

PROVISIONAL MINUTES

Called Meeting of the EPC Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest August 12, 2023 Via Zoom

18-1 Call to Order and Opening Prayer

Moderator, TE Lana Roberts, called the eighteenth meeting of the Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest (POPS) to order at 9:05 am, opened the meeting with prayer and welcomed the members and commissioners. The meeting was called for the purpose of examining TE Donny Butkus, candidate for Pastor at Fair Oaks Church, Fair Oaks, CA, because of the extended amount of time between the May 2023 and October 2023 POPS meetings, as well as his current status as an ordained EPC teaching elder.

18-2 Declaration of Quorum

Stated Clerk, RE Mark Eshoff, declared a quorum was present as evidenced by the following record of attendance:

TE MEMBERS

Centerpoint Community Church – Roseville, CA
TE Bryan Yeo Excused

Centerville Presbyterian Church – Fremont, CA
TE Sam Knottnerus Present

Christ Church, Berkeley, CA
TE Jonathan St. Clair Unexcused
TE Andrew Ong Unexcused

Christ Community Church – Carmichael, CA
Dustin DeVriend Unexcused

Clayton Community Church – Clayton, CA
TE Shawn Robinson Unexcused

Community Presbyterian Church – Danville, CA
TE Tyler Scott Unexcused
TE Cathy Burkholder Present
TE Bill Haslim Excused
TE Ryan Pearce Unexcused

Cornerstone Woodlake Presbyterian Church – Woodlake, CA
Vacant

Covenant Community Church – Vacaville, CA
TE Nancy Duff Present

Covenant Presbyterian Church – Orange, CA
TE Scott Larson Present
TE Matt Young Excused

Covenant Presbyterian Church – Reno, NV
TE James (Jay) Hull Present

RULING ELDER COMMISSIONERS

Ann Janzen, Tom Pool, Connie Badgley

Patricia Lum

Rebecca Duvall, Jason Marcus

Kenneth Adams

Covenant Presbyterian Church – San Diego, CA		
TE Patrick King	Unexcused	
TE Kennerly King	Unexcused	
Easton Presbyterian Church – Fresno, CA		
TE David Abdo	Present	
Fair Oaks Presbyterian Church – Fair Oaks, CA		
TE Greg Alderman	Present	Ronald Rivett, Robin Rivett, Jesse Huff, Doug Benton,
TE Clifford Graves	Excused	Michael Shumaker
First Armenian Church – Fresno, CA		
TE Greg Haroutunian	Excused	
First Presbyterian Church – Bakersfield, CA		
TE David Constance	Excused	
First Presbyterian Church – Fresno, CA		
TE Jeremy Vaccaro	Present	
TE Meagan Kroeker	Unexcused	
First Presbyterian Church – Hanford, CA		
Tim Brown	Present	Annette Rajskup
Fowler Presbyterian Church – Fowler, CA		
TE Erik Buhl	Unexcused	
TE Paul Irwin	Unexcused	
Fremont Presbyterian Church – Sacramento, CA		
TE David Burke	Present	
TE David Pack	Excused	
TE Matthew McCleary	Present	
Heritage EPC – Santa Maria, CA		
TE Mark Wright	Excused	
Hope Presbyterian Church – Folsom, CA		
TE David Huusko	Unexcused	Reid Klatt
Kingman Presbyterian Church – Kingman, AZ		
Vacant		
Millbrook Presbyterian Church – Fresno, CA		
Vacant		
Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church – Moraga, CA		
TE Brandon Morrow	Present	Christine Deane
TE David Ricketts	Present	
New Life Community Church – Covelo, CA		
Vacant		
Sanger Community Church – Sanger, CA		
Ralph “Joe” Mazzela	Present	
San Ramon Presbyterian Church – San Ramon, CA		
TE Mark Wollan	Present	

Sierra Presbyterian Church – Nevada City, CA

TE Michael Griffin Unexcused

TE Greg Flagg Excused

St. John's Assyrian Presbyterian Church – Turlock, CA

TE Edward Eissabake Unexcused

The Table – San Francisco, CA

TE Troy Wilson Unexcused

Valley Community Church – San Jacinto, CA

TE Guy Boyer Present

Wintersburg Presbyterian Church, Santa Ana, CA

TE Ryan Teramoto Unexcused

OFFICERS OF THE PRESBYTERY

TE Lana Roberts, Moderator Present

RE Mark Eshoff, Stated Clerk Present

PRESBYTERY COUNCIL

RE Carl Kuhn Present

MILITARY CHAPLAINS ON ACTIVE DUTY

None

INSTITUTIONAL CHAPLAINS

TE Karen Bolte Unexcused

TE Marty Carpenter Present

EVANGELISTS

TE Scott Downing Unexcused

TE Jose Figueroa Unexcused

MISSIONARIES

SERVING OUTSIDE THE BOUNDARIES

TE Eric Amundson Excused

TE Joe Cole Unexcused

TE Greg Ehlert Unexcused

TE Melaku Mekuria Unexcused

TE Mgrdich Melkonian Unexcused

TE Rick Nylund Unexcused

TE Ryan Suzuki Unexcused

TE Fred Tanizaki Present

TE Tony Winterowd Unexcused

MEMBERS SERVING AS ADMINISTRATIVE MEMBERS

TE David Fenska Present

MEMBERS WITHOUT A CALL

TE Sam Fielder Unexcused

TE Josh Hall Unexcused

TE Ron Much Unexcused

TE Rob Perkins Present

TE Dennis Tarr Unexcused

TE Steve Tyra Unexcused

TE Patrick Vaughn Excused

TE Quinn Vaughn Excused

TE Jason Yum Excused

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS – ACTIVE

TE Donald Baird	Excused
TE Paul Bergquam	Unexcused
TE Kirk Bottomly	Unexcused

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS – Outside Boundaries

TE Kurt Teng	Not Present
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ASSOCIATE MEMBERS – Retired

TE Samuel Adamson	Not Present
TE Jerry Autry	Not Present
TE Robert (Bob) Badgley	Present
TE Jim Barstow	Not Present
TE Ed Blake	Not Present
TE George Carey	Not Present
TE Scott Dickson	Not Present
TE Scott Farmer	Not Present
TE Steve Frank	Not Present
TE Anton Hoffmann	Not Present
TE Heidi Johnson	Not Present
TE Robin Kelley	Not Present
TE Linda Line	Not Present
TE Greg Livingstone	Not Present
TE Tom Naylor	Not Present
TE Ron Owens	Not Present
TE Penny Proschold	Not Present
TE Greg Roth	Not Present
TE Marsha Roth	Not Present
TE Chaluay Ruangchan	Not Present
TE Richard Sanner	Not Present
TE Jerry Voss	Not Present

GUESTS/OBSERVERS/CANDIDATES/MINISTERS TO BE EXAMINED

Cathy Cole	Presbyterian of the Pacific SW, Sacramento, CA
Chris Larsen	Fair Oaks Presbyterian Church, Fair Oaks, CA
Donny Butkus	Fair Oaks Presbyterian Church, Fair Oaks, CA
Lynn Pinkerton	Fair Oaks Presbyterian Church, Fair Oaks, CA

NUMERICAL ATTENDANCE SUMMARY

	Present	Excused	Unexcused	Total/Parity
Teaching Elders (Full Members)	20	14	33	67
Teaching Elders (Associate - Active)	0	1	2	
Teaching Elders (Associate-Retired)	1			
Ruling Elders	16			
Officers of the Presbytery	2			
Presbytery Council	1			
Commissioned Pastors	0			
Received Pending Dismissal	0			
Transitional Members	0			
Candidates/Guests/Observers 4				
TOTAL IN ATTENDANCE	44			
Associate & Retired Members (Not Present)	22			
Inactive Members (Not Present)	0			

18-3 Stated Clerk's Report

Stated Clerk, Mark Eshoff reviewed the protocol for participation and voting for the meeting.

18-4 Approval of the Docket

Stated Clerk Eshoff presented the proposed docket and recommended it to the Presbytery for approval.

Motion was sustained to approve the docket

18-5 Ministerial Committee Report - Examination of TE Donny Butkus

TE David Abdo, Chair of the Ministerial Committee, opened in prayer and introduced TE Donny Butkus, who was called as Pastor of Fair Oaks Church, Fair Oaks, CA by the congregation of the church. He was currently a member of the EPC Presbytery of the West and was seeking to transfer his membership to the Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest. He had been examined by the members of the Ministerial Committee and his current Terms of Call were reviewed and approved by the Committee. He was recommended to the Presbytery for approval.

Donny's examination began with a sermon on Philippians 3:7-11, a passage assigned to him by the Ministerial Committee. The Presbytery then examined him on his views of theology and sacraments, his faith in Christ, his calling to the ministry and the nature of the office of a minister of the Word, polity, the Reformed tradition, the Bible, and his spiritual journey. Donny had three exceptions to the Westminster Standards.

Motion was sustained to arrest the examination

Donny was dismissed to a virtual breakout room during the Presbytery discussion.

RE's Jesse Huff and Rob Rivett from Fair Oaks Church spoke on behalf of the congregation of the church.

Motion was sustained to approve the examination of TE Donny Butkus, including his exceptions to the Westminster Standards, and receive him into full membership in the EPC Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest from the EPC Presbytery of the West, pending their approval of his transfer.

Motion was sustained to approve the Administrative Commission of TE's Cliff Graves from Fair Oaks Church and Dave Huusko from Hope Presbyterian Church, Folsom, CA and RE's David Araldi, Karina Fielden, Jesse Huff and Rob Rivett from Fair Oaks Church, and Lynn Jordan from Fremont Presbyterian Church, Sacramento, CA to install Donny Butkus as Pastor of Fair Oaks Church, Fair Oaks, CA on September 24, 2023 at 6:00 pm.

Donny was invited back into the main session and was greeted with a virtual standing ovation.

TE David Abdo prayed for Donny and the church in this new season.

18-6 Adjournment and Closing Prayer

Moderator Roberts

Moderator Roberts thanked the members and commissioners for their participation.

Motion was sustained to adjourn the meeting

Moderator Roberts closed the meeting with prayer at 10:20 am.

RE Lana Roberts, Moderator

RE Mark Eshoff, Stated Clerk