

ACTS OF SYNOD 2007

Class 1 (Barrier Act Procedure)

No	Act	Reference
	None	

Class 2 (Others)

No	Act	Reference
1	Status of Minister in Presbytery	07.14
2	Mutual Eligibility Act (Orthodox Presbyterian Church)	07.22.12
3	Hamilton Property	07.31
4	Synod Delegates' Expenses	07.36.03
5	Capital Assistance Fund	07.37.07

CLASS 1 – ACTS WHICH HAVE PASSED THE BARRIER ACT

None

CLASS 2 – ACTS OF SYNOD OF GENERAL INTEREST TO THE CHURCH

ACT 1 – Status of Minister in Presbytery

Tuesday 8th May 2007

Minutes 07.14

That Synod declares that a minister is a member of Presbytery in respect of his status as a minister but his membership of the church as such belongs to the congregation he serves or to which he has attached himself, so that resignation, retirement or even deposition from the ministry does not automatically remove him from church membership. Synod direct that the name of the minister be added to the Communion Roll of the congregation he serves, if it is not already there, that this be taken into account when preparing statistics to avoid double counting, and that the Handbook (2.10) be adjusted accordingly when next reprinted.

ACT 2 – Mutual Eligibility Act (Orthodox Presbyterian Church)

Tuesday 8th May 2007

Minutes 07.22.12

The Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Eastern Australia (PCEA) recognises in the Orthodox Presbyterian Church (USA) a church whose doctrines and contendings are similar to its own with adherence to the Westminster Confession of Faith a major requirement for office bearers. The Synod notes the long and cordial relationship which has been shared by both as members of the RES and now as members of the ICRC. The Synod desires to establish a relationship with the OPC in terms of our Fraternal Relations Act (1993) in the hope that we may be able to deepen and further strengthen the bond of fellowship between us. Accordingly the Synod seek recognition by the OPC of the PCEA as a Church in Corresponding Relations.

The Synod of the PCEA understands and is satisfied that OPC Presbyteries may issue calls to ministers of the PCEA, and likewise affirms the right of the PCEA Presbyteries to process calls to OPC ministers. In neither case does this mutual eligibility impinge on the right and responsibility of the relevant OPC or PCEA Presbytery to require full and satisfactory Presbyterian certificates of character and attainment before admission. This may include clearance under any relevant child protection legislation, and assurance that any incoming minister is familiar with the history, doctrine, and practice of the church so that he is able to subscribe to the formula of subscription intelligently and heartily and participate harmoniously and constructively in the life of the church. Where an OPC minister is called by a PCEA congregation such a meeting with the Presbytery may take place after a call is issued and before it is accepted in order that the called minister may assess more closely whether he should accept the call, and know, should he accept it, that he would be admitted.

This Act may be cited as the Mutual Eligibility Act (Orthodox Presbyterian Church) 2007.

ACT 3 – Hamilton Property

Wednesday 9th May 2007

Minutes 07.31

It was resolved that Synod:

1. Confirm the action of the Presbytery in dissolving the Congregation
2. Accept the assurance that the Presbytery will do what they can to ensure the reasonable pastoral care of remaining members in the district, as also the possibility of renewed work in Hamilton in the foreseeable future.
3. Note the request of members of the congregation to retain the assets of the congregation upon its dissolution, as a trust for say, five years to provide for possible re-establishment of the Hamilton congregation, and resolve to hold the total funds for the time being, purpose unspecified, accounting for them separately in Synod's books of account, the property now being held for the purposes of Synod in terms of the Free Presbyterian Church Property Act 6(11).

ACT 4 – Synod Delegates' Expenses

Wednesday 9th May 2007

Minutes 07.36.03

Existing legislation, Synod Delegates' Expenses (Act 1 of Class 2, Synod 1984 - Decision Book page 16) Section [c] "Motor Vehicle Running Costs" (Amended Synod 2003, Synod 2005) be replaced with:

"Motor Vehicle Running Costs:

- Costs on basis of one claim per congregation represented at Synod.
- For church owned vehicles, reimbursement be Running (operating) Costs only, for church owned vehicles. For privately owned vehicles, Running Costs with an option to include Fixed Costs, if commissioners so desire.

- The NSW NRMA annual Vehicle Operating Costs Survey figures to be used as the basis for reimbursement. These figures to be adjusted on the last business day before Synod convenes, taking into account the average unleaded fuel pump price in the State where Synod is meeting.”

ACT 5 – Capital Assistance Fund

Wednesday 9th May 2007

Minutes 07.37.07

Synod approve the revised regulations for the Fund as detailed in Appendix 2 of the Report (with any changes necessitated by any variation in the proposed deliverances).

(The revised regulations as approved are included below.)

THE CAPITAL ASSISTANCE FUND

(formerly The 8:14 Foundation)

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF EASTERN AUSTRALIA

REGULATIONS AS ADOPTED BY SYNOD 1983

and amended Synods 1984, 1985, 1993 and 2007

1. That “The 8:14 Foundation” be known as “The Capital Assistance Fund” and referred to in these regulations as “the fund”.
2. The object of the fund is to provide a source of finance for capital expenditure in the work of the church.
3. The fund shall consist of money and property of any nature.
4. The fund shall be applied, both as to capital and income, in making available loans or gifts for such capital expenditure in the enterprises of the church, including presbyteries and congregations as may from time to time be approved by the Synod.
5. The Fund shall be administered the Synod Finance Committee. The cost of administration shall be a first charge on the fund.
6. Applications for loans or assistance from the fund shall be submitted to the Clerk of Synod, in accordance with ordinary administrative procedures, who shall provide a copy to the Synod Finance Committee for consideration and recommendation to Synod. Should it be impracticable to submit the application to the annual Synod for determination, because of timing, the Finance Committee shall forward its recommendation to the Synod Administration Committee who shall make a determination on it. Applications shall be accompanied by all such information as may be necessary for the Synod/Synod Administration Committee to make a determination.
7. All loans from the fund shall be subject to such arrangements for repayments as are approved by Synod/Synod Administration Committee.
8. When not immediately required for the purpose of the fund, the assets of the fund may be invested in suitable investments.
9. Receipts of Lindfield Lease Account be placed in the fund.
10. Synod Finance Committee shall examine and report annually to Synod on contributions to, disbursements from, administration and promotion of, and any other matters that may affect the fund.