

The Episcopal Diocese of West Texas
Offices to be Filled by Election at Diocesan Council
February 22 - 24, 2018
San Marcos, Texas

Officers of the Diocese

Secretary, Treasurer, and Chancellor of the Diocese. They shall be elected annually by the Council. Present incumbents are **eligible**.

Description of duties: Canon 2.

Other Officers of the Diocese

Assistant Chancellors, Registrar, Archivist, and Historiographer, shall be elected annually by the Council. Present incumbents are **eligible**.

Description of duties: Canon 2.

Standing Committee

One cleric and one lay person to be elected for a three-year term. Retiring incumbents, the Rev. Lisa Mason and Mrs. Mary Katherine Duffy are **ineligible**.

Description of duties: *The Standing Committee meets about three times a year and serves as a Council of advice to the diocesan bishop. Among its responsibilities are granting or withholding consents to the election of bishops throughout the Episcopal Church and interviewing seminarians and recommending to the bishop whether or not they be made candidates for ordination. The Standing Committee is composed of 6 persons, 3 clergy and 3 lay. In the event that the office of bishop is vacant, the Standing Committee serves as the Ecclesiastical authority for the diocese. Persons serving on the Standing Committee should be familiar with the Constitution and Canons, aware of issues in the wider Anglican Communion, and be persons who are willing to undertake a wide range of leadership needs and discernment.*

Constitution and Canons of the General Convention

Article IV. In every diocese a Standing Committee shall be elected by the Convention (Council) thereof, except that provision for filling vacancies between meetings of the Convention may be prescribed by the Canons of the respective dioceses. When there is a Bishop in charge of the diocese, the Standing Committee shall be the Bishop's Council of Advice. If there be no Bishop or Bishop Coadjutor or Suffragan Bishop canonically authorized to act, the Standing Committee shall be the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese for all purposes declared by the General Convention. The rights and duties of the Standing Committee, except as provided in the Constitution and Canons of the General Convention, may be prescribed by the Canons of the respective dioceses.

Constitution and Canons of the Diocese of West Texas

Article V, Section I. The Annual Council shall elect a Standing Committee consisting of three priests and three lay communicants eligible for election to membership in the Council. One priest and one lay communicant shall be elected annually by the Council, and they shall serve for a term of three years. No member of the Standing Committee after serving a full term or part of a term thereon shall be eligible to serve again on the

Standing Committee for a full year after such service. A vacancy may be filled for the unexpired term by a majority vote of the remaining members.

Article V, Section 2. The Standing Committee shall have all the authority conferred upon it by the General Constitution and Canons, and in addition thereto, shall have such authority and perform such duties as may be prescribed by the Canons of the Diocese.

Canon 3, Section 1. The Standing Committee shall annually elect its own president and other officers under the temporary chair of the previous year's chair, at or immediately following adjournment of the Council. It shall keep a record of its proceedings, and annually report its proceedings to the Council, except such as pertain to the exercise of its function as a council of advice to the Bishop.

Canon 3, Section 2. No member of the Standing Committee, during his/her term as a member thereof, shall be eligible to election to membership on the Executive Board.

Diocesan Executive Board

Two clergy and four laypersons are to be elected for three-year terms. Retiring incumbents, Mrs. Susan Alwais, Mrs. Barbara Baugh, Mr. Tom Hardin, Mrs. Betty Mosty, and the Revs. Stephen Carson and David Chalk are **ineligible**.

Description of duties: *The Executive Board is required to meet two times a year, but usually meets more often. The Board functions in a way similar to a parish vestry, including preparing the diocesan budget and submitting it to Council for approval. The Executive Board appoints several departments and committees, including the Finance Department and the Nominating Committee. The Executive Board approves the designations regarding the World Mission funding opportunities (line 1b). Members of the Executive Board serve as liaisons to the various departments and commissions of the diocese. A knowledge of (and experience in) ministries representing the breadth of the diocese is an asset to persons who serve on the Executive Board. At the same time, a willingness to engage diocesan ministry and learn of the breadth of the diocese is the most basic requirement for service on the Executive Board.*

Constitution and Canons of the Diocese of West Texas, Article IV

Section 1. There shall be an Executive Board of the Diocese formed and constituted according to the Canons.

Section 2. The Bishop shall be the President of the Executive Board. Other bishops of the Diocese, if any, in the order of their ecclesiastical precedence in diocesan authority, shall be vice-presidents, and shall take precedence over elected vice-presidents, if any. The Executive Board shall elect its other officers.

Section 3. The Executive Board shall, during intervals between meetings of the Council, have full power and authority to act for the Council in all matters not expressly reserved by the Constitution and Canons exclusively to the Council; provided, however, that no action may be taken by the Executive Board in direct contravention of a previous action taken by the Council.

Canon 4, Section 1. The Diocesan Executive Board shall be constituted as follows:

- (a) The bishops of the Diocese ex-officio, with right of voice and vote.
- (b) In 2005, six priests and twelve lay communicants canonically resident in the Diocese, who shall be elected by the Council for terms of three years. Each annual Council, beginning in 2003, shall elect two priests and four lay communicants to serve for the full term of three years.
- (c) No member of the Board shall be eligible for re-election until one year after his/her previous term of office shall have expired.
- (d) The Executive Board shall have power to fill vacancies in its own membership occurring between meetings of Council, subject to the limitation in (c).

Trustees of the Episcopal Church Corporation of West Texas

One cleric and one lay person to be elected for a three-year term. Retiring incumbents, the Rev. Ram Lopez is **eligible** and Dr. John Mason is **ineligible**.

Description of duties: *The Episcopal Church Corporation of West Texas holds title to the permanent funds and other property belonging to the diocese. It has authority to receive bequests and donations, and to sell or mortgage property to which it holds title. As such, Trustees should have an understanding of/interest in financial, real estate, and property matters. The Trustees work with the Bishop on designating certain restricted funds as they are needed in ministry. There is usually monthly contact needed with the Trustees, and a substantial amount of the Trustees business historically has been done via telephone and mail and confirmed at their quarterly meetings.*

Constitution and Canons of the Diocese of West Texas, Canon 6, Section 1

The Episcopal Church Corporation in West Texas, a corporation organized under the Laws of Texas and by virtue of a resolution of the Diocese, shall be governed by a Board of Trustees consisting of the Bishops, the Treasurer of the Diocese, the Chancellor of the Diocese, Assistant Chancellors, ex-officio, and six other members consisting of three clergy and three lay communicants of the Diocese, elected by the annual Council. One clergy and one lay member shall be elected annually for a term of three years, and shall be eligible to re-election without interim for one additional consecutive three year term. No person so elected to serve two consecutive terms shall be eligible for re-election for a full year after such service. The Bishop shall be the president of the corporation. The Board itself shall elect its other officers, adopt its own bylaws and provide for a Finance Committee and other committees. Any vacancies on the Board shall be filled by a vote of the majority of the remaining members of the Board.

Trustee of University of the South

One lay to be elected to a three-year term. Retiring incumbent, Mr. William Campbell is **ineligible**.

Description of duties: *The Trustees of the University attend the annual meeting of the Board of Trustees, promote Church support and student enrollment, and report to the annual Council the condition and progress of said University.*

Constitution and Canons of the Diocese of West Texas, Canon 11

Section 1. The University of the South, at Sewanee, Tennessee, a corporation, being owned jointly and equally by this and other dioceses of the Church, is hereby recognized as an educational institution that is jointly supported by this Diocese.

Section 2. In conformity with the constitution of the University of the South, the Bishop, and the Bishop Coadjutor, if any, and the Suffragan Bishop(s) shall be members of the Board of Trustees, ex-officio; and one clergy and two lay communicants of this Diocese shall be elected Trustees of the University of the South by the Council, for a term of three years or until their successors are elected, with the term of one elected trustee expiring each year. Trustees may be re-elected without interim, and any successors must be of the same order, clerical or lay.

Section 3. Vacancies shall be filled for the unexpired term of a trustee by election at the next convening annual Council. If a vacancy occurs before the annual meeting of the Trustees, the Bishop shall appoint a temporary trustee to hold office until the next annual Council.

Section 4. It shall be the duty of the Trustees of the University to attend the meetings of the Board of Trustees, to promote Church support and student enrollment, and to report to the annual Council the condition and progress of said University.

Trustees of Texas Military Institute

Two persons, either clergy or lay, and communicants of the Diocese, shall be elected for a three year term. Retiring incumbents, the Rev. Rob Harris and Mrs. Amanda Bercher are **eligible**.

Description of duties: *The Board of Trustees shall be responsible for communicating the needs of the school to the Diocese and to gather resources in support of the school at the direction of the Board of Governors. The Trustees meet 3-4 times a year on average, at the campus of TMI.*

Constitution and Canons of the Diocese of West Texas, Canon 14, Section 3

(a) There shall be a Board of Trustees of not more than eighteen persons, and, in addition, not more than six chartered Trustees. The Bishop shall be an ex-officio member and Chair of the Board. The majority of the Board shall be communicants of the Episcopal Church. The Board shall be informed of the affairs of the school, its needs and the challenges, and wherever possible strive to enhance the quality of education, spiritual life, and the overall quality of life at T.M.I. The Board shall be

responsible for communicating the needs of the school to the Diocese and to gather resources in support of the school at the direction of the Board of Governors.

- (b) The members of the Board of Trustees shall be elected at the annual Council of the Diocese of West Texas upon nomination by the Bishop, except two members of the Board shall be elected annually the Council from those nominated by the Diocesan Nominating Committee and/or others nominated from the Council floor. Nominees may be clergy or lay communicants of the Diocese. The term of office shall be three years, and one-third of the members shall be elected each year. Vacancies shall be filled for the remainder of the term by the annual Council, but may be temporarily filled until that time by the Board itself.

All persons recommended must be 18 years of age or older and communicants within the convocation from which they are being nominated.