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2 **8-11.** The duties and authority of elders, including, but not limited to, leading
3 in congregational worship, voting in Session meetings, and shepherding the
4 congregation, shall be exercised only by ordained elders. Women and unordained
5 men shall not exercise ruling authority, perform the functions of the ordained
6 office, or be commissioned, appointed, or installed in any manner that implies
7 parity with or equivalence to ordained elders.
8

9 **Be it further resolved** that the following paragraph be inserted after *BCO 9-7* (underlining
10 for additions):
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12 **9-8.** The duties and authority of the diaconate, including, but not limited to,
13 leadership in mercy ministries, voting in diaconal meetings, financial
14 distributions, and property oversight, shall be exercised only by ordained deacons.
15 Women and unordained men shall not exercise independent authority in these
16 matters, perform the functions of the ordained office, or be commissioned,
17 appointed, or installed in any manner that implies parity with or equivalence to
18 ordained deacons.
19

20 **Be it further resolved** that Presbyteries be encouraged to review the practices of their
21 congregations for alignment with these amendments and report any necessary
22 corrections to their next stated meeting.
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25 *Adopted by the Catawba Valley Presbytery at its stated meeting, January 24, 2026*

26 *Attested by TE Scott Deneen, Stated Clerk*