

Stated Clerk Report

Presbytery of Blackhawk Assembly Meeting June 2, 2020

The following are some of the highlights of my work since the last assembly meeting.

Official Actions

1. Sent letters to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance to support congregations who applied for emergency grants
2. Worked with recording clerk to finalize minutes of last assembly meeting
3. Began reviewing church and clergy information on Stated Clerk portal looking for missing or out of date information.

Other Activity

4. Participated in meetings of Council, COM, Presbytery Assembly Planning, PLOET, COVID-19 Task Force, and Nominating Committee
5. Participated in weekly Association of Mid-Council Leader Zoom calls
6. Participated in weekly pastor care and share Zoom calls
7. Participated in Stated Clerk training for the upcoming General Assembly and held training for the GA Commissioners elected by Blackhawk Presbytery
8. Regularly answered question from pastor, congregations, and presbytery leaders on matters related to polity and parliamentary procedures.

REVISED WAIVER REQUEST REPLACING REQUEST DATED MAY 20, 2020

Dear Rev. Heinekamp:

The purpose of this email is to ask that The Presbytery of Blackhawk grant to First Presbyterian Church of Elgin ("FPCE") a waiver of the provisions of Section G-2.0404 of the Book of Order regarding term limits for ruling elders and deacons. Granting this waiver request would allow FPCE to complete filling two existing vacancies on its Board of Deacons. On May 19, 2020 the Session of FPCE unanimously approved a motion seeking this waiver. The Session took corrective action today to include both names on the waiver request.

Nominating new Board of Deacons members has faced the usual set of challenges. Two current members, Fran Channon and Roger Steffan, whose terms are expiring later this year, both play a leading role within the Board of Deacons structure. Both feel a clear calling to continue their ministry as a deacon at FPCE. A waiver grant would be a significant benefit to congregation of FPCE by allowing them to continue by beginning a new three year term.

Ron Barkby
Ruling Elder, Chair Personnel Committee