

MINUTES

OF THE

Ninth Annual

Session

OF THE

**Central Western Missouri and South-
eastern Kansas Association**

OF

FREEWILL BAPTISTS

**Convened with Verdella Church Near Liberal
and Hannon, Mo., Sept. 5--9, 1917**

**The Next Session Will Convene With Neola
Church Near Greenfield, Mo.,
Aug. 8--11, 1918**

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Central Western Missouri and South- eastern Kansas Association

OF FREEWILL BAPTISTS

OFFICERS

W. H. Potts, Moderator,	Stockton, Mo.
T. C. Ferguson, Asst. Moderator,	Stockton, Mo.
B. F. Brown, Clerk and Treas.,	Hannon, Mo.
W. H. York, Asst. Clerk,	Chanute, Kans.

EXECUTIVE AND HOME MISSION BOARD

O. T. Fast,	R. 3, Liberal, Mo.
Ed Washburn,	Moundville, Mo.
B. F. Brown,	Hannon, Mo.
T. C. Ferguson,	Stockton, Mo.
L. C. Wade,	Hannon, Mo.

MINUTES

OF

The Ninth Annual Session of the Central Western Missouri and Southeastern Kansas Association of Freewill Baptists, convened with the Verdella Freewill Baptist church near Liberal and Hannon, Missouri, September 5 to 9, 1917.

WEDNESDAY EVENING

Session opened with singing by congregation followed by prayer by moderator T. C. Ferguson.

Moderator appointed as pulpit and program committee, Wm. Mayfield, Geo. Manis and W. H. Potts, who retired and arranged that C. W. Mayfield occupy pulpit at 11 o'clock, Thursday.

Motion carried to adjourn till 9 a. m., Thursday.

Closing prayer by W. A. Needham.

The sermon for the evening was preached by W. H. York, from Luke 3:9.

THURSDAY MORNING

Meeting called to order by the clerk, who read for a scripture lesson John 6 : 24-40, and offered prayer.

Moderator then took charge and called for a song after which a short time was given to testimony meeting in which all present took part.

Minutes of Wednesday evening session read and approved.

Church letters were called for and were read by clerk. The following churches were represented by letter and delegates: Fair View, Verdella, Wagoner, Neola, Stockton, Hannon, Hickory Grove, Bluff and Sylvandale.

Standing members and delegates present and name of church to which each belongs:

C. W. Mayfield.	Fair View
W. A. Needham,	Fair View
Wm. Mayfield,	Fair View
O. T. Fast,	Verdella
Minnie Smith,	Verdella
Bessie Paige,	Verdella
T. C. Ferguson,	Wagoner
W. H. Potts,	Wagoner
Minnie Potts,	Wagoner
W. M. Marshall,	Wagoner
Lizzie Marshall,	Wagoner,
George Morris,	Neola
P. D. Hartley,	Stockton
T. L. Blake,	Stockton
Henrietta Willsie,	Stockton
B. F. Brown,	Hannon
L. C. Wade,	Hannon
Frankie Wade,	Hannon
Anna Reed,	Hannon
Loten Thomas,	Hannon
Mrs. Loten Thomas,	Hannon
Mrs. C. W. Ricketts,	Hannon
Rena Thomas,	Hannon
J. W. Moul,	Hickory Grove
Ira McDonald,	Hickory Grove
J. C. France.	Bluff

J. H. Long,	Bluff
Cliffie White,	Bluff
Ed Washburn,	Sylvandale
F. M. Duncan,	Sylvandale

Several visiting brethren and sisters were present to whom were extended all privileges of the floor, except voting.

Fair View church requested that C. W. Mayfield be examined for ordination.

Neola and Hannon churches both requested next session of the Association.

Officers for the Association were elected as follows:

Moderator, W. H. Potts.

Assistant Moderator, T. C. Ferguson.

Assistant Clerk, W. H. York.

Member Home Mission Board for term of 5 years, O. T. Fast.

Member Home Mission Board for 4 years, Ed Washburn, who was elected to succeed J. J. McCarty, who resigned.

Anna Reed was appointed on pulpit and program committee to succeed W. H. Potts, who was elected Moderator.

Moderator appointed the following committees:

Committee on Business, Loten Thomas, C. W. Mayfield and P. D. Hartley.

Committee on Obituary, O. T. Fast, J. W. Moul and Ed Washburn.

Committee on Publication and Education: T. C. Ferguson, Geo. Manis and Bessie Paige.

Motion carried to adjourn till 2:30 p. m.

Closing prayer by T. C. Ferguson.

The stand was occupied at 11 o'clock by C. W. Mayfield. Subject: Faith.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON

Praise by congregation.

Scripture lesson: Psalms: 103, by Moderator and prayer by W. A. Needham.

Minutes of Thursday morning session read and approved.

Report of proceedings of Home Mission Board for the past year were read from records in clerk's book.

Report received.

T. L. Blake, W. M. Marshall, J. C. France, Ira McDonald and Minnie Smith were appointed committee on ministerial standing.

T. C. Ferguson, Myrtle Ferguson, W. A. Needham, H. Seward, B. F. Brown, J. B. Sparks and Rosa Sparks, ordained ministers, and J. R. Warren and C. W. Mayfield, licentiates, sent in written reports of their work during the past year. Bro. Ferguson's report shows that he has been constantly in evangelistic work in different parts of the state and he has been wonderfully blessed of the Lord in the salvation of hundreds of men and women. The others named above, except Bro. Seward, have been more or less in pastoral work and their reports are encouraging.

Bro. Seward has not preached any on account of ill health and old age. He is 86 years old.

Motion carried that C. C. Pitts' name be dropped from the roll of ministers.

Motion carried that churches and ministers

that fail to report while the Association is in session, and which do report afterwards and before the minutes go to press, shall be granted a standing in the Association.

Report of the Committee on Publication and Education: We recommend that all our people subscribe for the New Morning Star, published twice a month at Tecumseh, Okla., and costing 65 cents a year; also the Freewill Baptist, published once a week at Ayden, N. C., and costing \$1 a year. We also recommend that whenever practicable our Sunday Schools use the Freewill Baptist literature published at Ayden, N. C. We also recommend to our young people the Freewill Baptist Seminary and school at Ayden, N. C.

We recommend that this association continue to endorse Miss Esterbrook as our foreign missionary. All money for her should be sent through our treasurer, Rev. C. E. Mann, Santa Rosa, Mo.

We also recommend that all our preachers and workers that can possibly do so, take the Biblical Correspondence Course as conducted by Rev. J. H. Wolfe of Tecumseh, Okla. Our people everywhere should stand by our new college now being established at Tecumseh, Okla. We should send our young people to the school as students and give what money we can to keep it going.

T. C. Ferguson	}	Committee.
Geo. Manis		
Bessie Paige		

Motion carried to give the printing of our minutes to our publishing house at Tecumseh,

Okla., if it can be done within our means.

Motion carried to have 250 copies of the minutes printed.

Program committee reported that B. F. Brown would preach at 11 o'clock Friday.

Closing prayer, T. C. Ferguson.

FRIDAY MORNING

Praise by congregation.

Moderator read Romans, 13, for a lesson and offered prayer.

Minutes of Thursday afternoon read and approved.

Letter from Independence church of Cedar County, Mo., asking for admission to membership in this association was read and on motion the church was admitted to membership.

Motion carried that the Moderator of this Association visit the Independence church as soon as convenient and extend to them the right hand of fellowship for the Association.

Letter from W. C. Lock, clerk of Eldorado Springs church enclosing deed to Eldorado Springs church, was presented to the Association. After some discussion Bros. W. H. Potts and A. W. Hartley were chosen to go to Eldorado Springs and see what can be done to protect the property and secure it to the Association.

It was decided by ballot to hold the next session of the Association with Neola church near Greenfield, Mo., to convene on Thursday night before the second Sunday in August, 1918.

Delegates to Missouri State Association: C. H.

Miller, W. M. Marshall, R. R. Thomas, Mary Wade, Ira McDonald, J. H. Long, T. L. Blake, C. A. Hendricks, F. L. Parsons, Ethel Daniels, Elwood Johnson, T. M. Duncan, Ed Kepley, A. B. Whistance, D. M. Carlock, and Nellie Fast.

Motion carried to take a collection after the preaching service Friday night for the benefit of our school at Tecumseh, Oklahoma.

Final report of pupit and program committee.— Preaching Friday night by W. A. Needham and T. C. Ferguson, and preaching Saturday at 11 o'clock and Saturday night by W. H. York. Divine services on Sunday was left to Verdella church.

Report received and committee discharged.

Motion carried to adjourn till 2:30 p. m.

Closing prayer by O. T. Fast.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Praise by congregation; scripture lesson, Psalm 33 by moderator. Prayer by T. C. Ferguson.

Minutes of Friday morning session read and approved.

Report of Committee on Obituary. We submit the following report.—Be it resolved that we, Freewill Baptists of the Central Western Missouri and Southeastern Kansas Association of Freewill Baptists, express our deep sympathy to those bereaved over the loss of loved ones who were members among us.

We find the following persons have been called from us by death the past year:

Neola church:—Brother and Sister Filmore

Hunt and Irene Masters.

Fair View church:—Sister J. J. McCarty.

Union Valley church:—Rev. J. T. Slaight.

Hannon church:—Rev. E. F. Crabtree and
Rebert J. Dickey.

Hickory Grove church:—D. W. Ryle.

Wagoner church:—W. R. Hughes.

O. T. Fast	} Committee
J. W. Moul	
Ed Washburn	

Report received and committee discharged.

Request from Fair View church that C. W. Mayfield be examined for ordination was discussed and referred to Home Mission Board.

Motion carried to extend preacher's license for 1 year to C. W. Mayfield and J. R. Warren.

Motion carried to adopt the following as by-law No. 14.

“A request from a church that a brother or sister be examined for license or for ordination to preach the gospel shall not mean that he or she shall be licensed or ordained, but that a council be appointed to examine him or her and if, after the examination, the council thinks best he or she may be licensed.”

Report of Committee on Ministerial Standing:—
We recommend that T. C. Ferguson, Myrtle Ferguson, H. Seward, B. F. Brown, W. A. Needham, J. B. Sparks and Rosa Sparks, ordained ministers in good standing, and J. R. Warren and C. W. Mayfield, licensed ministers in good standing, be given Annual Certificates of ministerial standing.

Report received and committee discharged.

Report of the Missionary Society of Stockton church:—We have twelve members. We gave a donation of about \$15.00 to Miss Esterbrook and also a donation to Sister Ferguson to the value of \$30.00. We have now about \$5.00 in the treasury.

Henriette Willsie, President.
Stella Pruitt, Secretary.

Report of the Missionary Society of Wagoner church:—We have twelve active members and are working hard to keep the church in good condition. We minister to the needy in every way we can and we donate liberally to the upbuilding of christian work in our country. We also donated \$10.00 to our school at Tecumseh, Oklahoma. We have \$58.87 in the bank at present.

We all hope and pray that we can do more in the future than in the past.

Mrs. Lizzie Marshall, President.
Mrs. Cora Williams, Secretary.

Motion carried to adjourn till 9 a. m. Saturday.

Closing prayer by B. F. Brown.

Preaching Friday night by W. A. Needham and T. C. Ferguson; subject, "Lost Power."

After the preaching service a collection for the Tecumseh College was taken which amounted to \$8.00.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Praise by congregation; scripture lesson, Gal. 6, read by moderator. Prayer by J. E. Bayless.

Minutes of Friday p. m. session read and ap-

proved.

Visiting brethren, Norman and Turner, evangelists from the east were voted a welcome and a seat in council.

Motion carried to discharge business committee.

Motion carried that Brother W. H. York express and extend the gratitude and heartfelt thanks of the members and delegates of this Association to the Verdella Baptist church and community for their kindness and hospitality during this session of the Association.

Motion carried that Brother H. Seward preach the introductory sermon at the next session of this Association and that Brother W. H. York be his alternate.

Brother T. C. Ferguson made an earnest appeal to the Association for the support of the New Morning Star and the Tecumseh College. He also stressed the importance of our State and Co-operative Associations.

Following Brother Ferguson, Brother Norman and Brother Turner made strong spiritual talks, which were appreciated by all present.

Minutes of this session read and approved.

Motion carried to adjourn till next year at the appointed time.

Closing prayer by Brother Turner.

Saturday at 11:00, sermon by W. H. York from Dan. 12 : 13, subject "Faithfulness of Daniel."

Saturday night, Sunday at 11 o'clock and Sunday night there was preaching by W. H. York and Brothers Turner and Norman.

CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God, by faith in Christ, and adopted the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this solemn covenant. We promise by his grace to love and obey him in all things, to avoid all appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity to the world, from all sanction of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages, and to "provide things honest in the sight of all men."

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions, and social worship; and by self-denial, faith and good works endeavor to "grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ." We will not forget the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences, public worship, and the observance of the ordinances of the Gospel, nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the church, of its poor, and all its benevolent work. We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness, and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to "keep the unity of the Spirit" in the bond of peace, to be careful of one another's happiness and reputation, and seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring, and as far as we are able promote the success of the church and of the Gospel. We will everywhere hold Christian principle sacred and Christian obligations and enterprises supreme, counting it our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christ in society,

constantly praying and toiling that the Kingdom of God may come, and his will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of educational and denominational enterprises, the support of missions, the success of Sabbath schools, and evangelistic efforts for the salvation of souls and the conversion of the world. And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

CONSTITUTION

ART. 1. This body shall be known as the Central Western Missouri and Southeastern Kansas Association of Freewill Baptists, and shall be composed of such consistent well regulated Freewill Baptist churches as shall, from time to time, unite with the body and agree to this constitution.

ART. 2. The acting members of this Association shall be such as are chosen by the several churches of which this Association is composed. Each church being entitled to one delegate and each church having twenty-five members two delegates, and and one delegate for each additional twenty-five members or major part thereof, and all ordained deacons, ordained ministers and licensed ministers of the several churches of the Association.

ART. 3. The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator who shall be elected at each session and shall hold office until his successor is elected, a Clerk and a Treasurer, who shall be

standing officers of the Association.

ART. 4. SEC. 1. This Association shall elect a board of five members, two of which shall be preachers. This board shall be called the Home Mission and Executive Board of the Association. One member of the board shall be elected to hold office for one year, one for 2 years, one for 3 years, one for 4 years and one for 5 years. After the first election one member shall be elected each year and each shall hold office for 5 years or till his successor is elected. This board shall have charge of the work of the Association when it is not in session.

SEC. 2. The Home Mission and Executive Board of this Association shall be the trustees of the Association and shall have charge of its property.

ART. 5. SEC. 1. This Association shall meet annually at such a time and place as shall meet with the pleasure of the Association and it shall be the duty of all churches of which it is composed to represent themselves by letters and delegates.

SEC. 2. It shall be the duty of all ministers of this Association to attend each session or report by letter. And all ministers reporting by letter or in person shall be entitled to a certificate of ministerial standing by the Association.

ART. 6. This constitution may be altered or amended by vote of any session of the Association, notice of such intended change having been given in writing at least three months before such change shall be voted upon, to the Executive Board.

BY-LAWS

1. Each session of this Association shall be called to order by the clerk when present, and in his absence by the member having seniority of years.

2. Each session of this Association shall be opened and closed by prayer.

3. Delegates from three (3) or more churches shall constitute a quorum to transact business for the Association but any less number may adjourn from time to time.

4. A member wishing to speak in conference shall arise and address the moderator, and be recognized by same, and shall not be allowed to speak longer than five minutes nor more than twice on any subject without the consent of the conference.

5. New churches may be admitted to this Association by majority vote of conference.

6. The yeas and nays may be taken on any question by the request of one-fourth of the members present.

7. These by-laws may be amended at any session of the Association by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

8. A committee of five lay members, delegates present at the Association, shall be elected to look into the standing of the ministry, and make their report to the Association before it adjourns for approval or rejection.

9. No one shall be ordained to the gospel ministry in this Association till they have carried preacher's license for at least one year, and must have received a call to pastor some church. The

call for ordination must come from the church that has called him or her to pastor the church or from the church in which he or she holds membership.

10. All committees shall be appointed by the moderator or by the assistant moderator when not otherwise provided for by the Association.

11. Whenever practicable, all business of importance coming before the local churches shall be decided by secret ballot, a majority vote to decide.

12. It shall be the duty of all the churches in this Association to send in to the clerk and treasurer, each year, the sum of two dollars to help pay for printing the minutes, clerk hire and other expenses of the Association.

13. It shall be the duty of the preachers and the churches of this Association to try to work in harmony with the Home Mission Board of this Association.

14. A request from a church that a brother or sister be examined for license or for ordination to preach the gospel shall not mean that he or she shall be licensed or ordained, but that a council be appointed to examine him or her and if, after the examination, the council thinks best he or she may be licensed or ordained.

Received of B. F. Brown \$14.25 for printing
the minutes.

J. P. MOORE.

STATISTICAL TABLE

Showing Churches of Association, Church Clerks with their Address, Amount Contributed by Each Church for Association Expenses, and for State Association and Membership Statement.

Churches	Clerks	Address	Contribution	Membership	Increase	Decrease
Wagoner.....	Alice Brown.....	Wagoner, Mo.....	\$3 00	106		4
Neola.....	Ethel Daniels.....	Neola, Mo.....	2 00	80	2	
Bluff.....	J. H. Long.....	Irwin, Mo., R 1.....	2 00	76		
Sylvandale.....	W. P. Hopkins.....	Moundville, Mo.....	3 45	33	6	
Fair View.....	W. H. Holley.....	Chetopa, Kans.....	2 00	43		6
Stockton.....	C. A. Hendricks.....	Stockton, Mo.....	3 00	55	26	
Verdella.....	Amy Thomas.....	Liberal, Mo., R 3.....	2 00	45		
ElDorado Springs.....	No Report.....					
Pleasant Valley.....	No Report.....					
Union Valley.....	Mrs. Fred Bowers.....	Chanute, Kans.....	4 35	38		
Hannon.....	Mary Wade.....	Arcadia, Kans., R 3.....	3 00	147	4	
Hickory Grove.....	J. W. Moul.....	Freeman, Mo., R 2.....	3 00	100		10
Independence.....	Mary Wiley.....	Stockton, Mo.....		61		

W. H. POTTS, Moderator

B. F. BROWN, Clerk