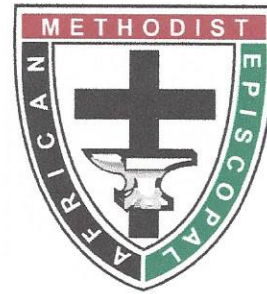


BILL NO.	CLO PL 06
TITLE	The Official Board Purpose and Duties Clarified
REFERENCE	The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church 2012, Page 73, PART IV, SECTION II. LOCAL CHURCH ORGANIZATION, Subsection B.
INTENT	To include a summary of the purpose and role of the Official Board as B.1, and renumber subsequent subsections consecutively. To also include a clarification of duties under newly numbered B.4. Business
RATIONALE	The Official Board, by virtue of its composition, is the premier leadership and decision-making body of the local church. Its critical purpose and role should be expressly laid out in the Discipline, citing, without ambiguity, its responsibilities and authority.



- 1 CURRENT TEXT: Part IV, Section II, Subsection B; Page. 72
- 2 1. Composition
- 3 a. The Official Board shall be composed of the class leaders, exhorters, deaconesses,
- 4 stewards, trustees, stewardesses and presidents of all organizations of a station, circuit, or
- 5 mission, including the president of the Lay Organization. The officers, both junior and
- 6 adult, of the Junior Church shall also be members of the Official Board and shall
- 7 contribute to the funds collected for the church, pastor, presiding elder, the poor, and
- 8 general funds.

- 9 b. The pastor shall be a member of the Board and its chairperson ex-officio.
- 10 c. Local preachers shall be regarded as honorary members of the Board and shall be
- 11 required to visit it at its regular sessions.
- 12 d. The Board shall elect annually a secretary and a treasurer. A steward should be elected
- 13 secretary, if there is one competent to hold this office.

14 2. Sessions

- 15 a. The Official Board of every mission, circuit or station shall meet at least once every
- 16 month.
- 17 b. Additional meetings of the board shall be called by the pastor whenever necessary, and
- 18 the members shall be required to attend these meetings also.
- 19 c. All meetings of the board shall be opened with devotions.

20 3. Business

- 21 a. The secretary shall keep a strict record of the proceedings.
- 22 b. The treasurer shall be responsible for all the monies received under the auspices of the
- 23 stewards and disburse the same on order of the board.
- 24 c. The board, at its sessions, shall require the class leaders to give to the stewards the
- 25 money they have collected for the church, pastor, presiding elder, and programs for the
- 26 church.
- 27 d. It shall see, at its sessions, that the pastor receives his or her support, and it shall devise
- 28 ways and means to pay him or her and the presiding elder all that is due them. It shall
- 29 receive all the class leaders' reports on the following subjects:
- 30 1) Those who walk disorderly and will not be reproved.
- 31 2) Those who are sick and need the attention of the pastor.

32 3) Those who are deceased.

33 4) Those who willfully and persistently neglect their class and other religious duties.

34 5) Those who have left the church with certificate.

35 6) Those who have left the church without certificate.

36 The board shall have the power to send out committees for the purpose of making
37 investigations concerning rumors affecting the spiritual or moral standing of any member
38 and shall, moreover, have members to appear before it so that they may explain such
39 rumors.

40 **ADDED and AMENDED TEXT** Part IV, Section II, Subsection B; Page 72

41 1. *The Official Board is the administrative body of the local church. It plans and*
42 *directs the total program of the local church, under the leadership of the pastor, thus*
43 *directing the church's day-to-day work in every detail.*

44 2. Composition

45 a. The Official Board shall be composed of all the class leaders, exhorters, deaconesses,
46 stewards, trustees, stewardesses and presidents of all organizations of a station, circuit, or
47 mission, including the president of the Lay Organization. The officers, both junior and
48 adult, of the Junior Church shall also be members of the Official Board and shall
49 contribute to the funds collected for the church, pastor, presiding elder, the poor, and
50 general funds.

51 b. The pastor shall be a member of the Board and its chairperson ex-officio.

52 c. Local preachers shall be regarded as honorary members of the Board and shall be
53 required to visit it at its regular sessions.

54 d. The Board shall elect annually a secretary and a treasurer. A steward should be elected
55 secretary, if there is one competent to hold this office.

56 3. Sessions

57 a. The Official Board of every mission, circuit or station shall meet at least once every
58 month.

59 b. Additional meetings of the board shall be called by the pastor whenever necessary, and
60 the members shall be required to attend these meetings also.

61 c. All meetings of the board shall be opened with devotions.

62 4. Business

63 a. *The Official Board, prior to the end of the first quarter, shall see that it receives the*
64 *annual budget of the local church for its determination and action. The annual budget*
65 *of the local church shall be inclusive of the approved total program of the church to*
66 *include the ministries and programs of the organizations of the local church, the*
67 *proposed pastor's salary & support, the church's operational expenses, the AMEC*
68 *budgets, and the benevolent missions of the congregation. The annual budget, upon its*
69 *approval, shall be presented to the church conference.*

70 b. The secretary shall keep a strict record of the proceedings.

71 c. *The treasurer shall be ex-officio member of the finance committee and shall work*
72 *with that committee in the accounting of all income and disbursements related to the*
73 *support of the station, mission, or circuit on order of the Official Board. The Official*
74 *Board shall receive finance committee's monthly financial report of all receipts and*
75 *disbursements and unpaid obligations against the budget.*

76 d. It shall see, at its sessions, that the pastor receives his or her support, and it shall
77 devise ways and means to pay him or her and the presiding elder all that is due them.
78 e. *It shall direct all class leaders to turn over to the finance committee all money they*
79 *have collected for the church, pastor, presiding elder and programs of the church and*
80 *shall receive all class leaders' reports* on the following subjects:

- 81 1) Those who walk disorderly and will not be reprov'd.
82 2) Those who are sick and need the attention of the pastor.
83 3) Those who are deceased.
84 4) Those who willfully and persistently neglect their class and other religious duties.
85 5) Those who have left the church with certificate.
86 6) Those who have left the church without certificate.
87 The board shall have the power to send out committees for the purpose of making
88 investigations concerning rumors affecting the spiritual or moral standing of any member
89 and shall, moreover, have members to appear before it so that they may explain such
90 rumors.

91 5. Restrictions

- 92 a. The Official Board shall not have power to try and expel members of the church.
93 b. Such a course would make the chairperson liable to the charge of maladministration.
94 c. The Official Board cannot overrule the pastor or reverse his or her decision, or change
95 his or her plans for the government of the charge except by a two-thirds vote of its
96 members.

97 FUNDING: There is no cost associated with this proposed legislation

98 *Submitted by the CLO Proposed Legislation Committee*