

MINUTES

OF THE

Fifteenth Annual Session

OF THE

Central Western Missouri

— AND —

Southeastern Kansas

Association

OF

FREE WILL BAPTISTS

HELD WITH

**Sylvandale Church, near Moundville, Mo.
July 18-22, 1923**

**The next Session will be held with El Dorado
Springs Church, at El Dorado Springs,
Mo., August 21-25, 1924.**

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**CENTRAL WESTERN MISSOURI AND SOUTH-
EASTERN KANSAS ASSOCIATION**

OF

Free Will Baptists

OFFICERS

W. H. Potts, Moderator,	Stockton, Mo.
O. T. Fast, Ass't Moderator,	R3, Liberal, Mo.
B. F. Brown, Clerk-Treas.,	Tecumseh, Okla.
W. H. York, Ass't Clerk,	Hannon, Mo.

EXECUTIVE AND HOME MISSION BOARD

L. C. Wade,	R2, Bronaugh, Mo.
Ed. Washburn,	Moundville, Mo.
O. T. Fast,	R3, Liberal, Mo.
B. F. Brown,	Tecumseh, Okla.
T. C. Ferguson,	Springfield, Mo.

SESSION PROCEEDINGS

At 8 o'clock p. m. Wednesday, July 18, 1923, the Central Western Missouri and Southeastern Kansas Association of Free Will Baptists met in its Fifteenth Annual Session, at Sylvandale Church, near Moundville, Mo.

Wednesday Evening

Meeting was called to order by Moderator, F. G. Wyrick. Ed. Washburn was chosen clerk protem.

Moderator appointed on pulpit committee: T. M. Duncan, Irie Moul and Mrs. W. H. Whistance. The committee announced that F. G. Wyrick would preach at eleven o'clock Thursday.

The introductive sermon was preached by J. T. Cole. Lesson: Revelations 20; Text: Isiah 1:18.

Adjourned to meet at 8:30 a. m. Thursday.

Closing prayer by W. H. York.

Thursday Morning

Conference was called to order by the clerk, B. F. Brown, who read Psalm 1 and offered prayer. A quorum to transact business was found to be present, and was so declared by the Clerk. The Moderator was then called to the chair.

Church letters were called for and letters of the following churches were read, received and delegates seated: Wagoner, Independence, Sylvandale, Verdella, Fair View, Hickory Grove, Hannon, El Dorado Springs.

Officers Elected For The Ensuing Year

Moderator W. H. Potts.
Ass't Moderator O. T. Fast.
Clerk-Treas. B. F. Brown.

Ass't Clerk W. H. York.
Member of Executive Board for 5
Years L. C. Wade.

Moderator appointed as committee on Divine Service: J. W. Moul, Stephen Reed, and T. M. Duncan.

All visiting brethren were given all privileges of the floor except voting, making or seconding motions.

Motion carried to give Eld. J. T. Cole the right hand of Christian fellowship.

Eld. W. A. Needham sent in his Ordination Certificate and requested that we accept it as surrendered, as he has united with the Missionary Baptist Denomination. Bro. Needham's request was granted and the Clerk was instructed to write him a letter of appreciation.

Delegates to the Missouri State Association elected and given power of substitution: Minnie Potts, Lena Hamer, Iris Moul, Stephen Reed, Mrs. Chas. Shipley, W. M. Marshall, G. E. Wade, Ira Duncan, J. W. Moul, and C. A. Hendricks.

Moderator appointed as ordaining council, to ordain Ausa Cockrell deacon for Hickory Grove Church: B. F. Brown, W. H. York, T. C. Ferguson, and F. G. Wyrick.

Committee on Divine service announced the stand to be filled as follows: Thursday night by W. H. York; Friday at eleven o'clock by B. F. Brown, and Friday night by T. C. Ferguson.

Business session adjourned till 2:30 p. m.

Closing prayer by B. F. Brown.

Eleven o'Clock Services.

Divine services conducted by F. G. Wyrick.

Lesson, I Cor. 16: 1-16. Text, I Cor. 16: 13.

Roll of Standing Members and Delegates:

Ministers:

T. C. Ferguson.	F. G. Wyrick.
B. F. Brown.	W. H. York.
W. M. Bybee.	Thos. L. York.

Visitors:

J. T. Cole.	Allen Shuey.
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Deacons:

Ed. Washburn.	C. L. Center.
T. M. Duncan.	W. H. Hamer.
W. H. Potts.	W. H. Whistance.
O. T. Fast.	G. B. Manis.
— LaCourse.	Chas. Shipley.

Delegates:

G. E. Wade.	Mrs. G. B. Manis.
J. W. Moul.	Ausa Cockrell.
Iris Moul.	Ruby Reed.
C. E. Douglass.	Mattie Whistance.
Minnie Potts.	Ida Fast.
Mrs. Pearl Brown.	Esther Brown.
Mrs. C. E. Douglass.	Mrs. Chas. Shipley.
Mary Wade.	

Church Clerks:

Frankie Wade.	W. P. Hopkins.
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Visitors:

Mrs. J. W. Moul.	Ona Shipley.
Mrs. Dever.	Mrs. F. G. Wyrick.
Edna Mayfield.	Lula Mayfield.
Mrs. W. H. Hamer.	Mrs. Allen Shuey.
Nellie Fast.	Mrs. Ed. Washburn.

Thursday Afternoon.

Session opened with song by congregation.

Scripture reading Psalm 23, by Moderator. Prayer by O. T. Fast.

Minutes of morning sessions read and approved.

Motion carried to seat Mrs. G. B. Manis as delegate for Neola Church, and to seat members of Hannon Church, who are present, till regular delegates come.

Committees appointed by Ass't. Moderator:

Business Committee: G. B. Manis, W. H. Whistance, Ed Washburn.

Program Committee: Ida Fast, Minnie Potts, Iris Moul.

Committee on Obituary: G. E. Wade, Ruby Reed, W. H. York.

Ministerial Standing Committee: T. M. Duncan, Ausa Cockrell, C. L. Center.

Committee on Education: T. C. Ferguson, Mattie Whistance, Bro. LaCourse.

Committee on Temperance: Mrs. G. B. Manis, G. E. Wade, C. E. Douglass.

Treasurer's Report, showing a balance of \$27.05 as on hand at the opening of this session, accepted and motion carried allowing necessary postage.

Report of T. C. Ferguson: During the past year I have been almost constantly in revival meetings. I have held meetings in six different Associations in Missouri, and outside of Missouri in the states of Iowa, Kansas, and Oklahoma. I have also held meetings in six different churches in this Association.

God has blessed by labors in the salvation of many precious souls, and I have baptised many and taken many into the churches. I have greatly enjoyed the Lord's work. He has wonderfully blessed my soul. I have attended one meeting of our executive board.

I intend to continue in the Lord's work next year, and will try, by God's help, to do more for Him and the salvation of souls the coming year.

T. C. Ferguson, State Evangelist.

Report of W. M. C. Bybee: I have pastored El Dorado Springs Church, doing all my health would permit. I have witnessed eight professions, and have married five couples the past year.

Report of F. G. Wyrick: While I have not been in the work more than half of the year, because of sickness in my family, I have tried to improve the time, and double my zeal and energy for God and souls. I have preached 103 sermons, witnessed 51 conversions, baptised 15, solemnized 2 marriages, conducted 3 funerals, traveled 1,000 miles, and received as salary \$65.00.

I am still County Superintendent of Young People's Department, and have tried to do all I could to help in this work. I am praying that something may be done to standardize our Sunday Schools, and that some one may be appointed to superintend the work of our Association.

Praying God's richest blessings upon you and yours, and asking the prayers of all God's people, I beg to remain, Your brother in Christ.

F. G. Wyrick.

Report of J. T. Cole: As pastor of Wagoner, Independence, and Sylvandale churches, I beg to report in the name of the Lord. I have visited each of the three churches ten times, and earnestly tried to do my duty. While there has not been a great material growth, I feel there has been a real spiritual growth.

J. T. Cole.

Report of W. H. York: I have pastored four churches the past year. While I did not get to fill all my appointments on account of sickness, my work

has been pleasant, and I think profitable. I have baptised twenty, conducted five funerals, and officiated at two marriages. The work generally is on the up-build spiritually.

W. H. York.

W. H. York read a proposition to publish a biographical book of Free Will Baptists ministers, the proceeds from the sale of the book to go into a fund for the benefit of needy Free Will Baptist preachers.

Motion carried to endorse and approve the work proposed by Bro. York, and to put the funds into hands of the Executive Boards of State Associations.

Motion carried to adjourn till 9:00 a. m., Friday.

Closing prayer by Allen Shuey.

Thursday Night.

Divine services conducted by W. H. York. Lesson, John 10:9-32. Text, I Peter 1:5.

Friday Morning.

Praise by the congregation. Scripture reading, Eccl. 12th chapter by Moderator. Prayer by Bro. LaCourse.

Report of Committee on Obituary: Upon examining the church reports and records for the past year, we find that the following named persons have been called from this stage of action:

Warren C. Fast, Verdella Church, aged 15 years.

Al Hensley, Hickory Grove Church, aged 72 years.

Frances White, Hickory Grove Church, aged 97 years.

Lydia Ellen Moul, Hickory Grove Church, aged 87 years.

Sarah Green, El Dorado Springs Church, aged 72 years.

Alice Brownell, Fair View Church, aged —.

We recommend that our clerk be instructed to write lines of condolence and sympathy in our minutes to the bereaved families.

A few words by the Clerk: Most of the departed ones named above were personally known to me, and I truly believe that their lives were ordered by the Lord. I am sure that the church's loss is heaven's gain. They are safe with Jesus. We cannot bring our loved ones back, but we know that we can go to them; for Jesus has gone to prepare a place, and will come again for all that are his. Sorrow not because of departed loved ones; they have loved and gone on home to be with Jesus who loved them, and to be with the Father who is love.

Love is home!
And when earthly loves are o'er,
And earthly mansions are no more,
Forever on the other shore,
Heaven is home!

Report of Home Mission Board: We have held four meetings the past year and have transacted business for the Association. We report the following for confirmation: We endorsed the work of the tent committee who raised money and purchased a tent which they placed in charge of Eld. F. G. Wyrick till the Association should meet at Sylvandale.

We requested B. F. Brown not to have 1922 minutes printed now.

New Business.

We recommend that this Association pay back to the El Dorado Springs Church, the \$2.00 they gave for minutes, to be applied on their church debt.

We further recommend that this Association do all it can to help the El Dorado Springs Church to pay off the debt on its church building, provided they consult and get the consent of the Home Mission Board about who shall preach or teach or hold meetings in the church house, and admit none who are not F. W. B. in good standing.

We also recommend that a free will offering be taken Friday night to help pay Bro. Brown's expenses.

Motion carried to adopt the report of the board in full.

Report of Committee on Education: We recommend that we endorse our college at Tecumseh, Oklahoma, and do all in our power to make it a success.

We further recommend that we do all we can to help Bro. Brown and all others who are trying to build up the work in our college at Tecumseh; trying not only to make the college a success, but an honor to our denomination.

We also recommend that our preachers and teachers and Sunday School workers pray earnestly and study diligently to improve their talents, so that they can win souls for God, and be an honor to God and to the church. —Adopted.

Adjourned with prayer by J. T. Cole, to meet at 2:30 p. m.

Eleven o'Clock Services

Divine services conducted by Allen Shuey. Lesson, Jer. 6:1-17. Text, Jer. 6:16.

Friday Afternoon.

Praise by congregation. Scripture reading, Psalm 9, by Moderator. Prayer by Mrs. Allen Shuey.

Minutes of Friday morning sessions read and approved.

Motion carried to print 250 copies of our minutes, including Association proceedings for 1922.

Report of Committee on Ministerial Standing: We find that the following are entitled to Annual Certificates: B. F. Brown, T. C. Ferguson, F. G. Wyrick, W. H. York, Thos. L. York, Hiram Seward, W. M. C. Bybee.

We find that on account of failure to report to this body, J. B. Sparks, and Rosa Sparks are not entitled to Annual Certificates.

We recommend that J. T. Williams' name be placed on the superannuated list.

Report adopted and motion carried to place Bro. Williams on the superannuated list.

Report of Dedication Committee: We recommend that the balance of the debt on the tabernacle be raised today, and the tabernacle be dedicated Sunday, July 22nd, at eleven o'clock. Dedication sermon to be preached by F. G. Wyrick.

It was dedicated to hold the 1924 session of the Association with the El Dorado Springs Church, to convene Wednesday night before the fourth Sunday in August, 1924.

Adjourned to meet at 9 a. m., Saturday.

Adjourning prayer by Ed Washburn.

Friday Night Services.

Divine services conducted by T. C. Ferguson. Lesson from eighth chapter of Romans. Text, Phil. 4:15. Subject, It can; it can't be done. It was a good service, and closed with an altar service with four professions.

A collection taken to apply on expenses of the

clerk amounted to \$6.59.

Pulpit Committee announced that B. F. Brown would preach at 11 o'clock Saturday, and Allen Shuey Saturday night.

Saturday, 9:00 a. m.

Session opened with singing by the congregation; scripture reading from fifth chapter of II Cor. by Moderator; and prayer by Chas. Shipley.

Minutes of Friday p. m. and night sessions read and approved.

Letter from Neola Church read and accepted.

Report of Resolutions Committee: Resolved that we express our thanks to God for giving us this Association, by standing and singing, "Praise God from Whom all Blessings flow."

Resolved that we extend our thanks to our Executive Board for their deep interest and efficient work rendered the past year.

• Resolved that we extend our thanks to our Moderator and Clerk who have so wisely and faithfully performed the duties that have been intrusted to them.

Resolved that we extend our sincere and heart felt thanks to the people of Sylvandale for their many courtesies and the royal entertainment accorded to this Association. May he who never forgets a kind act bestowed upon our fellowman bless them and keep them.

B. F. Brown was chosen to preach the introductory sermon at El Dorado Springs next year.

Motion carried to continue our fifth Sunday meetings in like manner as they have been held.

Motion carried to enroll visiting preachers and deacons.

T. C. Ferguson was empowered to represent us at the S. E. Mo. Yearly Meeting.

Motion for Clerk to write a letter to Union Association expressing our appreciation for the Christian spirit they have always shown toward us, etc.

Minutes of this session read and approved.

Motion carried to adjourn till we meet at El Dorado Springs next year.

Adjourning prayer by J. T. Cole.

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 constituent well regulated Freewill Baptist churches as shall, from time to time, unite with the body and agree to this constitution.

Art. 2. Sec. 1. 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 resident members, two delegates, and one delegate for each additional twenty-five resident members or major part thereof, and all ordained deacons, ordained ministers and licensed ministers of the several churches of this Association.

Sec. 2. A resident member shall be a member in good standing who discharges his or her obligations to the church, and who resides near enough to attend church services, or one who resides at a distance but discharges his or her obligations to the church. All other members shall be considered non-resident members.

Art. 3. The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, an Assistant Moderator, a Clerk,

an Assistant Clerk and a Treasurer; all of said officers to be elected annually at the regular session of the Association, and shall hold office until successors are elected and qualified.

Art. 4 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 two years, one for three years, one for four years and one for five years. After the first election one member shall be elected each year and hold office for five 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 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 annual session of this Association shall be called to order by the clerk, and in his or her absence, the assistant clerk, and in his or her

absence, the standing member having seniority in years. After the clerk, or the one calling the assembly to order, shall declare a quorum present, he or she shall call the moderator to the chair, and in his or her absence, the assistant moderator, and in his or her absence, the standing member having seniority in 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 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 the churches of this Association that have a total membership of less than fifty to send to the clerk of this Association the sum of two dollars (\$2.00) each year and each church with a total membership of fifty or more shall send the sum of three dollars (\$3.00) each year to defray the general 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.

15. Any preacher belonging to this Association who does not make a report of his or her work, either in person, by letter or by proxy, for three successive years, shall have his or her name dropped from the minutes.

16. It shall be the duty of each church to have its pastoral year to end with the annual session of the Association, and to hold its annual business meeting before the Association meets each year.

17. When a church fails to report to the Association its last report shall be carried over in the minutes.

18. All old or afflicted ministers, who so desire, may be enrolled on a superannuated list, and not be required to report to the Association in order to receive an Annual Certificate of Ministerial Standing.

FREEWILL BAPTIST 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 amusement 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 devotion 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 able promote the success of the church and of the Gospel. We will

everywhere hold Christian principles 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 evangelical 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.

CHURCH STATISTICS

CHURCHES	Ministers in Charge	Church Clerks	Nonresident Members	Resident Members	Total Membership	Money for Minutes and State Ass'n. 1922 and 1923.
McKory Grove.....	W. H. York, Hannon, Mo.	Ira McDonald, R2, Freeman Mo.	37	80	117	\$8.00
agoner.....	J. T. Cole, Locust Grove, Ok.	Tessie Cross, R5, Stockton, Mo.			84	8.00
dependence.....	J. T. Cole, Locust Grove, Ok.	A. B. Whistance, R4, Stockton, Mo.	28	43	71	4.00
Stockton.....	No Pastor	C. A. Hendricks, Stockton, Mo.	6	69	75	
cola.....	No Pastor	Ethel-Stump, Greenfield, Mo.			89	4.00
hannon.....	W. H. York, Hannon, Mo.	Frankie Wade, R2 Bronaugh, Mo.	37	128	165	8.00
ir View.....	W. H. York, Hannon, Mo.	Nettie Beck, R5 Chetopa, Kansas	7	27	34	6.00
lyndale.....	J. T. Cole, Locust Grove, Ok.	W. P. Hopkins, Moundville, Mo.		34	34	7.00
ion Valley.....	No Report	Mrs. Fred Bowers, R1 Chanute, Kan.			16	
asant Valley....	No Report	F. L. Parsons, Yates Center, Kans.			44	
rdella.....	W. H. York, Hannon, Mo.	Amy Thomas, R3 Liberal, Mo.	14	41	55	8.00
uff.....	No Report	J. H. Long, R2 Sheldon, Mo.				
Dorado Springs	W. M. C. Bybee	Sarah Bybee, 411 Park St., El Dorado Springs, Mo.			25	
Total.....			129	422	809	\$53.00

J. H. POTTS, Moderator

B. F. BROWN, Clerk