

**“Presbytery Responsibilities in a Year Following GA”**  
**Workshop for new Presbytery Moderators**  
**October 29, 2016 – Louisville, KY**

Welcome and brief introduction; prayer

So, June 25, 2017. Significance? This is the date by which each of our 171 presbyteries need to submit their votes to the General Assembly on each of the 16 amendments to the *Book of Order* proposed by the 222<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly for the presbyteries’ consideration.

What are some options about how to present this to your presbytery and how you might lay out a process for discussion and voting on these proposed amendments?

- Encourage presbyters to prepare for the meeting
  - Order copies of the booklet of amendments (also available for download – [www.pcusa.org/resource/ga222-proposed-amendments-constitution/](http://www.pcusa.org/resource/ga222-proposed-amendments-constitution/))
  - Utilize the analysis of these amendments that has been prepared by the Association of Stated Clerks – [www.statedclerk.org/resources](http://www.statedclerk.org/resources)
  - Prepare an overview or summary of the amendments for study/review beforehand. (*See sample handout as one model for this.*)
  - Make sure presbyters know they can view the actual actions of the General Assembly, along with rationale and other background information, by going to [www.pc-biz.org](http://www.pc-biz.org).
- Plan for what will happen at the presbytery meeting
  - Will a committee be bringing analysis and/or recommendations?
    - Vote on the **amendments**, not on the recommendation!
  - Will you vote separately on each amendment, use an omnibus motion or consent agenda for all? (If omnibus or consent, remember that anyone can ask that any item be pulled for separate consideration.)
  - Will you have a time limit for speakers?
  - Remember that if discussions become passionate and/or argumentative, speakers should address you, not each other!
  - Who will prepare ballots? Who will count ballots? Who will announce the results of the voting? (*See sample ballot.*)

What happens after the meeting?

- How will you communicate to the Presbytery the voting?
- How will the results be reported to GA? (*Make sure your Stated Clerk gets this done before the deadline.*)
- Will you keep track of the running totals? (*Available on a pcusa.org web page, which I don’t believe is ready yet.*)

Other questions, concerns, observations, or comments?

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