

**Presbytery of Geneva Minutes from May 2, 2014 Special Meeting
Draft – for approval at the June 7, 2014 Presbytery of Geneva Stated Meeting**

The Presbytery of Geneva met for a Special Meeting on Friday, May 2, 2014 at the Lyons Presbyterian Church, Lyons, NY.

The meeting was called to order by the Moderator, teaching elder Cheryl Peeples, at 4:15 p.m., and was opened with prayer.

The Moderator announced the appointment of teaching elder Steven W. Plank, a member of the Presbytery of Cayuga-Syracuse, as Stated Clerk Pro Tem for this meeting. A motion was made and seconded that he be seated as a corresponding member. After discussion, the motion was approved.

It was declared that a quorum was present. First-time ruling elders were introduced.

It was moved and seconded that Stephanie Annunziata, Vice-President of Heveron & Company Auditing Firm be given voice at the meeting for the purpose of explaining issues related to a forensic audit. The motion was approved.

It was moved and seconded that Beth Wood, sister of Joelle Davis, be given voice at the meeting for the purpose of speaking to the motion relating to the dissolution of the relationship between the Presbytery and Joelle Davis. The motion was approved.

The Moderator introduced people who would serve in this meeting as tellers for votes, and as the timekeeper during debates.

The call to this meeting was read by the Moderator, as follows:

Pursuant to and consistent with section G-11.0201 of the *Book of Order* 2009 - 2011 under which rules we have continued to operate, the General Council hereby calls for a special meeting of the Presbytery of Geneva at the request of several teaching elders and ruling elders. This meeting will be held at Lyons Presbyterian Church on Friday, May 2, at 4:00 pm. The items to be deliberated include:

1. Approving a forensic audit of all presbytery financial records including dedicated accounts and money market accounts from 2010 – 2013.
2. Dissolving the executive presbyter relationship between the Presbytery of Geneva and the Rev. Dr. Joelle S. Davis effective 6 months from the date of this meeting; rescinding her authority as Executive Presbyter effective immediately.
3. Any other business related to the above items.

Teaching elder, Cheryl R. Peeples
Moderator for the Presbytery of Geneva, 2014

The docket was adopted as read by the Moderator.

The Moderator explained the procedures that would be followed at this meeting.

The Presbytery was led in a time of worship and prayer.

Motion: to approve a forensic audit of all Presbytery financial records, including dedicated accounts and money market accounts from 2010-2013.

The Presbytery entered into consideration of the motion. During the course of the debate, Ms. Annunziata was asked to explain the nature of a forensic audit. After discussion, the Moderator asked if the Presbytery was prepared to vote. A presbyter requested that the vote be taken by ballot. The Presbytery proceeded to vote by ballot. The moderator announced the results: 21 yes, 64 no, 0 abstentions. The motion was **not approved**.

Motion: to dissolve the Executive Presbyter relationship between the Presbytery of Geneva and the Rev. Dr. Joelle S. Davis, effective six months from the date of this meeting, rescinding her authority as Executive Presbyter effective immediately.

A motion was made to object to the consideration of the question. The Stated Clerk explained the parliamentary process of the implications of this, as described in *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* (§26). The moderator called for a vote: "Shall the question be considered?" The question was answered, by the required majority, in the affirmative. The Presbytery entered into consideration of the motion.

Motion was made to refer this matter to General Council for a period of no less than three months. The motion was seconded. After discussion, the motion to refer was taken by ballot. The vote was 43 yes, 40 no, 0 abstentions. The Moderator declared the motion to refer was **approved**.

The moderator asked if there was any other business related to the call. Being none, a motion was made, seconded, and approved to adjourn. The meeting was closed with prayer at 6:13 p.m.

Rev. Steven W. Plank
Stated Clerk Pro Tem

Roll –

Teaching elders: David Ashby, Kirk Baker, Anne Campbell, Fred Coffman, Peter Crego, Betsey Crimmins, Joelle Davis, Harold Delhagen, Ellen Donnan, Russell Duncan, Steve Dygert, Jeff Falter, Nancy Farrell, Janice Fitzgerald, James Gerling, Deb Grohman, Gail Heimberger, Cynthia Huling Hummel, Timothy Johnson, Beverly Karr-Lyon, Jeffrey Kellam, Glenn Kennedy, James Kerr, David Kilgore, Jonathan Knight, Amy Loving, Thomas Montgomery, James Moore, Virginia Murray, Lucinda O'Leary, Suzanne Otterbacher, Cheryl Peeples, Marjory Roth, Russ Roth, Walter Stuber, Alice Tewell, A.J. Tierson, James Tyrrell, David VanWagnen, James Yao, Nancy Meehan Yao

Churches' Voting Elder Commissioners:

Arkport – Beth Haines
Atlanta – Bessie Tyrrell
Bath – Kathleen Swan
Bellona – Jane Hansen
Canandaigua – Ron Fulle
Cohocton – Linda Hodges
Corning – Kirk Allen
Dundee – Norman Willis
Elmira, First – Rehana Stanley
Elmira, North – Jeff Richards
Fairville – Bill Randolph
Geneva – Ellen Reynolds, Edwin Frick
Hammondsport – James Walling
Hornell – Cheryl A. Green
Horseheads – James Zearfoss
Huron – Lois Wafler
Junius – Kristi Ward
Lodi – Chris Budd
Lyons – Les Bartley
Moreland – Joyce Clark
Naples – Joann R. Braun
Newark – Paul Salisbury
Ontario Center – John Domm
Ovid – Roberta S. Morris
Palmyra – Philip R. Opdycke
Penn Yan – Sue Goodrich
Phelps – Nan Clark
Pulteney – Harriette O. Potter
Seneca Falls – Virginia Konz
Seneca #9 – Pam Ellis
Shortsville – Linda Kataskas
Sodus – James Hopkins
Spencer – C. Thomas Bailey
Trumansburg – Barbara Melvin
Waterloo – Helen Wadsworth
Watkins Glen – Karen Rhodes
Weston – Vera Dykes
Wolcott – Laurie Merrell-Parra

Lay Pastors: Priscilla Andrews, Steve Beals, Richard Schied

Voting Lay Members of General Council and Lay Chairpersons of Presbytery Committees:

Micah Beck, Diana Becker

Guests: Steve Plank (Cayuga-Syracuse Presbytery), Joseph Davis (Genesee Valley Presbytery), Carol Davis (Genesee Valley Presbytery), Elizabeth Wood (Genesee Valley Presbytery), Richard Wood (Genesee Valley Presbytery), Mary Kilgore (Hornell), Donna Colvin (Pulteney), Roseanna Bates (Pulteney), Penny Randolph (Fairville), Virginia Champlin (Geneva PW), Courtney Ormsby (Seneca #9), Amberley Heins (Prattsburgh), Penny Haynes (Junius), Kerth Brill (Newark), John Donaldson (Newark), Bill Doebler (Newark), Karen Doebler (Newark), Stephanie Annunziata, Robin Kerr-Wilson (Arkport), Ann Johnson (Asbury 1st United Methodist, Rochester), Karen Montgomery (Penn Yan), Gary Montgomery (Penn Yan), Greg Nassimos (Park), Susan Everdyke (Park), Glenn Everdyke (Park), Barbara Scudder (Bath), Carol Limner (Ovid), Carol Merrell (Wolcott), Regina Bailey (Spencer), Tracy Rankert (Lyons)

Total Voting members present:

Teaching elders	41
Ruling elder commissioners	39
Lay Pastors	3
Voting Commissioners	2

Total **85**