

## Agendum for the Ordination Council

This agendum reflects suggestions in “Recommended Procedures” and includes additional insights and clarifications from ordination councils in the past.

- Opening Prayer
- Introductions
  - Candidate for ordination and family, special friends
  - Sponsor for candidate
  - Ministerial Concerns and Standards Department
    - Special note should be made of the persons acting as moderator and the secretary of the council
  - ABC/NW region staff and/or representative for ABC/NW
- Role call of churches present and number of voting delegates
  - see 4.D.1.c. and Addendum #6
- Explanation of the general process to be followed at the council and the values which undergird this event – by the moderator of the council or ABC/NW region staff
- Description of what the candidate has completed to this point, including call to a particular ministry
  - See 4.E.
  - Letters read as given in 4.D.3.b.
- Guidelines for the conduct of the council will be shared
  - Role of the sponsor explained – 4.D.4.b.
  - General time allowed for the questions and discussion given
- Examination of the candidate through discussion of the paper
  - Going through the paper section by section seems to work best
  - Moderator needs to keep tabs on the time
  - Time should be allowed for questions to the candidate not necessarily covered in the paper
    - Special thought should be given to ministry situation scenarios; i.e., giving the candidate a typical ministry event and asking what his/her response would be
  - After the question period has ended, the candidate and family and sponsor\* are excused from the meeting. Give thought ahead of time to where the candidate might wait, looking for a comfortable place and providing some refreshment if possible

- Discussion by the council of eligibility for ordination follows. The discussion seeks to discern one of the following:
  - Recommend to the church that ordination proceed
  - Recommend to the church that ordination should be deferred to some future time, giving reasons for the deferment
  - Recommend to the church that ordination not take place.
- Once the decision has been made with vote recorded by the secretary, the candidate is informed
  - If the vote is to recommend to proceed with ordination, the candidate should be informed before the entire group
  - If the vote is to recommend to defer ordination or not to ordain, the chair of the council, secretary, sponsor and region staff or representative should meet privately with the candidate
- Closing prayer

Records of the proceedings should be in written form with copies to the local church, the department and the ABC/NW region office. Records should include

- Date and place of meeting
- Number of churches attending and number of delegates present
- Record of the recommendation and the actual number of the vote