

**Rules of Order of the Special Convention of the Diocese of Virginia April 24, 2021
(the “Convention”)**

1. There shall be an appropriate worship service at the Convention.
2. On the first day of the Convention, the Presiding Officer, having taken the Chair, shall declare a quorum present, if such be the case, or he may direct that the roll of the members of the clerical and lay orders be called to determine a quorum. Each delegate registered and attending the Special Convention on April 24, 2021 (the “Convention”), by the use of, or a means of, communication by which all members participating in the Convention may simultaneously hear each other shall be deemed to be present in person. The presiding officer or the Chair of the Committee on Credentials may make reasonable accommodations for members of Convention to attend and participate in Convention, but each member shall be responsible for his or her access to the meeting and no action shall be invalidated by the loss of or poor quality of a member’s individual connection. Attendance shall be limited to registered delegates and invited guests.
3. On the first day of the Convention, the Program of Convention shall be adopted. Approval of a 2021 budget, and relevant associated resolutions therewith, shall be the sole order of legislative business at the Convention.
4. On the first day of the Convention, the Presiding Officer may appoint assistant secretaries to the Secretary of the Convention.
5. Prior to the Convention, the Presiding Officer shall appoint the following Committees of Convention to serve until their successors have been appointed.

A. Committee on Credentials

- B. The Committee on Budget, to which shall be referred (a) the Executive Board's recommended program and proposed funding, and (b) such relevant associated resolutions related thereto as shall have been filed in writing with the Convention.

The Committee on Budget shall conduct an open hearing at or prior to the Convention. Notice of such open hearing shall have been announced at least thirty days prior to Convention and the Committee shall thereafter report to Convention by presenting:

1. The Executive Board's 2021 budget.
2. The resolutions or recommendations relevant to and associated with approval of the 2021 budget filed in writing with the Convention with the

Committee's recommendations to the Convention regarding adoption or rejection of each.

3. Such other changes in the Executive Board budget as the Committee shall recommend, said changes to be presented in the form of a resolution or resolutions.

No floor amendment to the proposed budget will be considered unless the subject matter of the proposed amendment has been presented and made known to the Committee on Budget prior to or during open hearings.

4. No amendment to the proposed diocesan budget, as presented by the Committee on Budget, shall be received unless the amendment includes provision for offsetting changes in other expenditures or revenues.

5. All proposed amendments to the budget shall be submitted not less than three days prior to the open hearing.

C. The Committee on the Journal of the Convention, composed of three persons of whom the Secretary of the Diocese shall be one, and of either order, to whom shall be referred all matters to be printed in the Journal of the Convention, which said Committee shall have power to act during recess of the Convention, and report to the Convention.

6. The Presiding Officer shall appoint such other committees of Convention as the Convention may direct or the Presiding Officer may determine and he may designate the chairperson of any committee.
7. The size and composition of every committee of Convention shall be in the sole discretion of the Presiding Officer, except where otherwise provided by the Constitution and Canons.
8. The Presiding Officer may appoint a parliamentarian for any meeting of Convention.
9. When a motion is made and seconded, it shall be stated by the Presiding Officer, and, if in writing, be read by the Secretary. After a motion is so stated or read, it shall be deemed in possession of the Convention, but may be withdrawn by the mover at any time before amendment or decision, with the consent of the second.
10. Every motion shall be reduced to writing if the Presiding Officer or any member requires it.

11.

A. When a motion is pending, the following amendments shall be in order:

(1) One amendment may be made to each independent or separable portion thereof; and (2) one motion to amend that amendment shall be in order; and it shall be in order also

(3) to offer a further amendment by way of substitute to which may be offered one amendment.

B. No proposition not germane to the subject under consideration shall be received under color of an amendment or a substitute. Neither the substitute nor its amendment shall be voted on (except to lay on the table) until the original matter is perfected. An amendment or a substitute may be withdrawn by the mover with the consent of his seconder before amendment thereof or before decision is had thereon.

C. The amendment or the substitute shall be debatable only when the main question is debatable.

D. The adoption of an amendment by way of substitute or otherwise shall not displace the main resolution, which, after being amended, shall be the question before the Convention.

E. The following questions cannot be amended:

- (1) The call for the Order of the Day,
- (2) an appeal from the decision of the Chair,
- (3) an objection to consideration of any question, or the motions
- (4) to adjourn,
- (5) to lay on the table,
- (6) to take from the table,
- (7) for leave to continue speaking,
- (8) to postpone indefinitely,
- (9) to reconsider,
- (10) to suspend rules,
- (11) to take up business out of order or
- (12) for leave to withdraw a motion.

F. The order of decision of a question before the Convention shall be:

- (1) Amendment to the amendment of the main question;
- (2) Amendment to the main question;
- (3) Amendment to the substitute motion;
- (4) The substitute motion;

- (5) If the substitute fails, then the main question.
13. When a question is under debate no motion shall be received but to
- (1) adjourn,
 - (2) to lay on the table,
 - (3) for the previous question,
 - (4) to take at a certain time,
 - (5) to commit or recommit,
 - (6) to amend or substitute,
 - (7) to postpone to a certain day, or
 - (8) to postpone indefinitely, which several motions shall have precedence in the order enumerated and be settled by a majority vote.
14. A motion for the previous question shall be put in this form: "Shall the previous question or questions before the Convention now be put?" If the previous question is voted, only the immediately pending questions before the Convention shall be put without debate.
15. In addition to voice voting, voting may be conducted using virtual voting systems approved by the Secretary of the Convention. Votes cast using the virtual voting system shall be deemed the equivalent of votes cast in person and deemed to be anonymous if the identity of the voter is available only to the voting system administrator or the Head Teller.
16. A motion to adjourn, or lay on the table, shall always be in order and shall be decided without debate.
17. When two or more members of Convention indicate a wish to speak, the Presiding Officer shall decide who is entitled to the floor. The Presiding Officer may mute members as needed for good order in the meeting.
18. Except by leave of the Convention, no member shall speak more than twice in the same debate, nor longer than two minutes at one time. No applause shall be permitted when a question is under debate.
19. The vote on all questions shall be taken by orders whenever as many as five members request it.
20. Reports of all committees shall be in writing. Statistical and other reports of officers and committees which require no action by Convention may be read by title only, and any report may be read in part only when the Presiding Officer shall, without obligation, so direct, or when the Convention shall so require.

21. No member shall absent himself from the meetings of the Convention without leave, unless he be sick or unable to attend.
22. All persons elected as officials of the Diocese by the Convention or by the Executive Board of the Convention, Presidents of the Regions, and members of the Executive Board-elect who will take office at the conclusion of the regular meeting of Convention, shall by virtue of their respective offices, be entitled to a seat and voice, but no vote, at all meetings of the Convention.
23. These rules may be amended or special orders for the conduct of business adopted at any time by a two-thirds majority of the members present.
24. In all matters not specifically covered by these Rules of Order or by the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese, Robert's Rules of Order, Revised, shall govern the Convention in all cases to which they are applicable.
25. Rules in force. At the meetings of the Annual Convention, the rules and the orders of the previous meeting shall be in force until they are amended or repealed by the Convention, EXCEPT that these rules for the Special Convention on April 24, 2021 shall be effective only for the Special Convention on April 24, 2021, and any adjournments thereof.