

Convention Resolutions 2023

1) Resolution to change to a Biennial Convention Schedule

Resolution: Be it resolved that the District Convention be changed from an annual convention to a biennial convention to be held on even numbered years, and that the District Bylaws be amended as required to accommodate said change. Any officer's or director's elections that may be affected by this change will be moved to the 2024 convention.

Rationale: Proponents of this plan believe that changing to a biennial convention will create a more consistent and established state in the district, as there will be two-year intervals between major changes.

The biennial convention will be scheduled in even numbered years, opposite the General Convention schedule. This schedule will allow ministers and district officials to attend both conventions without having the expenses for both conventions in one year. An additional benefit is that ministers working on secular jobs will not have to choose which convention they take off work for.

Submitted by the District Board

2) Resolution to combine the Office of the District Missions Director and District Presbyter

Resolution: Be it resolved that the bylaws be amended as required to strike the Office of District Missions Director from the bylaws and that the bylaw listed duties and responsibilities of the District Missions Director be assigned to the District Presbyter.

Rationale: The purpose of this proposed bylaw change is to reduce the size of the Executive Committee and to place the District Presbyter as the operational head of District Missions Churches.

Submitted by the District Board

3) Resolution to create a Building and Construction Coordinator

Resolution: Be it resolved that Article XI paragraph 3 be amended to read as follows pending passage of Resolution # 2.

3 Church Construction, Renovation, and Repair

- A. The District Missions Director with approval of the District Executive Committee shall appoint a District Building and Construction Coordinator to oversee and assist in Missions building repairs and District building projects where funding is provided by or financed by the Oklahoma District.
- B. The District Building and Construction Coordinator shall collect the names of volunteers who would be able to donate their time for building new churches, remodeling churches, or for otherwise assisting where help is needed. The volunteers shall be classified according to their field of expertise and experience. Their contact information shall be maintained, enabling them to be notified of any project of the department, so they may help on said projects as their time allows.

Rationale: This proposed amendment is to create a director to help in building and construction projects and maintain oversight of district monies invested in the projects. Additionally, this director would assist in the Mission Churches repairs and updates. This position is not a member of the District Board and serves under the direction of the District Missions Director.

Submitted by the District Board

Convention Resolutions 2023

4) Resolution to change SAM Director's minimum age requirement.

Resolution: Be it resolved that Article V, paragraph 10, subparagraph A be amended to change the minimum age of the Senior Adult Director to be fifty-five (55) years of age. The article as amended will read as follows:

10 District Senior Adult Ministries Director

- A. The District Senior Adult Ministries Director shall be an ordained or licensed minister, not less than fifty (55) years of age, with at least one (1) year membership in the district. They shall be appointed by the District Board to serve a term of two (2) years.

Rationale: This proposed bylaw change simply changes the minimum age of the SAM Director allowing for more people to be qualified for the position.

Submitted by the Oklahoma District Board

5) Resolution dealing with the selection consistency for Offices of Department Directors

Whereas, all current District Department Directors are Board appointed except for the Finance Director, Missions Director, Men's Director, and Women's Director; and,

Whereas, it is important to bring our structure into alignment with current best ministry practices; and,

Whereas, for the appointed directors, one currently requires a two-thirds (2/3) board vote, and the others only require a simple majority,

Be it hereby resolved that ALL department directors in the Pentecostal Church of God Oklahoma District, including those which are currently elected by the district convention be APPOINTED to their respective offices by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the District Board; and,

Be it hereby resolved that upon the vacancy of office of any District Department Director, the District Board shall by a two-thirds (2/3) vote appoint a qualified person to fill the remainder of the term as 'acting director;' and,

Be it hereby resolved that upon passage of this resolution by a duly seated district convention, the qualifications for each District Department Director in the bylaws shall be modified with the appointment process as proscribed by this resolution.

Respectfully submitted by:

District Men's Director Rev. Shawn Smalling & Section 6 Presbyterian Rev. Stephen Jeffcoat

Recommended by the District Board

For information only:

The affected department directors are:

Director of District Missions	(Currently Convention Elected)
Director of Finance	(Currently Convention Elected)
Director of Men's Ministries	(Currently Convention Elected)
Director of Women's Ministries	(Currently Convention Elected)
Director of Youth Ministries	(Currently Board Appointed) (2/3 Maj)
<i>(Current Bylaw doesn't address vacancy of Youth Ministries office)</i>	
Director of Senior Adult Ministries	(Currently Board Appointed) (Sim Maj)
Director of College and Career Ministries	(Currently Board Appointed) (Sim Maj)

Convention Resolutions 2023

6) Resolution to the minimum residency for District Executives

Whereas, current District bylaws have a residency limitation of one (1) year in the district for ALL executive offices (Bishop, Secretary-Treasurer, District Presbyter, District Missions Director, District Finance Director); and,

Whereas, it is essential to nominate individuals to executive office who have demonstrated faithfulness and active participation in sectional and district functions and be of impeccable character and integrity; and,

Whereas, the current one (1) year residency limitation does not allow sufficient time for prospective nominees to demonstrate faithfulness and active participation in sectional and district functions, as well as for the district membership to have adequate time to assess their character, integrity, and abilities,

Be it hereby resolved that all nominees to any executive office in the Pentecostal Church of God Oklahoma district demonstrate residency in the Oklahoma district for three (3) consecutive years at the time of their nomination; and,

Be it hereby resolved that each nominee's residency in the Oklahoma District shall be determined from the initial date the Oklahoma district transferred the nominee's credentials into the Oklahoma District; and,

Be it hereby resolved that any former Pentecostal Church of God District Executive from another district, or any former Pentecostal Church of God General Office Executive who transfers into the Oklahoma District and are nominated for a District Executive Office shall be considered exempted from this residency requirement; and,

Be it hereby resolved that upon passage of this resolution by a duly convened district convention, the three (3) year residency requirement and exemption shall replace the current requirement in the bylaws for all District Executive Offices at time of passage.

Respectfully submitted by:

District Men's Director Rev. Shawn Smalling & Section 6 Presbyter Rev. Stephen Jeffcoat

7) Resolution to update the Men's Ministries Bylaws.

1. Name

The Department of Men's Ministries shall be known as the Pentecostal Church of God Oklahoma District Men's Ministries; **referenced in alignment to the Global PCG Men's Ministry Department Name.**

2. Motto

The motto of the Men's Ministry shall be: "Take up his cross". (Matthew 16:23-25)

The motto of the Men's Ministries shall be: "Mentoring Men for the Mission." (II Timothy 2:1-2)

3. Purpose

~~The purpose of the Men's Ministries shall be to create a stronger bond of fellowship, to equip and empower men to be spiritual leaders in their homes, effective workers in their churches, and soul winners in the world.~~

Convention Resolutions 2023

The Men's Ministry's purpose shall be to engage men to help the Kingdom of God forcefully advance through a vibrant, thriving brotherhood of believers who love God with all their heart (worship), head (Word), hands (work), and feet (witness), who are maximizing their potential as kingdom men, and mentoring others to carry on the mission of spiritual mentorship.

4. Ministerial Relations

A. The Men's Ministries shall cooperate with the District Board, the other ministries of the district, and the local churches and pastors to conduct business, generate resources and carry out their ministry.

B. The Men's Ministries shall cooperate with the General Officials and the General Men's Ministries. They shall support, at the discretion of the District MM Director and the District Executive Committee, the objectives and projects of the General Men's Ministries.

5. Men's Ministries Officers & Leadership Team

A. The officers of the Oklahoma District Men's Ministries shall be the District Men's Ministries Director, and Regional Directors, **and up to two (2) Executive Committee Members.** They shall be called the District Men's Ministries Leadership Team.

B. The Men's Ministries Leadership Team shall ~~shall~~ **may** meet biannually or as often as needed to conduct business, plan events, etc.

C. The officers of the Men's Ministries shall be amenable to the District Board and all Men's Ministry activities shall be under their supervision.

D. All offices appointed by the District Men's Ministries Director shall serve at the discretion of the Men's Ministries Director and the District Executive Committee.

E. All offices appointed by the District Men's Ministries Director shall end concurrent with the term of the Men's Ministries Director that made said Appointment.

6. Executive Committee Members

A. Shall be credentialed ministers, male, not less than 30 years of age. They shall have been in the Oklahoma District for at least one (1) year.

B. The Executive Committee Members shall be appointed by the District Men's Ministries Director and approved by the District Executive Committee.

C. They shall assist and support the Men's Ministries Director in fulfilling his vision for the Department of Men's Ministry.

D. They shall promote the development and support of local Men's Ministries groups.

E. They shall assist with other duties and/or responsibilities as may be reasonably required.

7. Regional Men's Ministries Director

A. The Regional Men's Ministries Directors shall be ~~ordained~~ **credentialed** ministers **(or Christian men who have a passion for Men's Ministries and a desire to serve our district)**, male, ~~not less than thirty (30) years of age with at least five (5) years of experience in~~ **not less than 21 years of age.** ~~the active ministry.~~ They shall have been in the Oklahoma District for at least one (1) year.

B. The Regional Directors shall be appointed by the District Men's Ministries Director and approved by the District Executive Committee.

C. They shall assist and support the Men's Ministries Director in fulfilling his vision for the Department of Men's Ministry.

D. They shall promote Men's Ministries in their region and assist with the development and support of local Men's Ministries groups.

Convention Resolutions 2023

E. They shall assist with other duties and/or responsibilities as may be reasonably required.

8. Finance

A. The Department of Men's Ministries shall be supported by offerings, registration fees, other voluntary contributions, and local Men's Ministries group tithes.

B. Local Men's Ministries groups shall tithe to the District Men's Ministry from all fund raisers and support events.

C. Offerings shall **may** be received at all Men's Ministries functions for the support of the department.

D. An offering for the District Director or Regional Director shall be received when they minister as a representative of their office in a local church. A tithe of that offering will be sent by the Directors to the District Office for the support of Men's Ministries.

9. Local Groups

The local church is encouraged to form a Men's Ministries group. The local group may have officers selected according to the method used by the respective local church.

10. Miscellaneous

A. An Oklahoma District Men's Ministries Registration program shall be established to build a network of men and resources within our district. Those registered shall receive emails from the Director, as well as newsletters, mailings, and other materials to promote Men's Ministries and strengthen the men of the district.

B. The regional divisions of the District shall be established by the District Board in cooperation with the Director of Men's Ministries and may be adjusted when deemed necessary by the District Board.

Rationale:

Whereas the Oklahoma Men's Ministries Department was officially created and adopted within the Oklahoma District bylaws, in approximately 2013, there has been a struggle to find qualified "Ordained" Regional Directors, who were not already filling various other roles. This gives the Oklahoma District Men's Director an opportunity to find, and mentor qualified credentialed ministers, *or qualified Christian men*, who have a heart for Men's Ministry, to build upon the foundation that has been laid. This also allows the Director to add to the team, by virtue of credentialed Executive Committee Members. It also provides for the lowering of the age requirement; in the event a qualified candidate is found, but is younger than 30 years of age, but still provides the 30-year-old age requirement for the weightier executive position.

Furthermore, not only was the Oklahoma Men's Ministries birthed within the past decade, but the PCG Global Men's Department was resurrected and rebranded within the past few years. The update of "Motto" and "Purpose" brings us into alignment with the Global M3 Men's Ministries as well.

Humbly Submitted for consideration of adoption by:

Rev. Shawn D. Smalling, Oklahoma M3 Director & Rev. Stephen Jeffcoat, Section 6 Presbyter

Recommended by the Oklahoma District Board