

# **The Synod of Eastern Australia**



## **Minutes**

### **Extraordinary Meeting of Synod 16<sup>th</sup> June 2020**

**Held by Video Conference**

**Called after the cancellation of the  
regular meeting set for May 2020  
due to government health restrictions  
as a result of Corona 19 virus pandemic**

**Presbyterian Church of Eastern Australia**

**1. OPENING**

The Synod of Eastern Australia met by Video Conference, under the oversight of the Moderator, on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2020, at 2.00pm. The Moderator, Rev Robin Tso, welcomed all in attendance, read the Scriptures from Hebrew 13, and constituted the meeting leading in prayer.

**2. THOSE IN ATTENDANCE**

The Moderator asked members to confirm their attendance. Those present were confirmed:

<b>Northern Presbytery</b>	<b>Ministers</b>	<b>Commissioned Elders</b>
Brisbane	JD Klazinga	S Carswell
Hastings	J Forbes	G Hamilton
Northern Rivers	DJ Kerridge	J Greensill
<b>Central Presbytery</b>		
Hawkesbury/Nepean	DK Muldoon	TM Reeve
Hunter/Barrington	R Tso	AH Steel
Manning	GD Ball	TI Leggott
St. George's	JA McCallum	DA McIntosh
<b>Southern Presbytery</b>		
Geelong		D Ramsay
Knox		C White #
All Nations	TW Yoa	RS Ward
Narre Warren	AA Miranda	J Disney #
Ulverstone		ID Hamilton

# Apologies for non-attendance received.

The Moderator welcomed Rev Ian Hall. It was resolved that Rev Ian Hall be associated with the court. The Moderator welcomed Mr John Audet as a visitor.

**20.3 CONFIRMATION OF MODERATOR'S ACTION IN CALLING THE MEETING.**

It was resolved to confirm the Moderator's action in calling the meeting as outlined.

**20.4 NEXT ORDINARY MEETING OF SYNOD**

Given the uncertainties with the Corona 19 Virus restrictions, on meetings and travel in particular, it was resolved as follows:

The next ordinary meeting of Synod to be from 4.30pm on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021 to 12.30pm on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2021 in Melbourne at a venue yet to be determined.

**20.5 REDRESS SCHEME:**

The Convener of Law & Advisory Committee spoke to the report and presented the proposed deliverance. After questions and discussion it was resolved as follows:

Synod approve the Presbyterian Church of Eastern Australia joining the Redress Scheme as outlined in the Law and Advisory Committee Report.

**20.6 STIPEND RELIEF FOR HAWKESBURY NEPEAN**

The Convener of the Finance Committee presented the proposed deliverance. It was resolved as follows:

Stipend Assistance of up to \$4000 for 2020/2021 be granted to Hawkesbury-Nepean Deacons' Courts as follows:

- Strictly on a quarterly needs basis.
- Applications be submitted to the General Treasurer on a calendar quarter basis ie commencing 1<sup>st</sup>

January/April/July/October and be accompanied with a Budget for the quarter being applied for.  
• Be subject to the availability of funds.

## **20.7 MISSIONS**

The convener spoke to the report and presented the proposed deliverances. A short video was also presented featuring Shakinah Hussain. It was resolved:

1. The Synod gives thanks to the Lord for the opportunity and privilege to be involved in the work of missions at home and abroad, both in giving, in praying and being directly involved during this past year.
2. Synod thanks Rev Klazinga for editing the bi-monthly prayer notes and encourages congregations to use these notes.
3. Synod agrees to support Rev Peter Smith, administrator with Australian Indigenous Ministries, with \$3000pa.
4. Synod agrees to support Shakinah Hussain as a short term missionary to Project Video in Thailand with \$10,000 in 2020/21 and \$5000 in 2021/22.
5. That Synod adopt the Missions Committee Budget 2020/21 and expresses its general agreement with the estimates for this period, but that an additional \$1200 would be restored to support the Annie Soper scholarships.

## **20.8 SYNOD TREASURER**

The Clerk reported that Mr John Audet was prepared to take on the position of Synod Treasurer and it was resolved that:

Synod appoint Mr John Audet, member at Narre Warren, as Synod Treasurer elect, and that he take up the position of Treasurer from the rising of Synod 2021, and such appointment to be dependent on Mr Audet subscribing to the 1952 Questions and Formula.

## **20.9 ADMISSION OF REV IAN HALL**

The Clerk of Southern Presbytery presented the proposed deliverance. It was resolved that:

Synod welcome Mr Hall's application and grants permission for Southern Presbytery to admit him to the ministry of the Presbyterian Church of Eastern Australia, subject to him subscribing to the 1952 Questions and Formula.

## **20.10 BANNER EDITOR**

The Convener of Church and Nation Committee presented the proposal. It was resolved as follows:

Synod appoint Rev Jim Klazinga as editor of the Presbyterian Banner and thanks Rev Dr Rowland Ward for his work as editor during the last 2½ years, the transition to occur with the August 2020 issue. Synod envisages the continuing production of a print copy, and an electronic copy, until a review can be considered at the next ordinary meeting of Synod.

## **20.11 CLOSURE OF SYNOD**

Mr Ball and others thanked the moderator for his preparation, presentation and leading of the meeting. The moderator led the court in prayer and closed the meeting at 5.40pm.

