

MINUTES

OF THE FORTY-SECOND ANNUAL SESSION

FIRST OKLAHOMA
ASSOCIATION

FREE WILL BAPTIST

HELD WITH TECUMSEH CHURCH
SEPTEMBER 20 TO 24, 1939.

OFFICERS

Moderator, Elder A. B. Epperson	Tecumseh, Oklahoma
Assistant Moderator Elder R. G. Lane	Tecumseh, Oklahoma
Clerk, Sister Lillie Wade	Tecumseh, Oklahoma
Assistant Clerk, Sister Dollie Clarida	Tecumseh, Oklahoma

The next Annual Session of this Association will be held with the New Bethelham Church, beginning on Wednesday night before the second Sunday in August, 1940.

RULES OF ORDER

1. At every sitting of the Association, business shall be opened and concluded by prayer by the moderator or whomsoever he may request.
2. Ministers present are invited to seats, allowed to take part in debates on all subjects, and to vote.
3. Those who speak shall arise and address the moderator. Personal reflections shall be avoided in all debates.
4. No motion shall be discussed without a second.
5. When a motion has been made and seconded, and a member opposes its discussion, the moderator shall put the question, "Shall it be discussed?" If negative the question shall be dismissed.
6. If any proposition or motion under debate contains two or more points, it shall be divided at the request of any member, and the vote taken separately.
7. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded.
8. No one shall speak more than twice on the same subject without special leave of the moderator.
9. All questions shall be decided by a majority of all members present.
10. No member shall absent himself without special leave of the moderator.
11. Minutes shall be leisurely read and corrected before the close of the Association.
12. At all future sessions of the Association, arrangements shall be made to insure two sermons, or other devotional exercises equivalent thereto, during each day of the session, and the chair shall announce just before adjournment who shall fill the stand at the next meeting.
13. These Rules of Order shall be distinctly read from the chair immediately after the organization of the Association.
14. Alterations may be made in these rules at any regular session of the association.

Wednesday Night Session

The First Oklahoma Association assembled themselves together by singing several good songs. Elder Jim Smithy lead in prayer.

Elder A. B. Epperson, conducted the devotional services in which several inspiring testimonies were given.

Special songs were given by Izetta Payne and Lois May Foincher of Drumright.

In the absence of Elder B. C. Monkus, who was to have preached the introductory sermon the body elected Elder George McLain.

An inspiring message was enjoyed by all.

Thursday Morning Session

The forty-second annual session of the First Oklahoma Association assembled themselves together at nine o'clock to transact such

business that might come before the house.

Moderator A. B. Epperson took charge.

After the song services Elder W. E. Dearmore led in prayer.

Letters were called for, read, accepted and delegates seated from the following churches - - - Minneha, Box, North View, New Bethlehem, Spring Hill, Tecumseh, Wolf, Earlsboro and Pleasant Hill.

The committee on Devine Service was appointed at this time. Elder W. A. Land, Brother Bourland and Brother Kiker.

Elder Austin Deaton, was appointed at this time by the committee to bring the message at the eleven o'clock services.

Election Of Officers

Elder A. B. Epperson, Moderator, Tecumseh, Oklahoma.

Elder R. G. Lane, Assistant Moderator, Tecumseh, Oklahoma

Sister Lillie Wade, Clerk, Tecumseh, Oklahoma

Sister Dollie Clarida, Assistant Clerk, Tecumseh, Oklahoma

Sister Mamie Stevenson, of Earlsboro was retained as custodian of the old Minister fund.

Elder W. E. Dearmore, was the new member elected on the executive Board.

Other members being Elder Waddle, to serve for two years and Elder A. B. Epperson to serve one year.

By motion we adjourned until two o'clock.

Dismissed by Elder W. H. Carter.

Eleven O'clock Services

Came together by singing

Elder Lester Judd, of Cushing led our minds in prayer.

By special request Izetta Payne sang a solo accompanied by Lois May Fincher.

Elder Austin Deaton, brought an inspiring message on "Prayer".

Scripture reading being 2 Chronicles 7:14.

Brother Carter, dismissed the congregation.

Thursday Afternoon Session

Met together by singing.

Elder Clyde Argo, read as a scripture reading a portion of Eph. 6-11 and made a short interesting talk.

Elder R. G. Lane led in prayer.

The moderator read the Rules of Order.

The delegates all went forward and were given the right hand of Christain fellowship.

A few visiting ministers that were given the hand of fellowship and invited to seat with us in council who gave interesting talks were:

Elder Earline Haskin - Center Association.

Elder Harry Staires - First Mission Association.

Elder Sadie Fincher - First Mission Association.

Elder Lester Judd - First Mission Association.

Elder Judd, gave a report on the National Association which was held at Byran, Texas.

The moderator was given authority by the body at this time to appoint the different committees.

Committees Appointed

Publication—

Elder A. E. Downs, Elder W. A. Land, Elder Mattie Epperson, Elder J. B. Johnson.

Finance—

Elder Clyde Argo, Brother Ben Littleton, Sister Olie Lane, Sister Vida Fry, Brother O. O. Evans.

Resolution—

Elder A. E. Downs, Elder W. E. Dearmore, Brother Pete Conner.

Music—

Sister Lillian Argo, Sister Mertie Trice, Sister Ruth Munkus, Sister Ruth Mathews.

Prayer Meeting—

Elder Fields, Brother Ben Maxwell, Elder B. C. Munkus, Brother George Tidwell.

League—

Sister Oliva Reger, Sister Mamie Stevenson, Sister Mable Ralls, Sister Cary May Alfrey.

Sunday School—

Elder O. F. Followell, Brother B. C. Wilson, Brother Orville Kiker.

Credential—

Elder W. L. Waddle, Elder J. P. Fry.

Obituary—

Sister Land, Sister Lula Hank, Sister Alice Clark, H. M. Lynn.

Temperance

Sister Ethel Guin, Sister Campbell, Sister Alva Downs, Sister Ruby Vanwinkel.

Mission—

Sister Martie Trice, Sister Della Cluck, Sister Grace Kiefer, Sister Molder, Elder D. L. Simpson.

By motion the association and quarterly meetings were placed at this time for the ensuing year.

Association - - New Bethlehem.

First quarterly meeting - - Box.

Second quarterly meeting - - Pleasant Hill.

Third quarterly meeting - - North View.

Fourth quarterly meeting - - Spring Hill.

Brother Land announced that Brother Harry Staires will bring the evening message.

By motion we adjourned until night services.

Afternoon services were dismissed by Brother Simpson.

Thursday Night Session

The congregation came together with singing.

Elder Land led in prayer.

Sister Fincher conducted the devotional services which was inspiring to all. A special song was rendered.

Chickie

Brother Harry Staires brought the evening message on "Fear the Lord".

The scripture reading, Malica 3:16. The message was one that will long be remembered by all.

An alter call was made.

Brother Jim Fry dismissed.

Friday Morning Session

Meeting opened by singing. Prayer by Brother Simpson.

Brother Jim Fry led the devotional reading John 15:10-17.

With the moderator in charge the business was transacted.

By motion we elected the minister to bring the introductory message at our forty-third Association. Elder Arthur Clarida was elected. Elder W. A. Land, alternate.

By motion the association was changed to convene on Wednesday night before the second Sunday in August. It previously had been in September.

The committee on devine services announced that Brother Simpson would bring the eleven o'clock message.

The moderator was given authority by the body to appoint the minister to bring the introductory message at the first quarterly meeting. Brother R. G. Lane was appointed.

By motion five dollars was set aside for services of the clerk.

Resolution number one, two, three and four were read and accepted.

Reports from three ministers were read and accepted.

By motion we adjourned for the preaching hour.

Dismissed by Brother White.

Eleven O'clock Services

Came together by singing. Brother Willis led in prayer.

Elder Simpson brought a grand message on "Have Faith in God."

Scripture - - Hebrew 2:11.

The body was dismissed for the noon hour by Brother Fields.

Friday Afternoon Session

Meeting came together by singing.

Brother Bud Johnson read the third chapter of Thessalonians.

Brother Tom Fry led in prayer.

The following committee reports were read and accepted:

Sunday School, Mission, Temperance, Finance, Music, League and Obituary.

By request of the moderator each missionary society from the individual churches are to send in a report of their years work to the association. The body adopted this move.

We had the pleasure of having Elder Jim Smithey, who attended this session of the association was present at the organization of the first Oklahoma Association forty-two years ago which convened at the Adamson School House in Cleveland County.

By motion all ministers and clerks names and addresses are to be in the next minutes.

A vote of thanks was extended to the moderator and assistant; also to the clerk and assistant.

Brother Dearmore prayed.

By motion the moderator appointed five delegates to represent us at the State Association which convenes with the Wewoka Church.

Sister Mamie Stevenson;

Brother Douglass Williams;

Brother Lee Caskey;

Sister Alice Clark;

Sister Dollie Clarida.

The committee on Devine Services reported that Brother Land will bring the evening message.

Brother W. E. Dearmore presented Brother A. E. Downs with his ordination paper and the right hand of fellowship was extended him. The Lord came on the scene and a good time was enjoyed by all.

Brother Fleet of the Church of God made a good talk.

Motion to adjourn until the Fourty-third session which will convene in 1940.

Minutes of the association were read and adopted.

Dismissed by Brother Stevenson.

Visiting Ministers

Elder Jim Smithey	Oklahoma, City
Elder I. W. Yandell	Asher
Elder H. E. Staires	Drumright
Elder Lester Judd	Cushing
Elder Sadie Fincher	Drumright
Elder F. M. Wood	Ada
Elder Herd	Tecumseh
Elder Dick Rogers	Tecumseh
Elder A. J. Gillim	Asher
Elder H. E. Deaver	Shawnee
Elder Bob McCord	Shawnee
Elder Earline Haskin	Stratford
Elder George McLain	Ada
Elder Austin Deaton	Francis
Elder A. B. Masters	Shawnee
Elder W. L. Fleet	Tecumseh
Elder Clifford Kennedy	Henryetta

Committee Reports

Resolution

Resolution No. 1—Be it resolved that we meet in our quarterly meeting on Friday morning at nine o'clock before each fifth Sunday.

Which means—We will meet four times each year.

Signed by the Committee

Resolution No. 2—Be it resolved that this association elect a committee of three who we will accept as authority on the interpretation of our treaties.

Signed by the Committee

Resolution No. 3—We recommend to this body the time of this association to meet be changed from Wednesday night before the fourth Sunday in September to Wednesday before the second Sunday in August 1940 - - and each consecutive year.

Signed by the Committee

Resolution No. 4—Be it resolved that we extend to the Tecumseh church and community our appreciation for their hospitality.

Signed by the Committee

Home Mission

We the committee on home mission advise each church in our association to have a home mission society and each individual to comply with the scripture recorded in Matt. 5:16. By so doing we will teach by precept as by word. We know by so doing that both young and old will be encouraged to work for the cause of Christ. We know that many hearts will be reached through our efforts of the home mission workers.

Signed by the Committee

League

We urge that each church start a league if they haven't one already. We encourage our young people to attend to the advance cause of Christ. We deem it very advisable all league officers and teachers be members of the church.

Signed by the Committee.

Obituary

We the committee - - Find only one death reported - - That of Sister Sangster of Earlsboro, from the nine churches reporting.

Signed by the Committee.

Sunday School

We the Sunday School committee report that each church represented in our association has a Sunday school. We recommend that all teachers urge the pupils to remain for church services. We also recommend that officers and teachers of our Sunday School be members of Free Will Baptist Church. We also think it very necessary that our Sunday School use Free Will Baptist literature. That all people be invited to study the Devine Work with us.

Signed by the Committee.

Music

We the committee on music think that sacred music is very necessary and helpful to the church. We urge that every church have as much singing as possible in every service. A singing school or at least choir practice is asked to be held in every church, Sunday School, and League. We think special numbers are very helpful.

Signed by the Committee.

Finance

We your committee beg leave to report the following:

We find our churches have paid \$1,987.21 for the support of the different churches in this association.

Minute money received \$24.69.

Signed by the Committee.

Temperance

We your committee on temperance submit the following:

Temperance covers a broad field, and should be an individual subject and appeal to all true followers of Christ. It is one of the fundamental principles in forming and shaping a true Christian Character. It is the key to a successful life, both in church and state. It is right in the sight of God to be temperate in all things. Intemperance or the use of strong drinks is wrecking the lives and homes of millions of innocent women and children, and we as Christians should never lose an opportunity of stressing the necessity of living temperate lives, and by precept and example set a high Christian standard, that will command the respect of the intemperate or non-believer. Wine is a mocker, strong drink is ragin, and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.

We as Christians should demonstrate to the world the worth and merit of the church of the living God in lifting humanity upon a higher plane of living, and all times condemn the legalizing by law the sale of intoxicating liquors.

CHURCHES PASTOR	ADDRESS	CLERKS	ADDRESS
Spring Hill Rev. M. M. McKee	Soper, Okla.	J. W. Molder	Lexington
North View Rev. Arthur Clarida	Tecumseh, Okla.	Billy Landsdown	Tecumseh
Tecumseh	Tecumseh, Okla.	Della Cluck	Tecumseh
New Bethlhan Rev. Vard Woods	Strafford, Okla.	Bertha Hughes	Asher R.1
Menniha Rev. S. R. Russell	McCloud, Okla.	Monica Cambron	McCloud
Earlsboro Rev. O. H. Stairs	Earlsboro, Okla.	Arch Barrett	Earlsboro
Pleasant Hill Rev. W. L. Waddle	Lexington, Okla.	Lillian Argo	Moore
Box Rev. W. A. Land	Dale, Okla.	Ora Robert	
Wolf Rev. George Taylor	Snomac	Pearl Taylor	Snomac

CHURCHES	MEMBERS	PAID	
		PASTORS	EVANGLIST
Spring Hill	69	\$125.00	
North View	18	\$ 16.65	\$ 4.00
Tecumseh	53	\$427.15	\$ 5.72
New Bethlehem	73	\$ 78.10	\$18.00
Menniha	35	\$ 12.00	\$12.00
Earlsboro	45	\$660.00	
Pleasant Hill	65	\$ 60.00	\$33.75
Box	50	\$ 47.95	
Wolf	36	\$ 48.25	\$65.00

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 avoid the 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 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 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 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.

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the Scripture, secret prayer, family devotions, social worship: and by self denial, good works endeavor to grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We will not forget the assembling of ourselves together for church conference, public worship and the observance of the ordinance and support of the church, of its poor, and all its benevolent work. To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of the educational and denominational enterprises, the support of missions, the success of Sunday School, and evangelistic efforts for the salvation of souls, and 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.

