

# WORKING FOR GOD EFFECTIVELY



## Working for God With Earnestness

The 97th Annual Session  
of the  
Convention of  
Original Free Will Baptists

May 19 – 21, 2009

**Reports Book**

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**MINUTES OF THE  
ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION  
OF THE CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE  
OF THE ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS  
HELD AT POWHATAN OFWB CHURCH  
OF THE CLAYTON COMMUNITY, NORTH CAROLINA  
NOVEMBER 11, 2008**

**Moderator:** The Reverend Aubrey Williamson (2010)  
**Assistant Moderator:** The Reverend Otis Hamm (2010)  
**Clerk:** Eva Ballance (2009)  
**Assistant Clerk:** Carolyn Jernigan (2009)  
**Treasurer:** The Reverend Sam Weeks (2010)  
**Member at Large:** The Reverend Ken Dabbs (2009)

**EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Aubrey Williamson, Otis Hamm, Eva Ballance, Carolyn Jernigan, Sam Weeks, Ken Dabbs

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

J.N. Bryant (2009) Donnie Massey (2010)  
Bobby Johnson (2011) Chris Markuson, Jr. (2012) Ray Smith (2013)

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Doug Seymour (2009) Billy Nowell (2010)  
Wayne Puckett (2011) Martha Parsons (2012) Peyton Lee (2013)

**ORDAINING BOARD**

Sam Weeks (2009) Joe Ballance (2010)  
Frank Harrison (2011) Jim Bogle (2012) Aubrey Williamson (2013)

**CONFERENCE DISASTER RELIEF COORDINATOR**

Ricky Warren (2010)

**ORDAINED MINISTERS**

(P – Present, A – Absent, E – Excused)

E	Henry Armstrong	P	Wade Daughtry
P	Fred Baker	E	Jesse Fulcher
P	Joe Ballance	E	Edmundo Gonzalez
E	Swade Benson	P	Otis Hamm
P	Cecil Blackmon	P	Frank Harrison
P	Jim Bogle	P	Ronnie Hayes
P	Gene Britt	P	John Hill
P	Rayford Byrd	E	Roger Hill
P	Braxton Carter	P	Earl Johnson
P	Scott Casey	P	Fred Johnson
P	Larry Coats	P	Emmitt Jones
P	James Corbett	E	Dan Jordan
P	Ken Dabbs	E	Dean Kennedy

## Cape Fear

P	Alan Lamm	P	Burkette Raper
E	John Rayford Lee	A	Scott Satterfield
P	Donnie Massey	P	Jeff Scarborough
P	Richard McKeel	P	Doug Seymour
P	Tony McLamb	P	Elijah Smith
A	Joe Myrick	P	Hubert Stanley
P	Billy Nowell	A	Charlie Tucker
E	Kenneth Phillips	E	Willem Van der Plas
P	Dennis Pollock	P	Ricky Warren
P	Alan Price	P	Sam Weeks
E	Jimmy Price	P	Aubrey Williamson
P	Clarence Privette	P	Richard Whitman

## LICENSED MINISTERS

E	John Butler- Oak Grove
A	Bryan Williamson-St. Mary's Grove

## PROCEEDINGS

The One Hundred and Fifty-Fourth Annual Session of the Cape Fear Conference of Original Free Will Baptists (OFWB) convened at Powhatan OFWB Church, Clayton Community, North Carolina on November 11, 2008. Moderator Aubrey Williamson presented the program for adoption.

The congregation opened in singing "America the Beautiful", *Bates*, led by song leader, Peyton Lee. Rev. Scott Casey offered scripture and prayer from Ephesians 6:10-18. The conference was welcomed by Pastor Jim Bogle of Powhatan OFWB Church. The response was heard from Chris Markuson, Jr. of St. Mary's Grove OFWB Church.

Clerk Eva Ballance called the session to order. The rules of registration were then explained by the Credentials Committee Chair Joe Ballance, as adopted by the One Hundred Fourteenth Session of the Cape Fear Conference. Clerk Eva Ballance called the Roll of Officers and Standing Boards, Churches, and Ministers. Rev. Stephen Prescott requested to join the Cape Fear Conference. Motion was made to accept Rev. Prescott's transfer from the Eastern Conference to the Cape Fear Conference. Motion was carried. The right hand of fellowship was extended by Moderator Aubrey Williamson to Rev. Stephen Prescott, welcoming him to our conference. The Moderator recognized the visitors.

Moderator Aubrey Williamson offered words of encouragement to the conference from Matthew 5:12. He commented that "His Word and His Truth will carry us through trying times. We are a blessed people. We are promised victory in Jesus as we exercise our faith. When we are weak, He is strong. We can be the salt and the light of the world. Let's keep the faith." Moderator Aubrey Williamson welcomed everyone. He paid special tribute to veterans for giving us our national and religious freedom. Everyone was asked to stand for a moment of silent prayer to honor all veterans and show appreciation for their service.

Motion was made to appoint the following Temporary Committees by Moderator Williamson. The motion was carried.

**Temperance/Resolutions Committee:** Chair Otis Hamm, Doug Seymour, Ken Dabbs

**Obituary Committee:** Chair James Corbett, Braxton Carter

**Credentials Committee:** Chair Joe Ballance, Clarence Privette, Gene Britt

**Nominating Committee:** Chair Fred Baker, John Hill, Jim Bogle

A report was given by Dr. Burkette Raper for The North Carolina Foundation for Christian Ministries. Moderator Aubrey Williamson requested everyone to review the written report of the executive committee and the revised Constitution. Motion was carried to place the revised Constitution on the table until the afternoon session. Dr. Sam Weeks was recognized as the Cape Fear Conference representative to the Executive Committee of the Convention, who gave the Convention report. Charles Lynwood Renfrow, President of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, was recognized. He encouraged unity and a bond of peace so we can work together for the spreading of God's Word from our conferences to our churches and to our laity.

Representatives from our denominational ministries were present and given an opportunity to speak on the behalf of each ministry. The following ministries were represented: Convention of OFWB - Director of Convention Services, Buddy Sasser, Cragmont Assembly - Bryant Hines, Free Will Baptist Press - Cliff Gray, Foreign Missions - Harold Jones, Children's Home - Gary Lee, Mount Olive College - Jeff Daughtry, Sunday School Ministry - Gail Heath, Retirement Home Ministry - Ronnie Taylor, Home Missions & Evangelism and Harvest Connection - David Charles Hansley.

A report was given by John Hill for the Youth Commission. Rev. Doug Seymour gave a report for Blended Fellowship Mission/Ministry.

The Morning Worship Service began with singing "When The Roll is Called Up Yonder", *Black*, led by song leader, Peyton Lee. Special music was presented by Powhatan OFWB Church Adult Choir. Rev. Ricky Warren, pastor of Lee's Chapel OFWB Church, brought the morning message from Matthew 28:16-20, Matthew 22:36-40 and Leviticus 19:1,2,15-18. He shared a personal experience that led to his sermon topic "We Know What To Do, Will Someone Please Tell Us How." He stated "The church is failing to fulfill the Great Commission. We have become over-focused on the Great Commission instead of the Great Commandment. God wants us to be a holy people of covenant relationships." He used an illustration to convey the importance of loving God and one another and serving others as Jesus did.

The benediction and blessing was offered and the conference went to lunch.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION

The afternoon session began with the congregation singing "Victory in Jesus", *Bartlett*, led by song leader Peyton Lee. Scripture and prayer were offered by Rev. Larry Coats from Romans 12:2 and Galatians 2:20.

Moderator Aubrey Williamson requested a reading of the Constitution by Clerk Eva Ballance.

Motion was made to accept the written report of the executive committee as given. Motion was carried.

The following reports of the Standing Boards were received by the conference (see attached reports of the Standing Boards). The Mission's Committee report for Blended Fellowship Mission/Ministry was given by Dr. Sam Weeks. Rev. Fred Baker and Dr. Burkette Raper made additional comments. The Ordaining Council report was given by Dr. Sam Weeks. The Woman's Auxiliary Report, The Cape Fear Youth Fellowship and the Board of Christian Education reports were given by Martha Parsons. The Cape Fear

## Cape Fear

Minister's Conference report was given by Joe Ballance. These reports were accepted as information.

The following reports of the Temporary Committees were then received (see attached reports of the Temporary Committees). The Temperance/Resolutions Committee presented two resolutions, of which both passed. The Obituary Committee reported the deaths of three ministers and a minister's wife during the past year. The Nominating Committee made its recommendations to the conference. A nomination was made from the floor for Aubrey Williamson to retain his position on the Ordaining Board. A vote was taken and his name was properly placed into nomination. The list of candidates for nomination received a motion to be elected, was seconded and passed with the change in the Ordaining Board nominee. The Credentials Committee gave a report of the Annual Conference's attendance.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Treasurer Sam Weeks and was received by motion (see attached report).

The conference then moved into its business session. New business presented was a motion to remove the Constitution from the table and accept it as read. Motion was carried. Dr. Sam Weeks encouraged all ministers to attend the Minister's Association meetings.

The 155th Annual Session of the Cape Fear Conference will be held on November 10, 2009, at First OFWB Church, Goldsboro.

Motion was carried to adjourn the 154th Session of the Cape Fear Conference and the conference was dismissed with prayer by Rev. John Hill.

Respectfully submitted,  
Aubrey Williamson, Moderator  
Eva Ballance, Clerk

## CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

### CONSTITUTION

#### PREAMBLE

We, the Cape Fear Conference of the Original Free Will Baptists (OFWB) denomination, desiring to be in fellowship in a bond of union, do adopt this Constitution.

#### NAME

This shall be the Constitution of the Cape Fear Conference of the Original Free Will Baptists Churches; meeting annually to conduct its business and meeting quarterly as the Conference Fellowship Meetings.

#### PURPOSE

The goal of the Cape Fear Conference shall be to promote Christ's Kingdom among all people by advancing and promoting the cause of Jesus Christ.

#### ARTICLE I - COMPOSITION

This conference shall be composed of ordained ministers and churches within its bounds, which are in good standing, and of all officers, and members of standing

boards or committees of the conference. It shall operate under *The Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists (of the English General Baptist Heritage)*. A church corporation whose articles of incorporation, or constitution and bylaws, adhere with *The Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists*, shall be permitted membership in the Conference.

## ARTICLE II - REPRESENTATION

Each church shall be represented with one delegate for each fifty active members or fraction thereof, as reported in the current OFWB Directory. The delegation from each church shall carry a letter to the conference reflecting their appointment.

## ARTICLE III - OFFICERS

The officers of the conference shall be a moderator, an assistant moderator, a clerk, an assistant clerk, a treasurer, and a member at large who shall be elected for a term of two years, entering upon the duties of said office at the close of the session in which they are elected. The officers shall serve as the Conference Executive Committee. Temporary officers, representatives or messengers may be elected at the option of the conference for whatever purposes deemed essential.

## ARTICLE IV - STANDING BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

It shall be the policy of the conference to elect as many boards and committees as may be necessary to implement its program. These shall keep records of their proceedings and make a report at each annual session of the conference.

A Board of Trustees, a Board of Christian Education, and a Board of Ordination consisting of five members each shall be elected. The term of office for members of these boards shall be five years, with one member elected at each annual session of the conference.

*Section 1* - Standing boards shall establish their operating procedures and administer their respective programs of work, but each shall remain subject to the conference.

*Section 2* - Temporary committees shall be appointed at option of the conference for whatever purpose deemed necessary.

## ARTICLE V - FINANCE

*Section 1* - Each church shall contribute to the conference annually the **minimum** amounts specified below based on active church membership:

Less than 50--\$35.00

51-125--\$100

Greater than 125--\$125.00

*Section 2* - Each church shall also contribute to the Conference Fellowship Meetings a **minimum** of \$25.00.

## ARTICLE VI - ADMISSION OF CHURCHES

Any properly organized church that gives evidence of adherence to the doctrines of Christianity as taught by the Original Free Will Baptists, that desires to help promote the work of the conference and the Convention of OFWB, may petition for membership into the conference. Upon approval, the moderator shall extend the hand of fellowship to the church.

## ARTICLE VII - DISMISSION OF CHURCHES

A church may be dismissed from membership in the conference by conference vote or by request of said church.

## ARTICLE VIII - MEETINGS

*Section 1* - The conference shall meet in annual session on the second Tuesday of November. The host church shall be selected by vote of the conference in annual session or by the executive committee. The place of a future meeting may be changed by the executive committee should a change become necessary.

*Section 2* - The Conference Fellowship Meetings shall consist of four quarterly meetings, the Saturdays before the fifth Sunday, except for the conference revival, with one hour of training presented by the Board of Christian Education and one hour of worship presented by the host church. One of the four meetings shall be the conference revival organized by the executive committee.

## BYLAWS

*Section 1* - The duties of the moderator shall be to preside, according to accepted parliamentary procedure, over the session of the conference: to appoint temporary committees; and to serve as an ex officio member of all standing boards and committees. The moderator also serves as chairperson of the Conference Executive Committee.

*Section 2* - The duties of the assistant moderator shall be the duties of the moderator when that person is not present, and shall assist the moderator when called upon. In the event of the resignation or death of the moderator, the assistant moderator shall fill the vacancy until the next session of the conference.

*Section 3* - The clerk shall record the proceedings of all sessions of the conference, the executive committee meetings, and preserve accurate records. The clerk shall prepare the minutes of the annual session for publication.

*Section 4* - The duties of the assistant clerk shall be the duties of the clerk when that person is absent, and shall assist the clerk when called upon. In the event of the resignation or death of the clerk, the assistant clerk shall fill the vacancy until the next session of the conference.

*Section 5* - The treasurer shall hold in trust all money that belongs to the conference and pay out same by order of the conference. The treasurer shall keep an accurate account of all funds received and paid out, and make an annual report to the conference.

*Section 6* - It shall be the duty of the executive committee to transact the business of the conference when the conference is not in session and to present a report at annual conference. The executive committee shall plan the program for the annual session of the conference and the programs for the conference fellowship revival meetings. The executive committee shall serve as the Conference Mission Board, working in cooperation with Home Missions and Evangelism.

*Section 7* - The Board of Trustees shall hold in trust all conference real property and convey said property or assets as the conference may direct.

*Section 8* - It shall be the duty of the Board of Ordination to examine, ordain, and discipline ministers in keeping with the provisions of the *Statement of Faith and Discipline for Original Free Will Baptists*, along with whatever additional requirements



are made by the conference. The Board of Ordination shall examine ordained ministers seeking to serve a church in this conference and report decisions to the church.

*Section 9* - It shall be the duty of the Board of Christian Education to keep people informed of educational needs, and endeavor to promote the cause of Christian education. The Board of Christian Education shall cooperate with the educational institutions of the denomination and use all funds for the best interests of Christian education. The Board of Christian Education shall plan a program of work for the quarterly Conference Fellowship Meetings and present it to the annual conference for approval. This board shall be responsible for securing the host churches and naming them in their program of work. In addition, they shall be responsible for sending out notices and preparing the programs for each of the quarterly Conference Fellowship Meetings.

*Section 10* - The following temporary committees shall be appointed annually by the moderator and shall render reports during the sitting of the conference: Credentials, Nominating, Resolutions, and Obituary.

*Section 11* - Boards or committees will be recognized as having a quorum when there is a majority of the members present for a meeting, providing all the members of said boards or committees have been duly notified concerning the said meeting.

*Section 12* - Each ordained and licensed minister shall attend the annual session of the conference or be represented by letter.

*Section 13* - Each officer and member of standing committees and boards shall be entitled to a seat and vote in the conference.

*Section 14* - The conference shall open and close with suitable devotional services or prayer.

*Section 15* - This constitution, and its bylaws, may be altered or amended by a two-thirds favorable vote of the members present at the annual session, provided that said amendment shall be read during the morning session and action taken during the afternoon session.

### **Cape Fear Conference Executive Committee Minutes 2008**

**The Cape Fear Conference Executive Committee met on November 29, 2007, at the First FWB Church in Smithfield at 4:00 p.m.**

The meeting was called to order by Moderator Aubrey Williamson. Conference members present: Aubrey Williamson, Otis Hamm, Sam Weeks, Eva Ballance and Ken Dabbs.

Moderator Aubrey Williamson gave the devotion from Matthew 25 and asked that we look for opportunities to do something because we desire to serve Jesus. Then he led the opening prayer.

The September 24, 2007 Executive committee minutes were read for information.

The 2007 Annual Cape Fear Conference Minutes were reviewed. A motion was made to accept the minutes with correction. (MSP)

Treasurer Sam Weeks gave the treasurer's report. Balance was \$2632.70, of which \$442.00 is designated to be sent to Foreign Missions, leaving a balance of \$2190.70 in

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the general fund. Treasurer's report was accepted as information. It was noted that a thank you note had been received from Dr. Burkette Raper for the offering given to The N.C. Foundation of Christian Ministries.

Martha Parsons will be asked to submit a letter to all Cape Fear Conference churches requesting their Union dues for the December Union meeting that is not actually being held.

Discussion continued regarding the Constitution revision. It was decided to form a task group, comprising of Union and Executive Committee members. Rev. Ken Dabbs made a motion for Rev. Otis Hamm and Dr. Sam Weeks to represent the Executive Committee, by joining with representatives from the Union to revise the Constitution and report back to the conference by June, 2008. (MSP) Review will be made of their recommendations on June 23, 2008.

New business brought forth was a request to purchase a Christian flag by the conference. Sam Weeks noted he had already ordered one flag. Motion was made to buy one cotton flag and keep one on hand. (MSP)

A motion was made to request a meeting with Rev. David Charles Hansley, Director of Home Missions, to discuss the Home Missions contract with Daly's Chapel and give us feedback regarding his vision for Daly's Chapel. (MSP)

A motion was made for the Executive Committee to meet with Ronnie Taylor and Daly's Chapel on Sunday, March 9, 2008 at 3:00 p.m. to answer questions that they may have and clarify their vision. An invitation will be extended to Rev. David Charles Hansley to attend. (MSP)

The Ordaining Council will contact Rev. McLamb and Rev. Satterfield regarding missing two consecutive Annual Cape Fear Conference meetings without excuse.

It was decided that the task group revising the Constitution will review the Executive Committee officers' expiration of term dates.

Motion was made to send \$500.00 to Rev. Charles Lynwood Renfrow for expenses incurred with the Convention. (MSP)

Motion was made to adjourn. (MSP)

Rev. Otis Hamm led the closing prayer.

**The Cape Fear Conference Executive Committee met on February 21, 2008, at the First FWB Church in Smithfield at 4:00 p.m.**

The meeting was called to order by Moderator Aubrey Williamson. Conference members present: Aubrey Williamson, Otis Hamm, Sam Weeks, Eva Ballance, Ken Dabbs and Carolyn Jernigan.

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Moderator Aubrey Williamson gave the devotion from John 14:1-6 and I John 1. He spoke about Jesus leaving the disciples with a comforter. He stated that Jesus is past, present and future by acknowledging what he has done for each of us and is doing for us now and is preparing for our future. His challenge was that God would help us to have a vision beyond ourselves. Otis Hamm led the opening prayer, remembering Ken Dabbs' mother who had fallen that afternoon.

The November 29, 2007 Executive committee minutes were accepted as presented. (MSP)

Treasurer Sam Weeks gave the treasurer's report. Beginning balance was \$2495.70, of which \$1422.84 was designated for the education fund and the purchase of three Christian flags, leaving an actual balance of \$1072.86. The treasurer's report was accepted as information. (MSP)

Old business addressed was the formation of the Constitution Revision Committee. It was noted that Braxton Carter and Roger Hill from the Cape Fear Conference Union, and Otis Hamm and Sam Weeks from the Executive Committee, are serving on this committee. Their recommendations will be reviewed at the June 23, 2008 Executive Committee meeting.

Other old business was acknowledging the purchase of two Christian flags, one for the service of Rev. Roy Clifton and the other for the service of Rev. Norman Ard. The third Christian flag has been purchased to keep on hand for any upcoming need.

By request of the Executive Committee, Rev. David Charles Hansley, Director of Home Missions, met with the committee at 4:30 p.m. to discuss his vision for Daly's Chapel and the possible formation of missions within the Cape Fear Conference that had not been brought to the attention of the Executive Committee.

Rev. Hansley agreed to work closely with the Executive Committee regarding mission formation in the Cape Fear Conference.

Dr. Sam Weeks led in prayer for the work of Home Missions and the leadership of Rev. David Charles Hansley, Director of Home Missions. Appreciation was expressed to Rev. Hansley for meeting with the Executive Committee and an invitation was extended to him to attend the meeting at Daly's Chapel on Sunday, March 9, 2008 at 3:00 p.m.

The Ordination Board met in joint session with the Executive Committee at 5:15 p.m. to discuss Larry Coats' proposal. Mr. Coats had requested reinstatement of his credentials to be an ordained OFWB minister in a letter dated March 18, 2007.

Moderator Aubrey Williamson asked for a recommendation from the Executive Committee to the Ordination Board regarding the reinstatement of Mr. Larry Coats' credentials. A recommendation was made that the Ordination Board reinstate the credentials of Larry Coats, effective March 24, 2008, and he be notified of this affirmation tonight. (MSP)

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The Ordination Board made a recommendation to reinstate Mr. Larry Coats' credentials on March 1, 2008. (MSP) The Ordination Board was then dismissed.

The Executive Committee meeting was called back to order. A request had been received from the Convention of OFWB to send \$300.00 for the I.M.P.A.C.T. Banquet. A motion was made to send \$300.00 to the Convention for the I.M.P.A.C.T. Banquet. (MSP)

Sam Weeks gave an update about activities at the Convention of OFWB.

Motion was made to adjourn. (MSP)

**The Cape Fear Conference Executive Committee met on March 9, 2008, with Daly's Chapel Church at 3:00 p.m.**

Licensed Minister Ronnie Taylor welcomed everyone and led with an opening prayer. The meeting was turned over to Otis Hamm, Assistant Moderator, who asked the Executive Committee to introduce themselves. Members present were Otis Hamm, Sam Weeks, Eva Ballance and Ken Dabbs.

Assistant Moderator Otis Hamm gave Daly's Chapel members an opportunity to address questions they may have to the Executive Committee.

Assistant Moderator Otis Hamm reiterated the support of the CFC Executive Committee to provide training for some officers, deacons, etc.

Daly's Chapel spoke words of appreciation to Licensed Minister Ronnie Taylor and his wife, Wanda, and to the Executive Committee of the CFC for their expression of concern and offering of support. The Executive Committee praised Daly's Chapel for their graciousness and for taking a positive course of action.

The meeting was adjourned. Assistant Moderator, Otis Hamm prayed the closing prayer.

**The Cape Fear Conference Executive Committee met on March 9, 2008, at Daly's Chapel Church.**

Following the meeting with Daly's Chapel, the Executive Committee met with Licensed Minister, Ronnie Taylor. Assistant Moderator, Otis Hamm called the meeting to order. Ronnie Taylor presented a six month report from Daley's Chapel. It was stated that the business meeting with Daly's Chapel had been positive and that the Executive Committee wanted to work with Home Missions for the sake of Daly's Chapel.

Motion was made to adjourn. (MSP) Eva Ballance led the closing prayer.

**The Cape Fear Conference Executive Committee met on June 23, 2008, at the First FWB Church in Smithfield at 4:00 p.m.**

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The meeting was called to order by Moderator Aubrey Williamson. Conference members present were Aubrey Williamson, Sam Weeks, Eva Ballance and Ken Dabbs.

Moderator Aubrey Williamson gave the devotion from Luke, Chapter 11. He stated that God has an ear to hear from people. He is as close as a prayer. We should trust that there is unity in peace and we should strive to unify to glorify. Aubrey Williamson led the opening prayer.

Recommended changes to the Constitution and By-laws were presented by Sam Weeks, representing the Constitution Revision Committee. Further review will take place at the next Executive Committee meeting in August.

The February 21, 2008 Executive Committee minutes were approved as read. The March 9, 2008 Executive Committee minutes were approved with corrections.

There was discussion regarding the Executive Committee's response to Daly's Chapel's needs and commitment to assist them with deacon training. A motion was made to send a letter to Daly's Chapel, reaffirming the committee's position to be of assistance to them. (MSP)

Treasurer Sam Weeks gave the treasurer's report. Balance was \$1996.38, of which \$1187.44 was designated for the education fund. It was noted that there was one Christian flag on hand if a need arises.

New business discussed was the food expense by Blended Fellowship for the Union Meeting meal to be held on Saturday, June 28, 2008. A motion was made to cover the cost of the food by placing an offering plate for contributions and the Conference pay the remaining balance for a total offering of \$500.00. (MSP)

Planning began for the 154<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the Cape Fear Conference at Powhatan OFWB Church on Tuesday, November, 11, 2008. The program was finalized and temporary committee recommendations will be discussed at the next Executive Committee meeting on August 25, 2008.

Motion was made to adjourn. (MSP) Clerk, Eva Ballance led the closing prayer.

**The Cape Fear Conference Executive Committee met on August 25, 2008, at the First FWB Church in Smithfield at 4:00 p.m.**

The meeting was called to order by Moderator Aubrey Williamson. Conference members present: Aubrey Williamson, Otis Hamm, Sam Weeks, Eva Bailance and Carolyn Jernigan.

Otis Hamm opened with prayer. Carolyn Jernigan gave the devotion from Matthew 7:7.

The June 23, 2008 Executive Committee minutes were accepted as presented.

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Treasurer Sam Weeks gave the treasurer's report. Balance was \$986.81. The treasurer's report was accepted as information.

Old business discussed was review of the program for the 154<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the Cape Fear Conference. Recommendations were given for the temporary committees.

A motion was made that if the Fellowship of Conservative Free Will Baptists requested to give a report at the Annual Session of the Cape Fear Conference that their request be denied. (MSP)

It was noted that the Convention had decided that the representative from each conference would give the Convention report at their Annual Conference. Dr. Sam Weeks is our Cape Fear Conference representative on the Executive Committee of the Convention and will give the report.

A motion was made for the clerk to contact the persons selected and listed for the Temporary Committees for the Annual Session of the Cape Fear Conference. (MSP)

A motion was made that the Executive Committee recommend to the Conference Nominating Committee that all the officers whose term is expiring to retain their positions with new terms expiring according to the Constitution. (MSP) A letter will be sent to the Chairman of the Nominating Committee listing each name and position.

The Executive Committee agreed to move to a new item of business. The Blended Fellowship Ministry Endowment was presented. It was noted that four individuals had pledged \$1000.00 each to this endowment. For the endowment to pay out dividends, it must be a total of \$10,000.00. It was decided that Dr. Sam Weeks will expound on this need at the Annual Session of the Cape Fear Conference.

A motion was made that the Cape Fear Conference gives \$1200.00 annually to The N.C. Foundation for Christian Ministries for scholarships. (MSP)

The Executive Committee returned to an old item of business, the revision of the Constitution. A final copy will be mailed to all churches with the conference letter for review before the Annual Session. A motion was made that the Executive Committee recommend that the Cape Fear Conference adopt and ratify the revised Cape Fear Conference Constitution and Bylaws. (MSP)

A motion was made to send \$500.00 from the Cape Fear Conference to the President of the Convention earmarked for his financial needs. (MSP)

Motion was made to adjourn. (MSP) Carolyn Jernigan led the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Eva Ballance, Clerk

**Report of the Board of Ordination  
154<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the Cape Fear Conference**

**On Thursday February 21, 2008 The Board of Ordination met in joint session with the Cape Fear Conference Executive Committee at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Smithfield at 5:00 pm.** Board members present were: Dr. Sam Weeks, Rev. Frank Harrison, Rev. Joe Ballance and Rev. Jim Bogle.

The board met at the request of Mr. Larry Coats and Rev. Frank Harrison, his mentor on the Board of Ordination, to discuss Larry Coats' proposal concerning the need to move forward with his "Prodigal Son Ministry", therefore requesting an earlier date of ordination. The joint session was informed of the previous action by the Board of Ordination. A review of Mr. Coats' previous ministry, revocation of credentials, request for reinstatement and his goals as an OFWB minister were presented and discussed. Mr. Coats was invited to present his position in life and in his ministerial goals to the joint session. Mr. Coats presented his outline of The Prodigal Son Ministries. Questions were presented to Mr. Coats and answers were given. He stated that his desire was to be reinstated as soon as possible so he could move forward with his ministry. Mr. Coats was thanked for his presentation and response and he was lifted up in prayer by Rev. Jim Bogle prior to his departure.

Moderator Aubrey Williamson asked for a recommendation from the Executive Committee to the Ordination Board regarding the reinstatement of Mr. Larry Coats' credentials. A recommendation was made that the Ordination Board reinstate the credentials of Larry Coats, effective March 24, 2008, and he be notified of this affirmation tonight. Motion was made, seconded and passed by the Executive Committee.

Rev. Frank Harrison made a recommendation to the Ordination Board to reinstate Mr. Larry Coats' credentials to be effective on March 1, 2008. Motion was made, seconded and passed. The Ordination Board was then dismissed from the joint session.

**On Monday, March 23, 2008 The Board of Ordination met at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Smithfield at 1:00 pm.** Board members present were: Dr. Sam Weeks, Rev. Frank Harrison, Rev. Joe Ballance and Rev. Jim Bogle.

The meeting was opened with prayer. The Board discussed Mr. John Butler to continue for 90 more days of service at Covenant in Hope Mills, NC. Motion was made, seconded and passed that he be allowed to continue. The meeting was adjourned in prayer.

**On Monday June 23, 2008 The Board of Ordination met at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Smithfield at 1:00 pm.** Board members present were: Dr. Sam Weeks, Rev. Frank Harrison, Rev. Joe Ballance and Rev. Aubrey Williamson.

The meeting was opened with prayer. The Board discussed Mr. John Butler to continue for 90 more days of service at Covenant in Hope Mills, NC. Motion was made, seconded and passed that he be allowed to continue. The meeting was adjourned in prayer.

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**On Monday August 25, 2008 The Board of Ordination met at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Smithfield at 1:00 pm.** Board members present were: Dr. Sam Weeks, Rev. Frank Harrison, Rev. Joe Ballance, Rev. Aubrey Williamson and Rev. Jim Bogle.

The meeting was opened with prayer. The Board met with Mr. John Butler concerning continuing for 90 more days of service at Covenant in Hope Mills, NC. Motion was made, seconded and passed that he be allowed to continue. The Board discussed the receipt of a letter from Johnston Union Church concerning Tina W. Penny. It noted that her license would not be renewed for the year. The meeting was adjourned in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
The Board of Ordination of the Cape Fear Conference  
Rev. Aubrey Williamson, Clerk

**The Report of the Minister's Association  
154<sup>th</sup> Cape Fear Conference of Original Free Will Baptists**

During the past year, the Cape Fear Minister's Association met for three meetings. Several good speakers made presentations that provided us with excellent information and challenged each of the ministers to work for the cause of Christ.

Our guest speaker in March was Mr. Gary Lee, Director of The Free Will Baptist Children's Home who gave us an update on this denominational ministry. Dr. De Eakes, pastor of Little Rock OFWB Church in Lucama, was the guest speaker for the June meeting who gave us a lesson on bulletin preparation for the enhancement of the worship service. For the meeting in August, the guest speaker was Dr. W. Burkette Raper, Founder and President of The North Carolina Foundation for Christian Ministries who explained how an endowment can be given to the foundation to further the education of ministers.

We have 27 ministers on roll with an average attendance of 10 ministers at each meeting. The meetings were held at the First Free Will Baptist church in Smithfield. Dr. Sam Weeks and his wife, Connie, with assistance from members of his church, prepared the noon meals following each meeting.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rev. Joe Ballance, Secretary/Treasurer

**Blended Fellowship Mission/Ministry Report  
154<sup>th</sup> Cape Fear Conference of Original Free Will Baptists**

The Blended Fellowship family wishes to express deep and sincere appreciation to the Cape Fear Conference for your continuing support. We are continuing to share the gospel message with the Deaf. To accomplish this crucial task, we cannot simply hand out literature or invite the Deaf to come worship with us. Trust must be established and relationships must be built. Time, energy, prayer, financial resources,



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patience and love must be invested. Your help in providing any of these resources touches a culture that is almost entirely non-Christian. Our most urgent need is a new roof to stop the damage being done to the work and materials donated by many of you.

Blended Fellowship gratefully acknowledges the recent establishment of the Blended Fellowship Endowed Fund. We appreciate the work of Dr. Burkette Raper and The North Carolina Foundation for Christian Ministries in creating this fund. We also want to thank those who made the initial contributions to the fund; Dr. Raper, The Reverend Sam and Connie Weeks, The Reverend Frank Harrison and The Reverend Emmitt Jones.

Blended Fellowship's connections with the Deaf continue to strengthen. Of the more than 200 Deaf we are currently in contact with, most have had little or no interaction with any religious group, other than Jehovah's Witnesses. A small percentage have been contacted by an outreach established by Southern Baptists, though this outreach seems to have had limited impact. We believe God has called us to this specific work and equipped us for it. We now have 40 Deaf individuals who worship with us regularly. All of the other 160 or so come periodically to our special events.

We are continuing to expand as a resource center for the Deaf and for hearing people who are interested in ministry to the Deaf. There are currently 13 Deaf who receive regular weekly assistance with making phone calls, understanding mail they receive, managing a budget and other day to day activities. As a hearing resource center, we are offering sign language and Deaf culture training to our hearing members as well as 12 individuals from other churches.

As a denomination, we minister to the needs of children, the elderly, students, cultures in foreign lands, etc. The local congregation of Blended Fellowship supports these ministries and others. We believe that ministry to the Deaf culture is of equal importance. Some years ago, there was a ministry to the Deaf established by people in our denomination. That work ended and the Deaf involved were deeply hurt. We want to make sure that doesn't happen again and that Blended Fellowship will continue far beyond the lifetime of its founders.

Respectfully submitted,  
Doug Seymour, Pastor/Director

## Cape Fear Conference Woman's Auxiliary Report

The Woman's Auxiliary reminded the conference that the women of this denomination continue to work faithfully (often in the background) to promote the cause of Christ. New officers will be elected in the Spring, 2009, and there is a need for a few good women who would be willing to serve as officers. Please let Carolyn Best or Rita Jones know if you have any candidates.

Respectfully submitted,  
Martha Parsons

### **Cape Fear Youth Fellowship Report**

The Cape Fear Youth Fellowship attendance is continuing to decline. At the last Youth Rally there were four churches represented and two pastors present. Concern was addressed to pastors, auxiliary presidents and youth leaders due to the lack of participation. Encouragement of attendance was expressed. It was noted that literature regarding upcoming dates of youth events had been distributed. Prayers were requested for growth and participation in concern for the youth of our denomination.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Parsons, Co-Director

### **Christian Board of Education Report 154<sup>th</sup> Cape Fear Conference of Original Free Will Baptists**

Letters were mailed to all Cape Fear Conference churches on March 20, 2008. There were six high school senior applications received for scholarships. There were sufficient funds to award each applicant with a scholarship; however, there was not enough money for each applicant to receive \$500.00. Listed below is the name of each recipient and their church affiliation.

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Natalie Starr Tart	St. Paul OFWB Church	\$500.00
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Rebecca Crumpler	Shady Grove OFWB Church	\$140.00
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Morgan Yvette Sills	Shady Grove OFWB Church	\$140.00
4 <sup>th</sup> Place	Brenna Kay Parker	Bethel OFWB Church	\$140.00
4 <sup>th</sup> Place	Carmen Dianne Etheridge	Yelverton Grove OFWB Church	\$140.00
5 <sup>th</sup> Place	Marcus D. Hope	St. Paul OFWB Church	\$140.00

Each applicant was highly qualified. A point system is used to determine scholarship distribution.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Parsons, Chairperson

### **Temperance and Resolutions Committee**

1. **Whereas**, Powhatan OFWB Church has been such a gracious host and welcoming church of the 154<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the Cape Fear Conference,

**Therefore, be it resolved** that the Cape Fear Conference give a rising vote of thanks to the Powhatan OFWB Church.

Submitted by the Resolutions Committee

**Resolution adopted**

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**Whereas**, the Cape Fear Conference has been closely involved with the Blended Fellowship Mission/Ministry and

**Whereas**, the Cape Fear Conference has been so supportive of our ministry objectives.

**Therefore, be it resolved that** the Cape Fear Conference appoint a task force to research the feasibility of establishing Blended Fellowship as a ministry of the Cape Fear Conference. This task force should include the following: the Conference Mission Board (the Executive Committee of the Cape Fear Conference), the Reverend Dean Kennedy, pastor of Haymount Original Free Will Baptist Church (the mother church), and Rev. Doug and Melanie Seymour. The results and/or recommendations of the task force would be presented to the 155<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the Cape Fear Conference in 2009.

Submitted by the Resolutions Committee

### **Resolution adopted**

Respectfully submitted,

Otis Hamm, Chair

## Obituary Committee

We, the Obituary Committee do offer the following report to the 154<sup>th</sup> Session of the Cape Fear Conference. Since the 153<sup>rd</sup> Session of our Conference, we have had three ministers and one minister's wife to go home to our Lord and they are as follows:

The Reverend Norman Ard Pastored First OFWB Church, Goldsboro Retired at time of death	February, 2008
The Reverend W.J. Tyner Pastored Spring Hill OFWB, Black Jack OFWB, Daly's Chapel and Eastover of Fayetteville Retired at time of death	April, 2008
The Reverend David Hill Pastored Sweet Gum Grove Retired at time of death	November, 2008
Mrs. Betty Lee Wife of Rev. John Rayford Lee Member of Bethel OFWB Church	August, 2008

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Scripture readings were from II Corinthians 4: 6-18 and II Corinthians 5: 1-9. Everyone stood for a moment of silent prayer and Rev. Braxton Carter gave the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

James Corbett, Chair

### Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee submitted the following to serve the conference:

Executive Committee-	Moderator, Aubrey Williamson (2010)
	Assistant Moderator, Otis Hamm (2010)
	Treasurer, Sam Weeks (2010)
Board of Trustee-	Ray Smith (2013)
Board of Education-	Peyton Lee (2013)
Ordaining Board-	Aubrey Williamson (2013)
Conference Disaster Relief Coordinator-	Ricky Warren (2010)

Respectfully submitted,

Fred Baker, Chair

### Credentials Committee

Present at the One Hundred Fifty-Fourth Annual Session of Cape Fear Conference are as follows:

Ministers	37	
Delegates	29	
Visitors	24	
<u>Officers</u>	<u>3</u>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>93</b>	(Several workers not counted)

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Ballance, Chair

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**Cape Fear Conference Treasurer's Report  
November 12, 2007 - November 10, 2008  
Powhatan OFWB Church  
November 11, 2008**

I.	Balance on hand as of November 12, 2007:	<b>\$2,017.70</b>
II.	Receipts:	
	2007 Conference (offering and letters)	\$2,210.00
	Union offerings and letters (Jan/Mar/Jun/Aug)	\$2,889.86
	Late Conference/Union (Mailed in)	\$680.00
	Designated Gifts for Blended Fellowship Mission	<u>\$3,200.00</u>
	Total Receipts:	<b>\$8,979.86</b>
	Total to account for:	<b>\$10,997.56</b>
III.	Disbursements:	
	Conf/Union Expenses (Postage, travel, honorariums)	\$684.66
	N. C. Foundation for Christian Ministries	1,200.00
	Foreign Missions	456.61
	Home Missions	\$456.60
	Education Scholarship	\$1,200.00
	Blended Fellowship Designated Gifts	\$3,200.00
	Convention of OFWB (2007 Report Books)	\$735.00
	Convention of OFWB (Delegates and travel)	1,580.00
	4 Christian Flags	<u>\$384.64</u>
	Total Disbursements:	<b>\$10,197.51</b>
IV.	Balance on hand as of November 10, 2008:	<b>\$800.05</b>
	(Out of this balance \$224.82 is in the Education Fund)	
V.	Formula for disbursements:	
	Missions = 25% (half to Foreign and half to Home)	
	Christian Education Fund = 20%	
	Union and Conference expenses = 55%	

Respectfully submitted,

Sam Weeks, Treasurer