

Presbytery of the Highlands  
Stated Meeting  
Administration and Coordinating Commission  
Report – Part 1  
May 12, 2026

**Items for Consent Agenda:**

None.

**Items for Action:**

None.

**Items for Report:**

*The Administration and Coordinating Commission Reports the following from the March 4, 2026 ACC meeting:*

**ACC-1**

Elder Rick Friedl, Presbytery of the Northeast presented the NJ Presbyterian Insurance Partnership proposal for the Presbytery Deductible Fund.

**ACC-2**

The ACC approved being part of the NJPIP Deductible Fund.

**ACC-3**

Approved the use of the Highlands Presbytery Cemetery Fund to pay for the winter clean up of the Old Clove Cemetery (Sussex County).

**ACC-4**

Approved moving \$25,000 from the Special Resourcing Fund to the Judicial Fund to bring it back to a positive number.

**ACC-5**

Approved Communion being served at the April and October Presbytery Worship events.

**ACC-6**

Discussed the content of the May Presbytery Meeting.

**ACC-7**

Received and reviewed the YTD financial reports.

**ACC-8**

Communications team reports that they are working on a Communications Strategy.

**ACC-9**

Moderator Ryon Herin reported that he presided at the Installation service of Rev. Nathaniel Fryer at First presbyterian Church of Boonton.

**ACC-10**

The Stated Clerk shared an update from Attorney Ellen O'Connell on Boy Scout lawsuits.

**ACC-11**

Presbytery Leader, Rev. Jeanne Radak, reported the Presbytery of Highlands will be participating in the General Assembly Funding Model Project.

*The Administration and Coordinating Commission Reports the following from the April 1, 2026 ACC meeting:*

**ACC-12**

Discussed the May Presbytery meeting plans including the celebration of the Presbytery's 5th anniversary. A team was appointed to make plans for the celebration.

**ACC-13**

Received and reviewed the Financial Reports. First quarter report indicates the income is higher and spending on target.

**ACC-14**

Received the Report of the Annual Audit.

**ACC-15**

Communications team reported that they are working on assembling the Presbytery Brand kit.

**ACC-16**

New Jersey Presbyteries' Insurance Partnership will be presenting an informational meeting on April 16.

### **ACC-17**

Personnel reported that Annual Reviews had been completed for:

- Stated Clerk - Rev. Dr. Steve Shussett
- Office and Property Manager - Sonja Gaertner
- Financial Administrator - Susan Johnson
- Communications Coordinator - First quarter review - Zyan Silva

### **ACC-18**

Moderator Rev. Ryon Herin reported he presided at the Installation of Rev. Adrienne Poissant at First Presbyterian Church of Branchville.

### **ACC-19**

Approved for the 227 General Assembly that the Administration and Coordinating Commission be authorized to elect an alternate Ruling Elder or Minister as a commissioner should the need arise and not timely for the Presbytery to do so.

### **ACC-20**

Approved that Steve Shussett serve as Overture Advocate for the three overtures and Jeanne and Steve be empowered to appoint another additional advocate for one of the three overtures if necessary because of committee schedules.

### **ACC-21**

The ACC had a lengthy discussion on the Synod's request for the Presbytery to Endorse participants in the Synod's Commissioned Ruling Elder Program for Dubuque Seminary. Following the discussion the ACC approved empowering the Stated Clerk to send a "endorsement" to the Synod on behalf of the Presbytery.

### **ACC-22**

The ACC approved the writing of a letter by the Stated Clerk requesting the language be changed in the Synod's requirement from endorsement to "approve" in order to avoid confusion with Presbytery's Commissioned Ruling Elder process and policy. The approval of the final letter will be done by an email vote.

**ACC-23**

The Stated Clerk shared an update on the Boy Scouts of America lawsuits against the presbytery. At this time no further action is needed.