

Sovereign Grace Churches Council of Elders Meeting Minutes
Zoom Call, November 10, 2020

1. **Call to Order.** Mark Prater (Mark), executive director, called to order the meeting on Tuesday, November 10, 2020 at 12pm ET on Zoom Call.
 - a. **New Churches Recognized.** Mark Prater recognized new churches joining Sovereign Grace: Prattville, Alabama; Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; Silao, Mexico; and Guadalajara, Mexico.
2. **Roll Call.** Mark conducted a roll call. 74 of 78 total delegates were present, representing a quorum.
3. **State of the Union of Sovereign Grace Churches.** Mark gave the annual State of the Union address for Sovereign Grace Churches.
4. **Recognize Rules Committee.** The Rules Committee. (per BCO 15.4.3.1) has three members from the Polity Committee. The members for this meeting were Devon Kauflin, Bart Lipscomb, and Aaron Law.
5. **Vote for Executive Committee members.** The delegates voted electronically on three open positions for the Executive Committee. Wayne Brooks, Brian Chesemore, and Andy Farmer were elected to the executive committee on the first ballot.
6. **Affirmation vote for Polity Committee members.** The following elders were affirmed by electronic vote to serve on the Polity Committee: Bruce Chick, Chad Haygood, and Marty Machowski.
7. **Affirmation vote for Court of Appeal members.** The following elder was affirmed by electronic vote to serve on the Court of Appeals: Alex Chen.
8. **Affirmation vote for Theology Committee members.** The following elders were affirmed by electronic vote to serve on the Theology Committee: Mark Alderton, Walt Alexander, Josh Blount, Rick Gamache, and Matthew Williams.
9. **Affirmation vote for Response Committee for Sexual Misconduct members.** The following elders were affirmed by electronic vote serve on the Response Committee for Sexual Misconduct: Steve Bice and Larry Malament.

Leadership Team Update. *Eric Turbedsky gave an update on church planting in Sovereign Grace Churches.*

10. **Response Committee for Sexual Misconduct Update.** Aaron Mayfield, Chairman, gave an update from this committee.

Sovereign Grace Churches Council of Elders Meeting Minutes
Zoom Call, November 10, 2020

11. **Executive Committee Update.** Ken Mellinger, Acting Chairman, gave an update from the Executive Committee.

***Leadership Team Update.** Mickey Connolly gave an update on Church Development and Care.*

12. **Polity Committee Update.** Marty Machowski, Chairman, gave an update from the Polity Committee.

13. **Proposed Amendments to the Book of Church Order (BCO).** Mark moderated the presentation of proposed amendments to the BCO. Amendments to the BCO are governed by Section 15.3.3 and require a simple majority vote to be adopted. The BCO, as amended is available on our website.

***Sovereign Grace Music Update.** Bob Kauflin gave an update on Sovereign Grace Music.*

14. New Business Motions.

- a. The motion requesting the Executive Committee and Tommy Hill (Director of Finance) to review the current allocations of giving to Sovereign Grace between central and regions and report back to the CoE in 2021 was approved by electronic vote.
- b. The motion requesting the Polity Committee to review the current language in the BCO on public and private rebukes of elders and suggest possible amendments in 2021 was approved by electronic vote.

***Leadership Team Update.** Dave Taylor gave an update on Sovereign Grace work in Emerging Nations.*

15. **Vote to Affirm Sovereign Grace Churches FYE August 31, 2021 Budget.** Mark presented the FY20 budget for affirmation by the CoE. The Executive Committee approved the budget on August 19, 2020. The budget was approved unanimously by electronic vote.

***Leadership Team Update.** Jared Mellinger gave an update on the planned Sovereign Grace Churches Journal.*

16. **Theology Committee Update.** Jeff Purswell, chair, gave an update from the Theology Committee including a review of the history of the work on the new Statement of Faith (to be voted on) that started in October 2013.

17. **Presentation and Final Vote to ratify the new Statement of Faith.** The final version of the new Statement of Faith was ratified by a unanimous voice vote. Final ratification of the new

Sovereign Grace Churches Council of Elders Meeting Minutes
Zoom Call, November 10, 2020

Statement of Faith requires approval by 75% of the Sovereign Grace Regions (approved unanimously by all regions by November 30, 2020).

18. Meeting Adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 6.17pm ET on November 10, 2020.