcoming overnight presbytery meeting at Sequoyah Lodge in Hulbert, OK. **Motion** to offer to provide assistance toward lodging and/or mileage to those attending the November meeting was seconded and **carried**.

Stated Clerk Report

- There will need to be an electronic vote to approve the docket for the upcoming presbytery meeting.

INP Moderator

- Reported that participating in the ordination and installations has been joy in his role as moderator. He expressed his gratitude to INP Vice-Moderator Mary Ellen Waychoff who has filled in for him.
- Noted that INP is in a healthier place than the presbytery has been in the recent past.

Committee Reports

Board of Trustees

- They are working with the broker to sell the church in Chickasha.

Committee on Administration

- COA will meet later in the month. They will be reviewing the Texas Presbyterian Foundation account’s second and third quarter reports.
- The beginning of the budget process for 2026 will be discussed.
- There are two working subcommittees to report their progress to Coordinating Council and CoA.

The first is the Interim Presbytery Pastor Search Committee which consists of Dolores Kimball, Rex Daly, Kelsey Cobbs, John McKinnon, Mike Mize, and Chaz Ruark (moderator). Synod Leader Mitch Miller also serves on this body as a resource from Synod of the Sun. The committee has had a handful of meetings and accomplished the following:

- Reviewed and edited the Presbytery Pastor job description,

- Decided to use the current compensation package as a starting point for negotiations with possible candidates,
- Have identified a possible candidate who is willing to assist on a “bridge” basis for a few months, interview is being scheduled,
- Have started the informal network (word of mouth) process to help identify possible candidates,
- Have started a conversation with Church Leadership Connection about using the denomination’s Opportunity list,
- Have discussed at length the unique situation of looking for someone who could be short term or long term, (INP vs One Statewide Presbytery)
- The committee is optimistic that it can fill the position on a bridge basis while the search for “more” permanent candidate will likely go into 2026.

- The second subcommittee is the standing Personnel Committee consisting of Sue Johnson, Rex Daly, and Chaz Ruark. The committee is scheduling their annual staff reviews and adding to their tasks a search for a new Administrative Assistant as Sue MacHugh has announced her retirement for January of 2026. The committee has met and accomplished the following:
 - Established a timeline for the search process with a goal of hiring a candidate to begin in January, allowing a time for training with current AA Sue MacHugh, including a deadline of November 14th for applications,
 - Reviewed and edited current job description,
 - Identified resources for possible candidates, employment agencies, word of mouth within Presbytery, etc.
 - Agreed on timeline for staff reviews and exit interviews.

Committee on Ministry

- COM continues working with congregations to meet their needs for pastoral leadership.
- COM will be reviewing the information posted with the Pulpit Supply List.
- Has created a document on Commissioned Ruling Elder Frequently Asked Questions
- Approved the Administrative Commission for the Installation Service of Rev. Gi Hyun Park on Sunday, October 2025
- Approved the MDP for Norman FPC for their search for an Associate Pastor.
- Appointed Charlie Smith as moderator of FPC El Reno, and John Singleton as Mentor for CRE Craig Mead.

Committee on Nominations and Representation

- There are only four vacancies at this time.

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Committee on Preparation for Ministry

- Reported on Inquirers and Candidates

INP Foundation Board

- Congregations have been notified of the availability of INP Foundation Grants.

Care of Pastoral Leaders Network

- Retreat is coming up, though a week later than it is usually held. St. Crispin's has been reserved for October 19-20, 2026.

New and Continuing Business

- TE Elizabeth Affsprung, moderator of the Administrative Commission, reported on the closing of FPC Chickasha. Before the congregation dissolved, the session requested particular designations for the funds received from the sale of the church building. They recognize that this is a unique request and will be left to the leadership of the presbytery to carry out or not.
- Technology grant request received at September's meeting from Covenant Presbyterian Church, OKC was noted. There was a letter from the Director of Music following up on the potential use of the funds requested. Discussion included the previous tech grants and how they were determined. There is no current network overseeing congregational tech needs. **Motion** that consideration of tech grants be delayed until 2026 when the money is budgeted. Motion was seconded and **carried**.
- **Motion** that Stated Clerk send letter to Covenant that the amount requested (\$42,000) is not available at this time, but that they are welcome to make request when we hope to have budgeted tech grants next year. Seconded and **carried**.
- Norman FPC submitted their report on the Afghan refugee program. They will likely request the grant again next year.

Sharing Time

- Prayer concerns and joys were shared.

Adjournment

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

Respectfully submitted,

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Tracy L. Evans
Stated Clerk

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