

**Committee on Constitutions and Canons**  
**Report to Diocesan Convention 2025**  
**Submitted by Ian Everhart, Chair**

The Diocese of Pittsburgh Committee on Constitutions and Canons met electronically in February, April, June, August and October 2025, to discuss ideas for improvements in the diocese's governing documents.

Two proposals have developed enough to be submitted for a vote at this year's convention:

- An amendment to Canon IV to add a non-binding guideline that members of the Board of Trustees be drawn from across the diocese, to avoid domination by members of any single parish (similar to the binding maximum of two members from a single parish currently in place for Standing Committee in the Article IX, Section 1, of the Constitution).
- An amendment to Canon XIX-A to suspend the Diocesan Disciplinary Board while the Regional Disciplinary Board Compact provides for the multi-diocese Regional Disciplinary Board to hear all discipline cases. The Diocesan Disciplinary Board would be reconstituted in the event the Regional Disciplinary Board is disbanded.

Other matters discussed included:

- Ideas for improvements relating to resolutions at diocesan convention, including requiring financial motions to balance the budget, and proper submissions from the floor during convention;
- Drafting model "recommended" parish bylaws as contemplated in Canon XVI, Section 3; and
- Reconsideration of the numerical membership thresholds for allocation of diocesan convention deputies in Canon 2.

The committee is composed of three clergy and three lay members, elected at diocesan convention to staggered three-year terms. For the 2025 calendar year, members were the Rev. Jack Brownfield, the Rev. Carter Hawley, the Rev. Julie Smith, Charles Bell, Madison Canales, and Ian Everhart. Ian Everhart served as chair. Chancellor Andrew Roman and Vice Chancellor Stephen Bloomberg, as well as Bishop Ketlen Solak, are members ex officio.