

ADVISORY

re: Conduct of estates meetings without chancellor/Lord Protector

Your Imperial Highness,

As a clerk of the Chancery, would you please be so kind to pass this along to Sir Baine and those that assist him.

As I'm sure you're aware, our Interim Lord Protector has decided to cancel a meeting of our local Estates that has been planned for a month. He has cited the fact that he is under the weather and a couple others (though he does not provide names of the people in question), as well as citing the fact that the Imperial Estates Meeting Agenda for March has not been published to discuss at our local meeting. HIM Karl has graciously responded to this latter concern, and I do not think that will be an issue any longer.

We would like to proceed with this meeting. According to the bylaws, if the chancellor is not available to conduct the meeting, the senior estate member may conduct it. Also it states that votes can be sent by proxy to the meeting.

The confirmation I would like is thus: Are we reading the bylaws correctly and can we conduct a meeting of the body without the chancellor / Lord Protector?

I thank you in advance for a reply from the Chancery.

Most Humbly,

Guillaume Marchand du Fleur

ADVISORY

Father Guillaume,

In answer to your queries:

1) Please refer to Imperial Bylaws XIV C Lord/Lady Protector, line 8 ". . . the Estates at whose pleasure the Lord Lady Protector reigns." and lines 6-7 ". . . shall reign until removed by the appropriate body of Estates," from these provisions we understand that removal may be by majority (not 2/3rds), the Protector is not a "Crown." This can be done anytime the body is in session--it may not require an agenda item but it is advisable to do it (to reduce chance of appeal). It is possible the Estates may do this regularly, but it's a bad idea to be constantly changing governments.

2) As per VI D Chartered Subdivision Governing Body; Summoning Meetings, Paragraph 3, ". . . may also be summoned by three members of that body." As such meetings are subject to other law, notice or waiver of notice (2/3rds of those present, having achieved quorum) is required.

If such a meeting is called, the chancellor/protector cannot block it, but can chair it. Interference may be a chargeable act. (Was such a meeting called, or merely discussed?)

3) Notice of reconsideration, following general rules of reconsideration, if the body votes to appoint the Protector, and one member of the prevailing side (those voting in favor if it passes) moves to reconsider during the same meeting, and anyone seconds the motion, a vote to reconsider the issue is in order (it is also debatable). If approved the body considers the original proposal. Regardless, see 1 above, replacing the Protector may always be in order.

4) VIII D 2 Archduchies and Duchies does not directly address the appointment of the Duke/Duchess, 2 b i states "A Duchy has the right to choose a Ducal Crown or Crowns." No particular procedure is called for, but all Duchy business is subject to the Imperial Crown. Therefore, any method acceptable to the Imperial Crown appears to be in order. The majority of the Estates could recommend a candidate to the Imperial Crown through a simple resolution or even by petition. Or, the Imperial Crown could order a War, Election, or some other method. Precedent requires confirmation by the Imperial Crown.

In Service,

Sir William Baine, Chancellor, Adria 2/20/03