

Minutes for the Special Meeting of



Classis Alberta South and Saskatchewan  
of the Christian Reformed Church in North America

April 13, 2026

7pm in Executive Session Virtual



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## Vision Statement

Classis Alberta South and Saskatchewan is a regional group of Christian Reformed Churches dependent on the Holy Spirit, striving to function together as one body in Christ, share in worship, promote evangelism, diaconal ministries and nurture through mutual accountability.

**Chair:** Rev. Matthew VandenHuevel  
**Vice Chair:** Rev. Kevin Vanderveen  
**Clerk:** Judy Heim

Executive Session held virtually @ 7 pm on April 13, 2026

- 1. Opening Devotion and welcome to the delegates:** Chair opened with reading Philippians 2 and prayer and welcomed the delegates and explained the meeting would be considered Executive Session.
- 2. Classis is called to order:**
  - 2.1** Roll Call
  - 2.2** Classis is declared to be constituted.
  - 2.3** First time delegates were asked to forward a signature for the Covenant of OfficeBearers.
  - 2.4** Chair read the Covenant of OfficeBearers.
  - 2.5** Delegates affirm their subscription to the Covenant of Officebearers.
  - 2.6** Any representative that is not willing to affirm the Covenant of Officebearers will have the right to speak but not the privilege to vote
  - 2.7** Seating of advisors: Gys Van den Pol, Vice Chair of CIC/CMC; Peter VandenDool, Treasurer; Judy Heim, Stated Clerk; Rev. Ed Jager, Church Visitor Team
  - 2.8** Delegate List:

<b>Church</b>	<b>Minister</b>	<b>Elder</b>	<b>Deacon</b>
Bethel	Jimmy Jo	Tymen Vanzessen	Kevin Vanzessen
Brooks	Paul Droogers	Harry Borkent	
Burdett	Rick Roeda		Simone Mastel
Covenant	Matt VandenHeuvel	Richard Hudson	Luke Brandhorst
Emmanuel	n/a	Harry Frischey	Jason Mantel
Granum	Henry Veldboom	Tjapko Detmers	Aaron Morrill
High River	n/a	n/s	n/a
Iron Springs	n/a	Rodney Nieboer	Allan Van Zeggelaar
Living Hope	Kevin VanderVeen	Dirk Vis	n/a
Maranatha (Calgary)	n/a	Peter DeJonge	Emma Deslippe
Maranatha (Lethbridge)	n/a	n/a	Hilda Visser
Nobleford	Gary van Leeuwen	Brendon Postman	Riley Idenbosch
Sonlight	Gerhardt Venter	Audrey Broda	Richard Sandstra
Taber, (First)	Brian Kuyper	Peter Vanderwekken	Dustin Monson

**3. Motion** to approve the agenda

**Seconded/Carried**

**4. CIC and Church Visitor recommendation regarding High River CRC:** Gary Van Leeuwen presenting

Gary explained the motions and entertained any questions from the delegates.

- Discussion had in executive session.
- Motions are for public record.

- **Motions:**

1. That Classis ABSS appoint the council of Nobleford CRC to serve, temporarily, as the supervising council of High River CRC.

*Note: (This follows the spirit of Article 38a and Article 38d with its supplement of the Church Order.) Church visitors will be asked to make a recommendation as to which council will best serve in the task of supervision.*

- a. The supervising council will appoint a Steering Committee consisting of 5-6 members of classis (one from the supervising council and 4-5 from churches in Classis ABSS).
  - i. The Steering Committee will appoint an Administrative Committee from among the members of High River CRC to look after the day-to-day operations of the ministries of the church and of its facilities.
  - ii. The Steering Committee will serve in a delegated capacity on behalf of the supervising council and will act with the authority given to it by the supervising council. The Steering Committee will report in a timely fashion (at least monthly) to the supervising council and will seek advice and direction when needed.
  - iii. The Steering Committee will provide resources, direction and council to the High River CRC with the purpose of providing reconciliation and restoration among its members. The Steering Committee will call upon the expertise of Thrive and others to facilitate the movement back toward a healthy church status.
- b. The Steering Committee will remain in place until the supervising council is satisfied that the members of High River CRC can elect a council from among their members. If this is not accomplished within 12 months, the supervising council will return to Classis ABSS with recommendations from the Steering Committee for further action.

**Carried**

2. That Classis ABSS make available up to \$15,000 for the Steering Committee to facilitate the training and renewal of the leadership within the High River congregation. Expenses will be approved by the supervising council as recommended by the Steering Committee.

**Carried**

Notes:

- The pertinent articles of the Church Order are these:
  - Article 38a - *Groups of believers among whom no council can as yet be constituted shall be under the care of a neighboring council, designated by classis.*
  - Article 38d - *When a council and congregation decide to disband or revert to unorganized status, the approval of classis is required. If any distribution of assets is required, the congregation and council shall consult with classis.*
  - Article 38d, Supplement – *If a church has diminished to fewer than forty-five active confessing members or shows that it lacks a sufficient number of members who can provide leadership or it can no longer meet its financial obligations or there is no prospect for continued growth, then a classis should consider that these are significant indicators for it to begin discussing with such a congregation whether it is still appropriate for it to retain full organized status.*

**5. Motion to Adjourn**

**Seconded/Carried**

**6. Closing:** Rev. Kevin Vanderveen closed in prayer