

**House of Bishops  
Interim Business Meeting  
Nashville, Tennessee  
September 24, 2013**

The business meeting was called to order by the Presiding Bishop, the Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori. It was moved that the registration list of the conference suffice for the roll call. The secretary announced that the original attendance consisted of 146 bishops and the number still present more than constituted a quorum. It was announced that the Rt. Rev. Bishop Sanders was the senior bishop present.

**Changes of Status of Bishops in the House**

**New consecrations/elections**

1. W. Jay Lambert, Eau Claire, 03/16/2013
2. Anne Hodges-Copple, North Carolina, 06/15/2013
3. Mark Bourlakas, Southwestern Virginia, 07/20/2013
4. Wayne Hougland, Western Michigan, consecration scheduled for 09/28/2013
5. William Stokes, New Jersey, consecration scheduled for 11/02/2013

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**Necrology since last spring meeting**

H. Coleman McGhee, resigned Bishop of Michigan, 03/14/2013  
William G. Black, resigned Bishop of Southern Ohio, 07/07/2013  
David K. Leighton, Sr., resigned Bishop of Maryland, 08/07/2013

**Resignations since last meeting**

F. Neff Powell, Bishop of Southwestern Virginia for reason of advanced age, effective 07/20/2013  
Robert Gepert, Bishop of Western Michigan for reason of advanced age, effective 08/31/2013

**Change in Status**

John Buchanan from Provisional Bishop of Quincy to Assisting Bishop of Chicago

**Communications from the Presiding Bishop**

The Presiding Bishop gave thanks for the chaplains the Rev. Cn. Stephanie Spellers, the Rev. Simon Bautista Betances, and Mr. Dent Davidson and for those who presided at worship. She also thanked our translators Dinorah Padro and Gabriela de Castro. Lori Ionnitiu and Patrick Haizel from the General Convention Office were commended for their work in organizing this time together. The Rev. Canon Chuck Robertson and

Ms. Ednice Baerga from the Presiding Bishop's staff as well as Ms. Neva Rae Fox from the Public Affairs Office were also thanked for their work. Applause followed by members of the House.

### **Special Business of the Meeting**

#### **Resolution from the Committee on Pastoral Development**

The Rt. Rev. Neil Alexander brought to the House on behalf of the House of Bishops Committee for Pastoral Development a resolution regarding staff members serving on Standing Committees, Executive Council or as a Deputy to General Convention. . After perfection from the floor the final version of it Passed and is attached in **APPENDIX A**.

#### **Report from the Committee on Consecration and Resignation of Bishops/Credentials**

The Rt. Rev. Clay Matthews introduced a resolution regarding the approval of the Rt. Rev. David Rice as Assistant Bishop in the Diocese of San Joaquin. The Rt. Rev. Chester Talton spoke to this resolution. The full text is attached in **APPENDIX B**. The resolution PASSED and followed by applause and brief remarks by Bishop Rice.

### **Reading of the Minutes**

It was moved and APPROVED that the reading of the minutes of the last meeting be dispensed with.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Attested,

The Rt. Rev. Diane M. Jardine Bruce

The Rt. Rev. Kenneth L. Price Jr.

Assistant Secretary

Secretary

## APPENDIX A

### Resolution to the House of Bishops From the HOB Committee for Pastoral Development

September 24, 2013

Resolved: The House of Bishops urgently requests the Committee on Constitution and Canons to prepare a canon which prohibits Diocesan staff from serving or representing the Diocese in which they are employed: as Deputies to General Convention or on the Diocesan Standing Committee or Executive Board and to bring this canonical revision to the 78th General Convention.

*Explanation: It is a contradiction of role and responsibility, and accountability for a Diocesan staff person to also serve, without prejudice, on such committees or boards or to represent the Diocese in Convention.*

The resolution PASSED.

## APPENDIX B

### Resolution

House of Bishops Meeting

September 19-24, 2013

Sponsor: The Rt. Rev. Chester L. Talton, Bishop of San Joaquin  
Re: Approval of the Rt. Rev. David Rice as Assistant Bishop

**Resolved**, that the House of Bishops pursuant to Canon III.12.5(b)(4) hereby consents to the appointment of the Rt. Rev. David Rice as the assistant bishop of the Diocese of San Joaquin provided that the Diocesan Convention approves the creation of the position of Assistant Bishop at its upcoming annual meeting and each of the canonical requirements are satisfied, including but not limited to the Canon III.12.5(b)(3) (collectively, the "Canonical Requirements" prior to his appointment by the Bishop of the Diocese:

**Explanation** [or Whereas Clauses]: The Standing Committee in consultation with the Presiding Bishop's Office has nominated the Rt. Rev. David Rice as the next provisional bishop of the Diocese. Bishop Rice is currently serving as the Bishop of the Diocese of Waiapu of the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia.

To be eligible to serve as a Provisional Bishop he or she must be either resigned or serving in a diocese of the *Episcopal* Church. Canon III.13.1. Currently neither of these criteria is applicable to Bishop Rice, so an interim step is required prior to his consideration for election as the provisional bishop.

This interim step would have Bishop Rice serve as Assistant Bishop in the Diocese pursuant to the canons of The Episcopal Church, which expressly permit a bishop from another part of the communion to serve as an Assistant Bishop in The Episcopal Church. (See Constitution and Canons of The Episcopal Church, Canons III.12.5(a) and (b)(3)). Accordingly, Bishop Talton as the current Provisional Bishop of the Diocese with the consent of the Standing Committee will ask the Diocesan Convention at its upcoming meeting in October to create the position of Assistant Bishop.

Provided that the Diocesan Convention concurs and other conditions are met as discussed below, Bishop Talton would appoint (with the Standing Committee's consent which has been sought and received) Bishop Rice as the Assistant Bishop of the Diocese upon Bishop Rice's arrival in February.

Prior to Bishop Rice's appointment as the Assistant Bishop, a number of important conditions need to be satisfied, including the consent of the House of Bishops, completion of psychological and medical tests, his resignation as the Bishop of the Diocese of Waiapu, received approval from the Anglican Church of Aotearoa, New Zealand, and Polynesia, and submit to the Doctrine, Discipline and Worship of the Episcopal Church in writing.

Once these conditions are met and certified to the Presiding Bishop through the House of Bishops Committee on Ordinations and Resignations and Bishop Rice is appointed as the Assistant Bishop in early February, he will become a member of the House of Bishops and a Bishop of The Episcopal Church. (See Constitution and Canons of The Episcopal Church Article I, Sec. 2).

As the Assistant Bishop he will be under the direction of Bishop Talton and will use his time in that capacity to become familiar with the Diocese, meet and engage the Diocese, conduct visitations, attend deanery meetings, and other episcopal duties. The Standing Committee and Bishop Talton envision that Bishop Rice would act in this capacity between his arrival in February and special meeting of the Diocesan Convention to be held on March 29th. This will give the Diocese an opportunity to meet and learn more about Bishop Rice prior to considering his election as the provisional bishop of the Diocese at a Special Meeting of the Diocesan Convention.

At the Special Meeting of the Convention, Bishop Rice would resign as the Assistant Bishop of the Diocese making him eligible to stand for election as the provisional bishop of the Diocese.