

**CHRISTIAN CHURCH MICHIGAN REGION
DRAFT REGIONAL BYLAWS**

MAY 15, 2023

I. REGIONAL ASSEMBLY

1. ~~Voting Privileges. All persons who register for~~ Voting members of the Regional Assembly shall ~~be have all privileges of the Assembly, except that voting privileges shall be limited to~~
 - a. ~~three voting representatives from each recognized congregation consisting of one woman, one man and one young adult under the age of twenty six,~~
 - b. one additional voting representative from each recognized congregation for each one hundred participating members over the first hundred members (51 or greater will be recognized as the next 100 members)
 - c. ministers in standing in the Region
 - d. members of the Regional Board, and
 - e. one representative from each recognized Christian body as designated in the Bylaws.
2. Meetings. Regular meetings of the Regional Assembly shall be held bicannually at a time and place to be fixed by the Regional Assembly or the Regional Board. Special meetings of the Regional Assembly may be called by the Regional Board, provided that the meeting notice is mailed to all recognized congregations at least thirty days prior to the date of the special meeting.
3. Quorum. A quorum for the transaction of business by the Regional Assembly shall be at least 40% of the persons with voting privileges who are registered and certified as present by the Executive Committee, provided that at least 25% of the recognized congregations are present.
4. Committees. Additional ad hoc committees may be established by either the Regional Assembly or the Regional Board.

~~5.~~

~~a. Time and Place Committee. The Regional Assembly Planning Committee shall serve as the Regional Assembly Time and Place Committee. This committee shall be responsible for recommending to the Regional Assembly through the Regional Board the location and dates for the Regional Assembly. The committee shall be responsible to the Regional Board.~~

~~Credentials Committee. Prior to the first regular meeting of the Regional Board following the Regional Assembly, the moderator shall appoint, subject to ratification by the Regional Board, a Regional Assembly Credentials Committee composed of one congregational member of the Region from each of the recognized regional districts. The moderator shall appoint one of these persons to be chairperson. This committee shall be responsible for receiving names of representatives from recognized congregations and other groups prior to the Regional Assembly sessions and for certifying voting members of the Regional Assembly during Regional Assembly sessions. The committee shall be responsible to the Regional Board, except that it shall be responsible to the Regional Assembly during Assembly sessions.~~

~~Business Committee. The Regional Executive Committee shall serve as the Regional Assembly Business Committee prior to and during sessions of the Assembly. This committee shall be responsible for receiving business items for transmission to the Regional Assembly, except for business items originating with the Regional Board; for determining if a business item qualifies as an emergency business item; and to formulate revisions of business items if requested by the Assembly. This committee shall be responsible to the Regional Board, except that it shall be responsible to the Regional Assembly during Assembly sessions.~~

6.4. ~~Priority Planning Committee. The committee of the Regional Board responsible for priority, planning and evaluation shall serve as the Regional Assembly Priority Planning Committee prior to and during sessions of the Regional Assembly. This committee shall be responsible for planning and conducting a process by which the Regional Assembly may consider and adopt priorities for the next two years. This committee shall be responsible to the Regional Board, except that it shall be responsible to the Regional Assembly during Assembly sessions.~~

7.5. Business Items.

~~a. Regular Business Items. All regular business items may be submitted to the Assembly by or through the Regional Assembly Business Committee by being transmitted. Any recognized congregation or constituency group of the Region, any unit or region of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), or any recognized Christian body may submit a business item to the Regional Assembly by transmitting it to the office of the Regional Minister at least sixty days prior to the Regional Assembly. The Regional Minister shall in turn submit all such items to the Regional Assembly Business Committee. Such items may be submitted by any recognized congregation or constituency group of the Region, any unit or region of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), or any recognized Christian body and all such items will be transmitted to the Regional Assembly. The Business Committee shall then study and review all submitted business items, making Executive Committee may make editorial changes for purposes of style or clarity, if necessary, and shall append to each business item any explanatory or clarifying comment it deems necessary. The Business Committee Executive Committee or a delegate shall then transmit all such business items, plus all business items originating with the Regional Board, to the recognized congregations of the Region and persons having voting privileges in the Regional Assembly at least thirty days prior to the Regional Assembly. All business items shall then be submitted to the Regional Assembly in appropriate resolution form. Such business items will be before the Assembly without the necessity of a second when so submitted by the Business Committee. Resolutions may be adopted, as amended as outlined in paragraph (ed) of this Bylaw, referred to a group within the regional structure, or not adopted by the Assembly in session. Business items not considered by the Regional Assembly during business sessions shall be referred to the Regional Board. Interim action may be taken within established policy of the Regional Assembly, subject in all matters to a review of its action by the next Regional Assembly.~~

b.a.

~~c. b. Emergency Business Items.~~ An item of business not submitted as a regular business item may be considered by the Regional Assembly if it is deemed an emergency item. An item

of business may be considered as an emergency if its content is of such nature that it could not have been regularly submitted sixty days prior to the Assembly session. Such items of business shall be submitted to the ~~Regional Assembly Business Executive~~ Committee by five or more voting members of the Regional Assembly. The ~~Regional Assembly Business Executive~~ Committee shall determine if such items qualify as emergency items and, if so, report each one individually to the Assembly session as an emergency business item. Emergency business items shall be considered by the Assembly in the same fashion as regular business items.

~~d.b.~~

~~c. If no voting member objects to a business item, it will be passed. If any voting members object to a business item, a reconciliation committee will be formed including 2-3 of the members who objected, chosen by the objectors; an equal number of voting members chosen by the congregation or body that submitted the business item, and a facilitator. The committee will meet immediately. The reconciliation committee may propose an amended proposal. If the reconciliation committee does not agree on a proposal, the original business item will be presented to the Assembly a second time. The amended or reconsidered proposal will pass if it is approved by two-thirds of the voting members present.~~

~~d. e. Amendment of Business Items. Business items submitted to the Regional Assembly shall be submitted as originally written, except that the Regional Assembly Business Committee may make editorial changes for purposes of style or clarity. Amendments to business items may be proposed on the floor of the Assembly. Amendments will be passed if approved by two-thirds of voting members present and voting. If proposed amendments are lengthy or if an amendment will require other language changes in the business item, the moderator or the Assembly may refer the business item to a reconciliation committee as specified in Bylaw 2.c. the Regional Assembly Business Committee for appropriate revisions. The Business Committee shall make every effort to insure that the referred item is brought back to the Assembly session prior to the conclusion of the Regional Assembly.~~

~~e. When the slate of nominees is properly before the Assembly as a business item, nominations may be made from the floor for any position for which a nominee is required. Each nomination shall be made in writing by a group of no fewer than ten voting members of the Regional Assembly. Each person so nominated shall consent to their nomination, and shall meet all qualifications for the position set forth in the Constitution, By-Laws, and Policy Manualies.~~

~~6. Rules of Procedure:~~

~~7.~~

~~8.6.~~ The Regional Assembly shall adopt Rules of Procedure to govern Assembly sessions. Such rules, or amendments to existing rules, shall be proposed by the Regional Board as a regular business item, and shall become effective when adopted by the Regional Assembly by ~~at least a majority a~~ vote of ~~those voting for that business item~~ the Assembly. Proposed Rules of Procedure and proposed amendments to such Rules shall take precedence over other business

items at an Assembly session, and shall be considered at the beginning of any Assembly business session.

~~9. Quorum.~~

~~10.—~~

~~11.7. If a quorum is not present at any business session of the Regional Assembly, matters to be considered shall be referred to the next business session. If a quorum is not present at the final business session, matters which were to have been considered shall be referred to the Regional Board, which may take interim action within established policy of the Regional Assembly, subject in all matters to a review of its action by the next Regional Assembly.~~

II. REGIONAL BOARD

~~1.—~~

~~2. Duties and Responsibilities.~~

~~3.—~~

~~4. Policy, Program Goals and Budgets. In keeping with the constitutional mandate to establish policies, program goals and budgets based upon priorities adopted by the Regional Assembly, the Regional Board shall receive such priorities at its first meeting after their adoption and consider such priorities as the basis of all actions. The Regional Board shall~~

~~5. communicate those priorities to all standing commissions and other groups of the Region;~~

~~6. receive from all standing commissions and other groups programming and budget proposals designed to give concrete expression to those priorities;~~

~~7. adopt policies, program goals and budgets for the Region consistent with those priorities and proposals from the standing commissions and other groups;~~

~~8. evaluate the achievement of programs and events based on program goals adopted;~~

~~9. oversee the regional budget to insure that the finances of the Region are appropriately used in the light of regional priorities and program goals; and~~

~~10. review the monitoring activities of the Executive Committee.~~

~~11.—~~

~~12.1. Regional Management. In keeping with the constitutional mandate to manage the affairs of the Region, t~~The Regional Board shall

~~a. recommend to the Regional Assembly the calling of a Regional Minister;~~

~~b. call and employ the Associate Regional Ministers and all other employed staff, except for office and summer staff;~~

~~c. determine the compensation and job descriptions and duration of service of all staff;~~

~~d. consult and confer with regional staff members;~~

~~e. buy, sell or encumber property within established policy of the Regional Assembly;~~

a. borrow funds against the credit of the Region; Manage the resources of the region, and set policies and procedures, for the purpose of carrying out the region's ministry and vision.

Ensure that the ministry of the region is carried out in accordance with relevant ethical guidelines defined by the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

b.

~~f. Take interim action between meetings of the Regional Assembly, subject in all matters to a review of its actions by the next Regional Assembly;~~ and

~~g. In no case shall the Regional Board nor the Executive Committee nor any others, sell or encumber any part of the property known as the Crystal Conference Center/Camp Crystal without the explicit, specific, prior approval of the Regional Assembly.~~

h.c.

~~i. assume~~ Assume and discharge any other responsibilities assigned in the Constitution or Bylaws, and take any other action necessary for the business of the region, as may be assigned to it by the Regional Assembly.

j.d.

2. If no voting member objects to a business item, it will be passed. If any voting members object to a business item, a reconciliation committee will be formed including 2-3 of the members who objected, chosen by the objectors; an equal number of voting members chosen by the congregation or body that submitted the business item, and a facilitator. The committee will meet immediately. The reconciliation committee may propose an amended proposal. If the reconciliation committee does not agree on a proposal, the original business item will be presented to the Assembly a second time. The amended or reconsidered proposal will pass if it is approved by 80% of the voting members present.

3. Meetings ~~The Regional Board shall meet at least twice a year.~~

~~The Regional Board shall organize its two regular meetings each year in the following manner:~~

- ~~• One meeting shall primarily be concerned with program goals and budgets for the coming year, based on the priorities adopted by the Regional Assembly. An orientation shall be provided to acquaint the Board with its work and the work of the Region and to allow the Regional Board to become a cohesive group.~~
- ~~• The meeting held approximately in the middle of the fiscal year shall primarily be concerned with the review of programs, events and budgets of the Region and the establishment of regional policies.~~
- ~~•~~
- ~~• Committees.~~
- ~~• Priority Committee. At the beginning of each biennium, the moderator shall appoint a Regional Board Priority Committee composed of the vice-moderator as chairperson and two at large members of the Regional Board. This committee shall~~
- ~~• serve as the Regional Assembly Priority Planning Committee;~~
- ~~• review the entire program of the Region in order to insure that the priorities adopted by the Regional Assembly find expression in the total life of the Region; and~~

- ~~report to the last meeting of the Regional Board during a biennium the achieved progress toward the adopted priorities of that biennium~~
- ~~Other Committees. Other committees composed of voting members of the Regional Board and/or others with special skills may be appointed by the moderator as needs arise. e. Task Forces. Task forces composed of members of the Region may be appointed by the moderator as needs arise.~~

III. PROGRAMMING GROUPS/BOARD COMMISSIONS

Commission and Committee Membership

Commissions and committees shall be limited to a maximum of seven members, no more than two-thirds of which shall be reappointments from the immediate past committee. No person shall serve more than six years continuously as a member of the same commission or committee. ~~All standing commissions and other committees and groups referred to in this Bylaw shall be composed of persons representing as broad a spectrum as possible of total regional membership. Due regard shall be given to representation by all groups of the Region, including groups based on age, gender, race and ministerial status.~~

Actions of board commissions shall be approved by consensus of members voting and present. If a commission has a two-thirds majority in favor of a motion but is unable to reach consensus, the chair may refer the item to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee may approve a motion approved by the two-thirds majority of the commission.

IV. MINISTRIES

1. A ministry may be created by the Regional Board or Regional Assembly. A ministry consists of one or more persons who carry out a specific ministry consistent with the mission of the Region. The Board or Assembly may define specific requirements for membership, meeting, duration, and activity for a ministry, modify those requirements, or close the ministry. The moderator can create a ministry, subject to approval of the Regional Board at its next meeting.
2. Ministries will collaborate through the Ministry Leadership Team.
 - a. Each ministry will have one representative on the Ministry Leadership Team.
 - b. The Finance and Stewardship Commission and Anti-Racism Commission will have one representative on the Ministry Leadership Team.
 - c. The vice-moderator of the region will be a member of the Ministry Leadership Team.
3. The purpose of the Ministry Leadership Team is to
 - a. Identify areas where ministries can work together to support the region's mission
 - b. Collaborate on events or ongoing activities
 - c. Allow ministries to support and learn from each other (for example, Green Chalice could suggest ways to make events more friendly; Anti-Racism could suggest ways to ensure that our publicity materials are anti-racist, etc.)

V. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. The Executive Committee shall be composed of the officers of the region: moderator, vice moderator, secretary, treasurer, and Representative to the General Board. The Regional Minister shall serve as an ex-officio non-voting members of the Executive Committee.

2. The Executive Committee shall meet as needed.
3. A quorum for the transaction of business by the Executive Committee shall be 51% of the voting members of the Committee.
4. Actions of the Executive Committee shall be approved by consensus of voting members present.
5. The Executive Committee shall have the following duties:
 - a. To perform duties of the Regional Board between meetings of that body.
 - b. To create and distribute the agenda for each Regional Board meeting. The agenda and all supporting materials should be delivered to the Board at least 3 days prior to the scheduled meeting.
 - c. To support the Regional Assembly as described in Bylaw 1.
6. If a commission or ministry team has not met since the previous Regional Board meeting, the Executive Committee may add items normally considered by the commission or team to the Regional Board agenda when requested by a member of the region.

VI. REGIONAL OFFICES

1. Officers are assigned responsibilities in the Constitution, By-Laws, and Policy Manualies. The regional policy manual shall include a complete job description for each officer that includes all responsibilities assigned to their position in the Constitution, By-Laws, and Policy Manualpolicies. Any changes to an officer's responsibilities will be reflected in an update to the job description.

1.2. The general responsibilities of the Regional elective officers are include:

a. Moderator. The moderator shall preside over the business meetings of the Regional Assembly, the Regional Board and the Executive Committee, and shall counsel consult regularly with the Regional Minister, ~~may serve ex officio on groups of the Region, and shall give leadership to the total program of the Region.~~ Upon the vacancy in an elected office the Moderator shall nominate a person to fill the office subject to approval by the Regional Board.

b. Vice Moderator. The vice moderator shall perform the duties of the moderator in the absence of that officer and shall serve ~~as the chairperson of the committee of the Regional Board responsible for priority planning and evaluation on the Ministry Planning Team.~~

c. Secretary. The secretary shall be responsible for the recording and filing of minutes of all meetings of the Regional Assembly, the Regional Board and the Executive Committee and the maintenance of the regional policy manual.

d. Treasurer. The treasurer shall be responsible for the fiscal operations of the Region and shall serve as chairperson of the Finance and Stewardship Commission.

e. Regional Representative to the General Board. The regional representative to the General Board shall represent the Region in meetings of the General Board of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

~~VII. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS~~

~~1. Nominating Committee.~~

~~The nominating committee shall be appointed by the moderator immediately following the Regional Assembly.~~

~~2. Nominating Slate.~~

~~The nominating committee shall prepare a slate of nominees consisting of one name for each regional officer, each chairperson of a standing commission and up to six members at large. Each person nominated:~~

- ~~(1) shall have been active in the work of the Church;~~
- ~~(2) shall be highly qualified to serve in the nominated position and as a member of the Regional Board;~~
- ~~(3) shall have been contacted personally by a member of the nominating committee regarding the candidacy;~~
- ~~(4) shall have received a copy of the constitutional and bylaw requirements of the position; and~~
- ~~(5) shall have given consent to the nomination and agreement to serve in accordance with the constitution and bylaws.~~

~~3. Developing and Reporting of the Slate.~~

~~At least two months prior to the Regional Assembly the nominating committee shall report the slate to the Regional Assembly Business Committee. The Business Committee shall consider the report as a regular business item for the Regional Assembly, and thus submit it to recognized congregations and to the Regional Assembly itself.~~

~~Half of the officers/chairpersons of standing commissions and at large members of the Regional Board are elected each year for two terms. Year A: Moderator, Vice Moderator, Personnel Chair, Ecumenism Chair and three at large. Year B: Treasurer, Secretary, Church Growth & Vitality Chair, Ministry Chair, Crystal Chair and three at large.~~

~~The Representative to the General Board is elected every four years as per the Constitution. The UCC Representative to the Regional Board is elected according to the schedule of that body.~~

~~4. Nominations from the Floor.~~

~~When the slate of nominees is properly before the Assembly as a business item, nominations may be made from the floor for any position for which a nominee is required. Each nomination shall be made in writing by a group of no fewer than ten voting members of the Regional Assembly, and each person so nominated shall have complied with all provisions except provision (3) of paragraph (2) above of this Bylaw.~~

VII.VII. RECOGNIZED BODIES

~~1. Recognized Congregations. Regional endorsement of The Regional Board shall consider an existing congregation's request for recognition shall be by action of the Regional Board. Such recognition shall be considered by the Regional Board upon certification by when the Regional Minister certifies that the congregation has complied with the provisions of the Design of the Christian Church. A new congregation also requires provisions (1) and (2) of paragraph (a) above, and, in the event of a new congregation, upon certification by the Church Growth & Vitality Commission-New Church Ministry that the congregation has been established in accordance~~

with regional guidelines and with due regard to the legitimate concerns of existing congregations. ~~When such endorsement is voted by the Regional Board the congregation shall be considered a recognized congregation of the Region, and the Regional Minister shall attest the same to the office of the General Minister and President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).~~

~~2.~~

~~3.1. Withdrawal of Recognition. Any When a congregation seeking withdrawal of recognition shall follow completes the procedures outlined in the Design of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). ~~When such procedures are completed,~~ the Regional Minister shall report certify the same to the office of the General Minister and President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) that ,and the congregation shall should no longer be considered a recognized congregation of the Region.~~

~~4.2. Recognized Constituency Groups.~~

~~a. A recognized constituency group~~

~~(1) shall be composed of members of the Region;~~

~~(2) shall be available-open to all members of the Region ~~who share the same geography, age, gender, race or other descriptive designation;~~~~

~~(3) shall adopt a governing document spelling out the group's purpose and method of operation, which document shall be submitted to and approved by the Regional Board~~

~~(4) shall be governed by the Region's fiscal year, including the terms of its officers;~~

~~(5) shall embrace as its own the purposes of the Region, giving due regard to the priorities and program goals of the Region;~~

~~(4) shall include its budget as part of the overall regional budget;~~

~~(6)~~

~~(5) (8) shall Shall be responsible-provide reports to the Regional Assembly and the Regional Board.~~

~~(6) Shall be governed by actions taken by the Regional Assembly and the Regional Board.~~

~~b. Recognition. Recognition of groups seeking the status of a recognized constituency group shall be by action of the Regional Board. Such recognition shall be considered by the Regional Board upon application by the group through the office of the Regional Minister, and upon certification by the Regional Minister that the group has complied with the provisions of paragraph (a) above. ~~A vote by the Regional Board to grant the recognition shall be in the form of an amendment to the Bylaws.~~~~

~~c. Recognized Groups. Recognized constituency groups of the Region are:~~

~~(1) Disciples Women's Ministries~~

~~(2) Disciples Men;~~

~~(3) East District;~~

~~(4) North District;~~

~~(5) West District;~~

~~(6) Young Adult Christian Fellowship.~~

IX. STAFF

~~1. Personnel Guidelines.~~

~~The Personnel Commission shall be responsible to recommend to the Regional Board~~

~~complete personnel guidelines for the Region, which shall include job descriptions, working conditions, evaluation and grievance procedures, and all other matters relating to the regional staff. Such guidelines, upon adoption by the Regional Board, shall be administered by the Personnel Commission.~~

~~2. Acting Regional Minister.~~

~~a. Regional Minister. When the Regional Minister will be absent from the office for a month or longer by virtue of a vacation or sabbatical, the Personnel Commission will be included as the plans are made. Part of the planning will include a recommendation to the Executive Committee for an Acting Regional Minister and ultimately to the Regional Board who will approve the individual.~~

~~b. Regional Minister. If the Regional Minister is absent from the office for a period of one week with the expectation that the time may be at least a month by virtue of being incapacitated for any reason, the Personnel Commission will invite the advice of the General Minister and President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) regarding persons who might be available to serve as Acting Regional Minister. Then the Personnel Commission will recommend a person(s) to be the Acting Regional Minister to a special-called meeting of the Executive Committee who may issue the call. The Personnel Commission will monitor the progress of the Regional Minister and report same to the Executive Committee who will determine the time when the Region will need to move to call another person to become the Regional Minister.~~

~~3. Vacancies.~~

~~a. Regional Minister. When a vacancy exists in the office of the Regional Minister, the moderator shall appoint a special search committee composed of the chairperson of the Personnel Commission as chairperson and six others to reflect the current Executive Search Model and be approved by the Executive Committee. This committee shall consult with the General Minister and President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and with any other group or individuals it sees fit. The committee shall be guided in its deliberations by the ethical standards of ministerial relocation in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), including the stipulation that the committee may be in negotiation with only one minister at a time. At the conclusion of its deliberations the committee shall recommend to the Regional Board a minister in standing with the Christian Church~~

~~(Disciples of Christ) to be the new Regional Minister.~~

~~b. Associate Regional Ministers. When a vacancy exists in the office of an Associate Regional Minister, the moderator shall appoint a search committee composed of the Personnel Commission, the chairpersons of the standing commissions responsible for the portfolio area involved, and the Regional Minister. The chairperson of the Personnel Committee shall serve as chairperson of the search committee. This committee shall consult with general units of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and with any other group or individuals it sees fit. The committee shall be guided in its deliberations by the ethical standard of ministerial relocation in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), including the stipulation that the committee may be in negotiation with only one person at a time. At the conclusion of its deliberations the committee, with the concurrence of the Regional Minister, shall recommend to the Regional Board a person to be the new Associate Regional Minister.~~

~~c. Other Staff. When a vacancy exists in any other staff position, the Regional Minister shall be responsible for the securing of qualified personnel. The Regional Minister shall consult with the Executive Committee in the event of securing a new Crystal Conference Center Manager. The Regional Minister may delegate to the Office Manager the responsibility of securing other office personnel, and may delegate to the Crystal Conference Center Manager the responsibility of securing summer personnel for the Crystal Conference Center. The Regional Minister shall consult with Disciples Women's Ministries Commission in the event of securing a new Women's Ministries Consultant.~~

~~4. Terminations~~

~~The indefinite term of the Regional Minister and the Associate Regional Ministers may be terminated with ninety days notice by the Regional Board upon recommendation received from the Personnel Commission. The employment of other staff may be terminated by the Regional Minister upon two weeks' notice, except that summer Crystal Conference Center staff may be terminated at the end of any week with cause. The Office Manager and the Crystal Conference Center Manager may be delegated by the Regional Minister to act on behalf of the Regional Minister in the case of other office personnel and summer Crystal Conference Center personnel, provided that the Regional Minister is consulted prior to such proposed action.~~

~~**X. FISCAL YEAR**~~

~~The fiscal year of the Region shall be the calendar year from January 1 through December 31.~~

~~**XI.VIII. POLICY STATEMENTS**~~

Statements setting forth procedures may be issued by any group within the Region. When such statements are adopted or approved by the Regional Board, the procedures become regional policies, applying to the entire Region and entered into a Regional Policy Manual. Policy statements shall be adopted, amended or rescinded ~~only upon a simple majority by a~~ vote of the Regional Board.

~~**XI.IX. DELEGATES TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY**~~

Persons delegated to represent the Region in meetings of the General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) shall be appointed by consensus of the moderator, ~~with the advice and consent of~~ the vice moderator, and the Regional Minister. Persons delegated to represent the Region in meetings of other bodies shall ~~be elected by the appropriate standing commission and~~

~~the election ratified by the Regional Board. All such delegates shall be responsible to the Regional Board and to the electing standing commission, and shall make regular reports to the standing commission or, in the case of General Assembly delegates, to the Regional Board or a delegate.~~

XIII.X. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Unless superseded by adopted Rules of Procedure, the standard for all parliamentary procedures of the Region shall be the most recent revision of Robert's Rules of Order. ~~Each body of the Region may modify its rules of procedure. Such Rules of Procedure for all groups other than the Regional Assembly shall be approved by the Regional Board before becoming effective.~~

~~For most organizations in which people share a sense of trust and common vision, simple rules are enough to run meetings in a friendly, yet efficient manner without the need for using hundreds of specific and sometimes obscure rules of parliamentary procedure.~~

XIV.XI. AMENDMENTS

These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting at a meeting of the Regional Board, or a higher threshold defined in the Constitution and By-Laws, ~~provided that the proposed change was in the hands of voting members of the Regional Board at least one month prior to the meeting of the Regional Board.~~