

**Sovereign Grace Churches Council of Elders Meeting Minutes**  
**October 31, 2022**

1. **Call to Order.** Mark Prater, Executive Director, called the meeting to order on Tuesday, October 31, 2022 at 1pm in Orlando, FL.
  - a. **New Churches Recognized.** Mark Prater recognized new churches joining Sovereign Grace in Santa Cruz, Bolivia, Manila, Philippines, Cebu City, Philippines, Pradesh, India, and Malvern, PA(USA).
2. **Roll Call.** Mark Prater conducted a roll call. 80 of 85 delegates were present, representing a quorum.
3. **State of the Union of Sovereign Grace Churches.** Mark Prater 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 Bruce Chick, Bart Lipscomb, and Aaron Law.
5. **Vote for Executive Committee Members.** The delegates voted on two open positions. Ken Mellinger and Bill Patton were elected.
6. **Affirmation Vote for Polity Committee Members.** The following elders were re-affirmed for three year terms: Bart Lipscomb and Jake Simmons.
7. **Affirmation Vote for Court of Appeal Members.** The following elder was re-affirmed for a six -year term: Scott Crook.
8. **Affirmation Vote for Theology Committee Members.** The following elder was re-affirmed for a three year term: Shawn Woo.
9. **National Committee Reports were presented:**
  - a. Response Committee for Sexual Misconduct, by Aaron Mayfield.
  - b. Theology Committee, by Jeff Purswell.
  - c. Executive Committee, by Ken Mellinger
  - d. Polity Committee, by Marty Machowski.
10. **Proposed Amendments to the Book of Church Order (BCO).** Mark Prater 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 at [www.SovereignGrace.com](http://www.SovereignGrace.com).

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**11. Present and affirm the Sovereign Grace budget for fiscal year 2022-2023.** Mark Prater presented the FY23 budget for affirmation by the CoE. The Executive Committee reviewed and approved the budget at their retreat in August 2022. The budget was affirmed by unanimous voice vote.

**12. Meeting Adjourned.** The meeting was adjourned at 8.00pm on October 31, 2022.