

**MINUTES**

**HOPEWELL  
NO. 2  
ASSOCIATION**

**FREE WILL BAPTIST  
CHURCHES**

**87TH ANNUAL  
MEETING  
2019**

**MINUTES OF THE 87TH ANNUAL MEETING  
HOPEWELL NO. 2 ASSOCIATION  
FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCHES  
2019**

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**HOPEWELL NO. 2 ASSOCIATION****DIRECTORY INFORMATION**

| <b>CHURCH</b>                                                                                                  | <b>PASTOR</b>                                                                                                                                                                         | <b>CLERK</b>                                                                                                                                                              |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>COUNTRYSIDE</b><br>PO BOX 235<br>VELMA, OK 73491<br>PHONE: (580) 444-3530                                   | <b>VACANT</b>                                                                                                                                                                         | <b>SHERRIE SMITH</b><br>3020 E CHEROKEE ROAD<br>DUNCAN, OK 73533<br>PHONE: (580) 656-1604<br><a href="mailto:ssmith@velma-alma.k12.ok.us">ssmith@velma-alma.k12.ok.us</a> |
| <b>IRON CHAPEL</b><br>21949 MAY AVENUE<br>PURCELL, OK 73080<br>PHONE: (405) 344-6311<br>MAIL: 21153 MAY AVENUE | <b>JOEY HOWETH (PEGGY)</b><br>21626 160TH STREET<br>PURCELL, OK 73080<br>PHONE: (405) 527-5133                                                                                        | <b>RHONDA O'RORKE</b><br>21153 MAY AVENUE<br>PURCELL, OK 73080<br>PHONE: (405) 919-0468<br><a href="mailto:rororke@spnws.com">rororke@spnws.com</a>                       |
| <b>LAWTON FIRST</b><br>10 SOUTH 24TH STREET<br>LAWTON, OK 73505<br>PHONE: (580) 355-4668                       | <b>DAVID VOEGTLIN (GINA)</b><br>7712 NW WYCLIFFE LANE<br>LAWTON, OK 73505<br>PHONE: (580) 351-4652                                                                                    | <b>WANDA KELLETT</b><br>2603 SW A AVENUE<br>LAWTON, OK 73505<br>PHONE: (580) 699-5501<br><a href="mailto:wandaok@juno.com">wandaok@juno.com</a>                           |
| <b>MIDWAY</b><br>16642 HIGHWAY 76<br>HEALDTON, OK 73438<br>PHONE: (580) 543-9480                               | <b>VACANT</b>                                                                                                                                                                         | <b>ELAINE GLENN</b><br>PO BOX 518<br>HEALDTON, OK 73438<br>PHONE: (580) 229-2682<br><a href="mailto:glenns72@cebridge.net">glenns72@cebridge.net</a>                      |
| <b>STOBTOWN</b><br>1101 MERIDIAN<br>ARDMORE, OK 73401<br>PHONE: (580) 657-2218                                 | <b>ROYCE MC CLENDON (SHIRLEY)</b><br>PO BOX 1604<br>LONE GROVE, OK 73443<br>PHONE: (580) 657-8214<br><a href="mailto:smccleendon@ardmore.k12.ok.us">smccleendon@ardmore.k12.ok.us</a> | <b>ANN CHRISTIAN</b><br>2051 JEHOVAH ROAD<br>ARDMORE, OK 73401<br>PHONE: (580) 657-2218                                                                                   |

**HOPEWELL NO. 2**  
**ASSOCIATION OFFICERS**  
**2019 - 2020**

**MODERATOR**

3020 E CHEROKEE ROAD  
DUNCAN, OK 73533

**RANDY SMITH**

PHONE: (580) 470-9441  
EMAIL: [jrsmith57@yahoo.com](mailto:jrsmith57@yahoo.com)

**ASST. MODERATOR**

7712 NW WYCLIFFE LANE  
LAWTON, OK 73505

**DAVID VOEGTLIN**

PHONE: (580) 351-4652  
EMAIL:

**CLERK**

1218 SW 26TH PLACE  
LAWTON, OK 73505

**JACKIE WORTHY**

PHONE: (580) 280-0329  
EMAIL:

**ASST. CLERK**

4601 SW BETA AVENUE  
LAWTON, OK 73505

**DONNA ROBINSON**

PHONE: (580) 574-4574  
EMAIL:

**TREASURER**

2512 SW A AVENUE  
LAWTON, OK 73505

**SHELIA ROOKER**

PHONE: (580) 357-8755 / 535-0902  
EMAIL: [srooker@fidnet.com](mailto:srooker@fidnet.com)

**ASST. TREASURER**

2603 SW A AVENUE  
LAWTON, OK 73505

**WANDA KELLETT**

PHONE: (580) 699-5501  
EMAIL: [wandaok@juno.com](mailto:wandaok@juno.com)

**GENERAL BOARD MEMBER**

GARRISON HOPPER JR

2020

### EXECUTIVE BOARD

|                    |        |
|--------------------|--------|
| DAVID VOEGTLIN     | 5 YEAR |
| GARRISON HOPPER JR | 4 YEAR |
| RANDY SMITH        | 3 YEAR |
| TERRY PIERSON      | 2 YEAR |
| JOEY HOWETH        | 1 YEAR |

### CREDENTIAL BOARD

|                |        |
|----------------|--------|
| TERRY PIERSON  | 5 YEAR |
| TROY LEWELLEN  | 4 YEAR |
| JOEY HOWETH    | 3 YEAR |
| RANDY SMITH    | 2 YEAR |
| LEON ADDINGTON | 1 YEAR |

### ORDAINED MINISTERS

|                     |                |                  |
|---------------------|----------------|------------------|
| GARRISON HOPPER JR  | (580) 340-5151 | 712 NW HEINZWOOD |
| CHURCH: COUNTRYSIDE |                | LAWTON, OK 73505 |

|                     |                |                    |
|---------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| JOEY HOWETH         | (405) 527-5133 | 21626 160TH STREET |
| CHURCH: IRON CHAPEL |                | PURCELL, OK 73080  |

### LICENSED MINISTERS

|                |                |                     |
|----------------|----------------|---------------------|
| JEFF SHUGART   | (940) 736-1253 | 1405 E TEXAS STREET |
| CHURCH: MIDWAY |                | ARDMORE, OK 73401   |

## ORDAINED DEACONS

|                                                 |                |                                                                                                                      |
|-------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>RALPH MULLINS, JR</b><br>CHURCH: COUNTRYSIDE | (580) 856-3290 | PO BOX 36<br>RATLIFF CITY, OK 73481                                                                                  |
| <b>RANDY SMITH</b><br>CHURCH: COUNTRYSIDE       | (580) 656-0206 | 3020 E CHEROKEE ROAD<br>DUNCAN, OK 73533<br><a href="mailto:jrsmith57@yahoo.com">jrsmith57@yahoo.com</a>             |
| <b>EARL HACKER</b><br>CHURCH: IRON CHAPEL       | (405) 769-4622 | PO BOX 547<br>NICOMA PARK, OK 73066                                                                                  |
| <b>LEON ADDINGTON</b><br>CHURCH: MIDWAY         | (580) 229-5673 | PO BOX 207<br>HEALDTON, OK 73438<br><a href="mailto:rhondaaddington@sbcglobal.net">rhondaaddington@sbcglobal.net</a> |
| <b>KENNETH GLENN</b><br>CHURCH: MIDWAY          | (580) 229-2682 | PO BOX 518<br>HEALDTON, OK 73438<br><a href="mailto:glenns72@cebridge.net">glenns72@cebridge.net</a>                 |
| <b>TROY LEWELLEN</b><br>CHURCH: MIDWAY          | (580) 673-2315 | PO BOX 201<br>GRAHAM, OK 73437                                                                                       |
| <b>TERRY PIERSON</b><br>CHURCH: MIDWAY          | (580) 220-8737 | PO BOX 6<br>GRAHAM, OK 73437<br><a href="mailto:papat1954@hotmail.com">papat1954@hotmail.com</a>                     |
| <b>MARSHALL MITCHELL</b><br>CHURCH: STOB TOWN   | (580) 657-4252 | 1643 ASHTON ROAD<br>ARDMORE, OK 73401                                                                                |
| <b>LEONARD ROBINSON</b><br>CHURCH: STOB TOWN    | (580) 657-4742 | 7785 N NEWPORT ROAD<br>LONE GROVE, OK 73443                                                                          |

## Bi- Annual Meeting

**Saturday, March 2, 2019 9:30 AM at Countryside FWB Church**

Services were opened by Bro. Randy Smith leading in prayer. Bro. Joey Howeth admonished the association from John 13 on feet washing. Letters were called for, read and received from 4 churches. A right hand of fellowship was given while "I Am Resolved" was played on the piano by Joyce Mullins.

Minutes were read by Sis. Rhonda Addington and received.

There were no petitionary or other letters.

Midway announced they have issued a one year minister's license to Bro. Jeff Shugart. They also notified us that Evan & Lewella Lomenick have resigned their membership at Midway.

Rules of order were read by Bro. Terry Pierson.

Visitors, Bro. Mike Wade from the state office, Bro. Bob Thompson from Randall University & Bro. Richard Terry, former pastor in Sulphur, were invited to be seated in council.

Bro. Mike Wade reported that the national dues will increase from \$150 to \$175 for 2020. This brings our total dues to \$265. National & state dues are due 1/31/20.

Bro. Bob Thompson reported that there were 80 registered for the ministers retreat to be held on March 4 & asked for prayer for safe travel for everyone. The state meeting will be held May 2-4 at Randall University. Randall University is celebrating their 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Appointment of committees was as follows:

### **Resolution:**

Wanda Kellett  
Jackie Worthly  
Terry Pierson

### **Temperance:**

Troy Lewellan  
Myranda Shugart  
Harold Reid

### **Obituary:**

Jeff Shugart  
Randy Smith  
Rob Rooker

The following other visitors were introduced: Bro. Richard Terry, who is currently preaching at Midway, Jeff & Myranda Shugart & Michael Converse, a minister from Louisiana who was with the Lawton church.

There was a short break for the committees to meet.

Motion carried to receive the Treasurer's report given by Sis. Shelia Rooker with a balance on hand of \$2,763.58.

There was no unfinished business.

### New Business:

There were no Credential or Executive Board reports.

Motion carried to receive the Resolution Committee report of three recommendations:

- 1) That the Constitution be updated under Officers to include the 8/11/18 resolution regarding moderators & assistants must be ordained to hold these positions.
- 2) That the Bylaws # 10 be updated increasing the national dues to \$175 & total dues to \$265.
- 3) That we give Randall University a special offering from the association funds for their 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Motion carried that offering to Randall University be \$60 per church in attendance = \$240.

Motion carried to receive Temperance Committee report. We are in the last days. Therefore as Ephesians 6:13-17 says, we are to put on the whole armor of God that we may go out fight the spiritual fight we are now in. As Titus 2:1-8 says, our fight must be with sound doctrine so that our conversation will also be sound.

Motion carried to receive Obituary Committee report: Kolton Carter, 5 year old from Midway who passed away March 1.

A moment of silence honoring the passing of this child was followed by prayer led by Bro. Richard Terry.

**Announcements** were as follows:

Midway will be hosting Steve & Lori Torrison on March 31. Lunch will follow the morning service, then there will be a special paint party (\$20 per person) to help raise funds for their missionary account.

The Annual Hopewell No. 2 Association meeting will be at Iron Chapel on August 10, 2019.

Motion carried to adjourn business and go into worship services.

Bro. Randy Smith opened the services with Bro. Rob Rooker leading in prayer. Congregation singing was led by Sis. Donna Riffe with Sis. Joyce Mullins at the piano. Congregation songs were "Praise Him! Praise Him!" and "Lily of the Valley".

Special singing by Bro. Michael Conerson of "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms."

Bro. Mike Wade led in prayer.

Bro. Bob Thompson brought the message from Acts 17:1-9. Bro. Jeff Shugart led the dismissal prayer.

Bro Randy Smith, Moderator

Sis. Rhonda Addington, Asst. Clerk

**87th Annual Meeting**

**Saturday, August 10, 2019 9:30 a.m. at Iron Chapel FWB Church**

Services were opened by Bro. Randy Smith with Bro. Rob Rooker leading in prayer. Bro. Bob Thomas admonished the association from Psalms 23:1 & John 1:1.

Letters were called for, read and received from 4 churches. A right hand of fellowship was given while Bro. Garrison Hopper played "Well Done My Child" on the piano.

Minutes were read by Sis. Rhonda Addington and received.

Petitionary letter was read from Lawton requesting their new pastor, Bro. David Voegtlin, be examined by the Credential Board to be received into the association.

Rules of Order were read by Bro. Terry Pierson.

Appointment of committees was as follows:

**Resolution:**

Donna Riffe  
Harold Reed  
Donna Robinson

**Temperance:**

R.B. Gardenshire  
Jackie Worthy  
JaDee Hopper

**Obituary:**

Rob Rooker  
Chris Vinson  
Sherrie Smith

We had a break for committees to meet.

Motion carried to accept the Treasurer's report given by Sis. Shelia Rooker with a balance on hand of \$3,586.45.

**No Unfinished or New Business.**

Motion carried to receive Executive Board report as follows: The Executive Board met on August 10, 2019 to audit the treasurer books. They were found to be in balance to the bank account and in good order.

Motion carried to receive the Credential Board report that they found Bro. David Voegtlin sound in doctrine & received him into the association.

Motion carried to receive Resolution Committee report:

No business was presented but read Hebrews 12:1-2 encouraging everyone to stay focused on Jesus Christ as we run our Christian race.

Motion carried to receive the Temperance Committee report:

Paul instructed Timothy not to neglect the gift given to him. Our salvation is valuable. We should guard our hearts & always have on the whole armor of God. We are in the last days. Christ will come quickly & we all need to be ready. (1 Timothy 4:14, Ephesians 6:13-17 & Revelation 22:7)

Motion carried to receive Obituary Committee report: Bro. Colter Huff – Midway. There was a moment of silence honoring him.

**Election of Officers:**

Moderator: Randy Smith

Asst. Moderator: David Voegtlin

Clerk: Jackie Worthy

Asst. Clerk: Donna Robinson

Treasurer: Shelia Rooker

Asst. Treasurer: Wanda Kellett

Executive Board, 5 year man:

David Voegtlin

Executive Board, 1 year man:

Joey Howeth

Credential Board, 5 year man:

Terry Pierson

General Board Member – 2020:

Garrison Hopper, Jr.

**Set Bi-Annual Meeting:**

March 7, 2020 - Midway

**Annual Meeting:**

August 8, 2020 – Countryside

Motion carried to adjourn business and go into worship service.

Worship services were opened by Bro. Joey Howeth with Bro. Garrison Hopper, Jr. leading in prayer.

Congregation singing was led by Bro. Dean Hackney via CD. Songs were "A New Name In Glory" and "I Feel Like Traveling On". Special singing by Bro. Chris Vinson – "Praise The Lord, I Saw The Light" & "Stand By Me".

Bro. Joey Howeth brought the message from 1 Peter 2:6-7, entitled "Jesus, The Most Treasured Possession". Other scriptures were John 1:1, Luke 1:31 & 35, Colossians 1:15, Hebrews 1:2-3, Ephesians 1:3-7 & 11, Galatians 4:5-6, 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 & 1 Peter 1:18.

The meeting was dismissed in prayer by Bro. David Voegtlin.

Bro. Randy Smith, Moderator

Sis. Rhonda Addington, Asst. Clerk

HOPEWELL NO. 2 ASSOCIATION  
JULY 31, 2018 - FEBRUARY 28, 2019  
TREASURER'S REPORT

| CHURCH        | TOTAL<br>RECEIVED   | STATE<br>CO-OP   | STATE &<br>NATIONAL<br>DELEGATE<br>FEES | TSP &<br>MISSIONS  | RANDALL<br>UNIVERSITY | RAINBOW<br>MINISTRIES | BRAZIL<br>C.H.<br>COMBS | ARMS<br>OF<br>COMPASSION | GENERAL<br>FUND  |
|---------------|---------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| COUNTRYSIDE   | \$ 2,295.10         | \$ 452.80        | \$ 240.00                               | \$ 700.00          | \$ 700.00             |                       |                         |                          | \$ 202.30        |
| IRCIN CHAPEL  | \$ 4,239.80         |                  | \$ 240.00                               | \$ 712.40          | \$ 712.40             | \$ 1,287.50           | \$ 1,287.50             |                          |                  |
| LAWTON        | \$ 1,140.00         | \$ 300.00        | \$ 240.00                               | \$ 300.00          | \$ 300.00             |                       |                         |                          |                  |
| MIDWAY        | \$ 2,730.00         |                  | \$ 480.00                               | \$ 900.00          | \$ 500.00             | \$ 450.00             |                         | \$ 200.00                | \$ 200.00        |
| STOBTOWN      | \$ 240.00           |                  | \$ 240.00                               |                    |                       |                       |                         |                          |                  |
| OFFERING      | \$ 120.00           | \$ 120.00        |                                         |                    |                       |                       |                         |                          |                  |
| <b>TOTALS</b> | <b>\$ 10,764.90</b> | <b>\$ 872.00</b> | <b>\$ 1,440.00</b>                      | <b>\$ 2,612.40</b> | <b>\$ 2,212.40</b>    | <b>\$ 1,737.50</b>    | <b>\$ 1,287.50</b>      | <b>\$ 200.00</b>         | <b>\$ 402.30</b> |

BEGINNING BALANCE - JULY 31, 2018

\$ 2,269.99

INCOME FROM CHURCHES

\$ 10,764.90

INTEREST - CHECKING ACCOUNT

(AUGUST - JANUARY)

\$ 1.79

SUBTOTAL

\$ 13,036.68

EXPENSES

\$

STATE CO-OP

\$ 752.80

2020 NATIONAL

\$ 320.00

DELEGATE FEES

\$ 1,000.00

TSP MISSIONS

\$ 2,612.40

RAINBOW MINISTRIES

\$ 1,737.50

RANDALL UNIVERSITY

\$ 2,212.40

BRAZIL CHILDREN'S HOME

SHIRLEY COMBS

\$ 1,287.50

ARMS OF COMPASSION

\$ 200.00

BUFFALO BUSINESS PROD

MINUTES

\$ 139.50

POSTMASTER

STAMPS

\$ 11.00

LESS EXPENSES

\$ 10,273.10

ENDING BALANCE ON HAND - FEBRUARY 28, 2019

\$ 2,763.58

## HOPEWELL NO. 2 ASSOCIATION

FEBRUARY 28 - JULY 31, 2019

## TREASURER'S REPORT

| CHURCH                                        | TOTAL<br>RECEIVED | STATE<br>CO-OP | STATE &<br>NATIONAL<br>DELEGATE<br>FEES | TSP &<br>MISSIONS | RANDALL<br>UNIVERSITY | RAINBOW<br>MINISTRIES | BRAZIL<br>C.H.<br>COMBS | AFMS<br>OF<br>COMPASSION | GENERAL<br>FUND |
|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| COUNTRYSIDE                                   | \$ 1,712.08       | \$ 250.00      | \$ 265.00                               | \$ 500.00         | \$ 498.40             |                       |                         |                          | \$ 108.68       |
| IRON CHAPEL                                   | \$ 2,286.00       |                | \$ 240.00                               | \$ 323.00         | \$ 323.00             | \$ 700.00             | \$ 700.00               |                          |                 |
| LAWTON                                        | \$ 925.00         | \$ 300.00      | \$ 25.00                                | \$ 300.00         | \$ 300.00             |                       |                         |                          |                 |
| MIDWAY                                        | \$ 900.00         |                | \$ 25.00                                | \$ 300.00         | \$ 300.00             |                       |                         | \$ 200.00                | \$ 75.00        |
| STOBTOWN                                      | \$ 265.00         |                | \$ 265.00                               |                   |                       |                       |                         |                          |                 |
| TOTALS                                        | \$ 6,088.08       | \$ 550.00      | \$ 820.00                               | \$ 1,423.00       | \$ 1,421.40           | \$ 700.00             | \$ 700.00               | \$ 200.00                | \$ 273.68       |
| BEGINNING BALANCE - FEBRUARY 28, 2019         |                   |                |                                         |                   |                       |                       |                         |                          | \$ 2,763.58     |
| INCOME FROM CHURCHES                          |                   |                |                                         |                   |                       |                       |                         |                          | \$ 6,088.08     |
| INTEREST - CHECKING ACCOUNT (FEBRUARY - JULY) |                   |                |                                         |                   |                       |                       |                         |                          | \$ 1.57         |
| SUBTOTAL                                      |                   |                |                                         |                   |                       |                       |                         |                          | \$ 8,863.23     |
| EXPENSES                                      |                   |                |                                         |                   |                       |                       |                         |                          | \$              |
| STATE CO-OP                                   |                   |                |                                         |                   |                       |                       |                         |                          | \$ 550.00       |
| TSP MISSIONS                                  |                   |                |                                         |                   |                       |                       |                         |                          | \$ 1,423.00     |
| RAINBOW MINISTRIES                            |                   |                |                                         |                   |                       |                       |                         |                          | \$ 700.00       |
| RANDALL UNIVERSITY                            |                   |                |                                         |                   |                       |                       |                         |                          | \$ 1,661.40     |
| BRAZIL CHILDRENS HOME SHIRLEY COMBS           |                   |                |                                         |                   |                       |                       |                         |                          | \$ 700.00       |
| AFMS C F COMPASSION                           |                   |                |                                         |                   |                       |                       |                         |                          | \$ 200.00       |
| POSTMASTER STAMPS                             |                   |                |                                         |                   |                       |                       |                         |                          | \$ 32.38        |
| LESS EXPENSES                                 |                   |                |                                         |                   |                       |                       |                         |                          | \$ 5,266.78     |
| ENDING BALANCE ON HAND - JULY 31, 2019        |                   |                |                                         |                   |                       |                       |                         |                          | \$ 3,586.45     |

# Annual Letter From Quarterly Meeting to District Association or District Association to State Association

Association Name HOPEWELL NO. 2  
Meeting Location RANDALL UNIVERSITY Date 04 / 30 / 2020 (month/day/year)  
Reporting Period 08 / 2018 to 07 / 2019 (month/year)  
Moderator RANDY SMITH Phone ( 580 ) 656-0208  
Address 3020 E CHEROKEE ROAD Email jrsmith57@yahoo.com  
City DUNCAN State OK Zip 73533  
Clerk JACKIE WORTHY Phone ( 580 ) 280-0329  
Address 1218 SW 26TH PLACE Email \_\_\_\_\_  
City LAWTON State OK Zip 73505

## Delegates

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_  
2. \_\_\_\_\_ 5. \_\_\_\_\_  
3. \_\_\_\_\_

## A. CHURCH CHARACTERISTICS

1. Number of churches 5  
2. Number of churches reporting 5  
3. Number of churches:  
Within city limits 1  
Rural 4  
4. Total number of churches with:  
Full-time pastors 2  
P/vocational pastors 1

## B. MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

1. Baptisms 0  
2. Members added 6  
3. Members lost 3  
4. Membership 173

## C. STEWARDSHIP INFORMATION

1. Income of all churches \$ 71,340.62  
2. Number of churches with budgets 0

## D. BUILDING INFORMATION

1. Number of churches with parsonages 3  
2. Value of all church property including parsonages \$ 1,423,000

## E. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Number of ordained ministers 4  
Licensed ministers 1  
(Attach names, addresses, and phone numbers)  
2. Number of ordained deacons 9  
3. Number of:  
Daycares 0  
Christian Schools 0  
Bible Institutes 0  
Colleges 0  
4. Sunday School enrollment 118

## F. ASSOCIATIONAL PROPERTY (Camp, school, etc.)

- Name NONE  
Value \$ \_\_\_\_\_

District association minutes requested \_\_\_\_\_ State association minutes requested 6  
Representation fees enclosed: Quarterly \$ \_\_\_\_\_ District \$ 200.00 State \$ 250.00 National \$ 875.00

Print completed form and send to district or state association as appropriate. Please attach recommendations and requests to this form.

Please retain a copy for your records. Filable forms available at: [www.natfob.org](http://www.natfob.org).

Form 503 (revised 12/2012)

## ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Introductory Sermon
2. House called to order by the Moderator
3. Letters called for, read and received
4. Right hand of fellowship and seating of the Delegates
5. Reading of the Minutes
6. Petitionary & other letters called for
7. Reading of the Rules of Order
8. Invite visitors to be seated in council
9. Appointment of Committees
10. Report of Treasurer
11. Unfinished Business
12. New Business
13. Reports of Boards
14. Reports of Committees
15. Miscellaneous Business
16. Election of Officers

## RULES OF ORDER

1. At every setting of the Association, business shall be opened and closed with prayer by the Moderator or whosoever he may request.
2. All standing Delegates and elected Delegates present are invited to seats, allowed to take part in debates on all subjects and to vote.
3. Those who speak shall rise and address the Moderator. Personal reflections shall be avoided in all debates.
4. The Moderator shall not allow discussion when not carried on in a Christian spirit.
5. No motion shall be discussed without a second.
6. 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 a negative answer is given from the voting delegation, the question shall be dismissed.

7. A ruling of the Moderator may be overruled by a two-thirds vote of the members present.
8. No question from any Church shall come under the consideration of the Association unless it has first been discussed in its own Church.
9. If any proposition or motion under debate contains two (2) or more points, it shall be divided at the request of any member and the vote taken separately.
10. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded.
11. No one shall speak more than twice on the same subject without special leave of the Moderator.
12. All questions shall be decided by a majority vote of all members present.
13. No members shall absent himself without special leave of the Moderator.
14. At all future sessions of the Association, arrangements shall be made to assure two (2) sermons or other devotional exercise equivalent thereto, and the chair shall announce, just before adjournment, who shall fill the stand at the next meeting.
15. The Rules of Order shall distinctly be read from the chair immediately after organization.
16. Alterations may be made in these rules at any regular session of the Association by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

## GOVERNMENT OF THE CHURCHES

The local Church is an independent body so far as related to its own government, the transaction of its own business, the choice of its officers, and the discipline of its members.

Persons who give evidence of piety are received to membership by a vote of the Church; and if not baptized, on the condition of being baptized. If objections are made, they should be stated to the Church; and if objections are judged valid, the candidate should not be received into fellowship. The Church gives all persons the right hand of fellowship.

Persons expelled from sister Churches, for any cause or for immorality, should not be received until first giving satisfaction.

Letters of dismissal and commendation are granted to members in good standing, by a vote of the Church, on their removal from its limits. Ministers are received and dismissed by letter, as other members are, except when they come or go to other denominations, in which case a council of Ministers should be called respecting the action.

It is the duty of the Church to unite with some Association and represent itself regularly by delegates and letter.

No person shall be a delegate from a Church, unless he or she is a member and appointed by the Church he or she claims to represent.

**BY-LAWS OF THE HOPEWELL NO. 2 ASSOCIATION**  
**OF FREE WILL BAPTIST**

1. The Moderator or Assistant Moderator shall call the Association into conference. In their absence, any member of the Executive Board, the Pastor of the local Church where the meeting is being held, or the Clerk, shall call the Association into conference and the body shall elect a Moderator to serve for that session.
2. The Clerk of the Association shall have the duty of enrolling the Delegates from the Churches in this Association, who shall present themselves with proper evidence of their rights to seats therein.
3. It shall be the duty of every Church belonging to this Association to send a letter to every session of this Association reporting in the same the spiritual condition of the Church and the list of Delegates. Any Church belonging to this Association which shall fail to report itself for one year may be dismissed from the Association by a two-thirds vote of all members present.
4. The voting body of this Association shall consist of all Association Officers and Board Members, all ordained Ministers and their wives, all ordained Deacons and their wives, local Church Clerk and Assistant Clerk and three (3) elected Delegates from each Church affiliated with this Association.
5. Any standing or elected Delegate to this Association who is opposed to the doctrine of the National Association of Free Will Baptist, as set forth in the Treatise, will not be entitled to a seat in conference.
6. A majority of the Churches of this Association shall constitute a quorum; a lesser number shall adjourn until such a quorum is present.
7. Visiting brethren are invited to seats as advisory members, but may not vote on any questions.
8. No person shall be allowed to nominate more than one member to a Board or Committee, provided the person nominated is elected.
9. All Officers and Board Members of this Association must be faithful in attendance and support to their local Church. Failure to comply will result in dismissal from their office.

10. A fee of \$265.00 is to be sent to the Annual Session of this Association. (\$40.00 for printing of the minutes, \$50.00 for the State Delegate fee and \$175.00 for the National Delegate fee.)
11. The Treasurer of this Association shall submit a written report at each session. If a written report is not given, a new Treasurer will be elected. All Treasurers' books are to be audited yearly on Saturday morning of annual business meeting in August by the Executive Board.
12. It shall be the duty of all Boards to meet as often as may be necessary and any member absenting himself for three (3) successive meetings may be dropped from the Board and his successor elected.
13. These By-Laws may be altered or amended at any regular session of this Association by a two-thirds vote of members present.

**CONSTITUTION OF THE HOPEWELL NO. 2 ASSOCIATION**  
**OF FREE WILL BAPTIST**

**PREAMBLE**

From long experience, we, the members of the Free Will Baptist denomination, realizing the necessity of a bond of union and fellowship among us as a group of Churches, do hereby ordain this Constitution for our progress and do perpetuate better Associational government.

**NAME**

This Association shall be known as the Hopewell No. 2 Association of Free Will Baptist of the State of Oklahoma. It shall meet two times each year with the August session designated as the Annual Session. Each Bi-Annual conference shall possess the same authority as the Annual Session, except for the election of Officers and Board Members.

**PURPOSE**

The object and purpose of this organization shall be to unify the work of the various bodies composing this District Association and to devise and execute measures for the extension of the Kingdom of God, in connection with the various bodies in the Association, or that may hereafter be, represented therein.

**MEMBERSHIP**

This Association shall be composed of Free Will Baptist Churches, which maintain Gospel order and agree with denominational doctrine and practices; and favor the enterprises that have been endorsed by the Association. Voting representation, at any session, shall be described in Article Four (4) of the By-Laws.

**NEW CHURCHES**

Any regular organized Free Will Baptist Church desiring to unite with this Association may do so by presenting a petitionary letter and being examined by the Executive Board of the Association. A majority vote of this Association is necessary for the acceptance of any Church into the Association.

**DISCIPLINE**

This Association shall have the right to settle any question of discipline, doctrine or practices that may properly come before it from any of the bodies composing said organization. Furthermore, if there be any question of discipline, doctrine or practices on the part of an affiliated Church, Delegates of that Church shall not be seated until these questions have been settled to the satisfaction of the Credential Board.

Section 2: Decisions of the Credential Board may be appealed in this manner: All appeals shall come before the body of the Hopewell No. 2 Association.

### OFFICERS

The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk, Assistant Clerk, Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer, all whom shall be elected at the Annual session. Both the Moderator and Assistant Moderator shall be ordained.

Section 2: In the event of a vacancy occurring between sessions, the Executive Board shall fill the vacancy until the next session.

### BOARDS

The following standing Boards shall be elected in the Annual Session: Executive Board, Credential Board, Church Training Board, Christian Education Board, Mission Board and Camp Ground Board. Each Board shall consist of five members as to have one (1) member retiring each year.

### EXECUTIVE BOARD

This Board shall be composed of five (5) ordained Ministers or Deacons, who are members of an affiliated Church, in good standing with their Church and faithful in attendance and support. They shall be elected at the discretion of this Association. It shall be the duty of this Board to act on behalf of the Association when it is not in session. It shall be bound to carry out the directions of the Association and hold itself bound by every consideration of morality and honor, to carry out the wishes of this Association and to act under its instructions in whatever technical rights, civil laws and the decisions of courts may give it in certain emergencies.

It shall be the duty of this Board to sign their signatures to any and all papers concerning properties, indebtedness, bonds or other legal documents pertaining to the execution of the will of the Association. No member of the Executive Board shall delegate authority to any other member of said Board to cast his vote for him in any matter. The Executive Board shall have the power to call the Association into conference by notifying each Church, ten days prior to the conference. They shall have the authority to change the Bi-Annual meeting or the Annual meeting if the place where said meeting is to be held is unable to care for the meeting. No meeting of the Executive Board shall be held unless there is a quorum present of three (3) members. This Board shall make a full report in writing of its activities at each session.

### **CREDENTIAL BOARD**

The Credential Board shall be composed of five (5) ordained members of this Association, who are members of an affiliated Church, in good standing with their Church and faithful in attendance and support. The Credential Board shall examine Ministers for license and ordination. It shall be the duty of this Board to examine all ordained Ministers who wish to unite with this Association. It shall also be the responsibility of this Board to examine candidates for the office of Deacon who are sent from their Churches before this Association. In cases of discipline, this Board shall have the authority to labor with the ordained of this Association.

### **PROPERTY AND REAL ESTATE**

Any Church that is a member of the Hopewell No. 2 Association that shall become extinct, or that has or shall cease to function and use its property, shall be taken charge of by this Association, in accordance with the laws of the State of Oklahoma. Every endeavor shall be made by this Association to keep any Church from becoming extinct.

### **VACANCIES**

Vacancies shall occur when a member moves from the territorial bounds of this Association or by death, by resignation or by removal from office by this Association. In the event of disciplinary action where charges concerning misconduct, doctrine or practice shall have been lodged against a member of any Board or Officer, his office shall be held in abeyance until such charges shall be concluded or as determined by this Association. All Boards shall have power to fill vacancies arising between sessions of this Association. Such appointment shall terminate at the next session of the Association and shall be filled by this Association.

### **SPECIAL SESSIONS**

Elected Delegates to the last session of the Association shall be retained as standing Delegates for special called sessions.

### **DISSOLUTION**

Should this Association cease to function, all properties and holdings shall go to the Oklahoma State Association of Free Will Baptists after all creditors are satisfied and indebtedness cleared.

### **AMENDMENTS**

This Constitution may be amended or altered at any regular session of the Association by a two-thirds majority vote of the members present in writing to the body one day in advance.

## ARTICLE OF FAITH

1. **THE BIBLE** - The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God, and are our infallible rule of faith and practice.
2. **GOD** - There is one living and true God, revealed in nature as the Creator, Preserver and Righteous Governor of the Universe; and in the Scriptures as Father, Son and Holy Ghost; yet as one God, infinitely wise and good, whom all intelligent creatures are supremely to love, adore, and obey.
3. **CHRIST** - Christ is God manifest in the flesh; in His divine nature truly God, in His human nature truly man. The mediator between God and man, once crucified, He is now risen and glorified, and is our ever present Savior and Lord.
4. **THE HOLY SPIRIT** - The Scriptures assign to the Holy Spirit all the attributes of God. He is the Reprover, Comforter, Guide and Sanctifier of all men.
5. **THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD** - God exercises a wise and benevolent providence over all beings and all things by maintaining the constitution and laws of nature. He also performs special acts of Grace, not otherwise provided for, as the highest welfare of men requires.
6. **THE SINFULNESS OF MAN** - Man was created innocent, but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation. His posterity, therefore, inherited a fallen nature of such tendencies that all who come to years of accountability, sin and become guilty before God.
7. **THE WORK OF CHRIST** - The Son of God by His incarnation, life, sufferings, death, and resurrection effected for all a redemption from sin that is full and free; and is the ground of salvation of faith.
8. **THE WORKS OF SALVATION** - The conditions of salvation are:
  - A. Repentance or sincere sorrow for sin and hearty renunciation of it.
  - B. Faith or the unreserved committal of one's self to Christ as Savior and Lord with purpose to love and obey Him in all things. In the exercise of saving faith, the soul is renewed by the Holy Spirit, freed from the dominion of sin, and becomes a child of God.
  - C. Continuance in faith and obedience unto death.

9. **ELECTION** - God determined from the beginning to save all who should comply with the conditions of salvation. Hence by faith in Christ men become His elect.
10. **FREEDOM OF WILL** - The human will is free and self-controlled, having power to yield to the influence of the truth and the Spirit, or to resist them and perish.
11. **SALVATION IS FREE** - God desires the salvation of all, the Gospel invites all, the Holy Spirit strives with all, and whosoever will may come and take of the Water of Life freely.
12. **PERSEVERANCE** - All believers in Christ, who through grace persevere in holiness to the end of life, have promise of eternal salvation.
13. **BACKSLIDING AND APOSTASY** - A person who has been regenerated or born again and is living in unconfessed, unforgiven sin, is rebellious to the principles of the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and therefore, is a backslider in a lost condition, who must repent and be restored to the right relationship with God or be eternally lost.

We recognize, according to Hebrews 6:4-6, that it is possible for a person to get in the condition that he could never return to Christ. This, we believe, is Apostasy. However, we also recognize that a regenerate person can fall into sin, be in a lost condition and still not be an Apostate. This person, through repentance, can be reconciled to God.

14. **GOSPEL ORDINANCES** - Baptism, or the immersion of believers in water, and the Lord's Supper, are ordinances to be perpetuated under the Gospel; Feet Washing, an ordinance teaching humility, is of universal obligation, and is to be administered to all true believers.
15. **TITHING** - God commanded tithes and offerings in the Old Testament; Jesus Christ endorsed it in the Gospel (Matthew 23:23), and the Apostle Paul said, "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him" (1 Corinthians 16:2a).
16. **THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH** - The divine law requires that one (1) day in seven (7) be set apart from the secular employments and amusements, for rest, worship, holy works, and activities, and for personal communion with God.
17. **RESURRECTION, JUDGMENT AND FINAL RETRIBUTION** - The Scriptures teach the resurrection of all men at the last day. They that have done good will come forth to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation; then the wicked shall "go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

## 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, we promise 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 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 forsake 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 bonds 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 Sunday Schools, and evangelistic efforts for the salvation of the world. And may the God of Peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

# NATIONAL GUIDELINE OF ORDINATION TO THE MINISTRY IN THE FREE WILL BAPTIST DENOMINATION

## PREFACE

This booklet has been prepared by the Executive Committee of the General Board of the National Association and has been approved by the National Association of Free Will Baptists.

It must be clearly understood that this booklet is intended to be descriptive and not legislative. Nobody can set ordination requirements for the denomination as a whole; such ordaining body across the denomination has full liberty to follow whatever practices it chooses.

From time to time, however, various persons engaged in exercising ordaining responsibilities are desirous of knowing what is being practiced abroad in the denomination. For that reason, this booklet has been prepared. The Executive Committee trusts that the suggestions and descriptions will be helpful for those who wish help.

## PART 1: GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

### THE AUTHORITY TO ORDAIN

Free Will Baptists, committed to doctrine of congregational Church government, understand that the authority to ordain Ministers lies in the local Church. In practice, however, some local Free Will Churches work together in the matter of ordination by delegating the authority of ordination to the Association of Churches in which the local Church holds membership. The true source of this authority should never be lost sight of.

### THE PROCEDURE FOR ORDINATION

In some areas of the denomination, ordination follows a procedure at least similar to the following outline:

1. The individual, acknowledging his call from God, makes known his calling and desire for ordination to the local Church of which he is a member.
2. The local Church, led by the Holy Spirit to recognize that the individual does, indeed, appear to possess the gift, proceeds to have the candidate "licensed".
  - A. In many areas, the local Church grants this "license" directly.
  - B. In other areas, the local Church files a petition with the Association that this "license" be granted.

Generally, there is no formal examination of a candidate involved for licensing. The request or action of the local Church is all that is necessary at this stage. (For this reason, local Churches should "license" or request license only after being firmly convinced the candidate has been called by God.)

3. The license issued in the preceding step is in force for a period of one (1) year and may be renewed annually if the licentiate is not ready for ordination. This renewal must be made by the action or request of the local Church.
4. Near the end of the licensing year, if the candidate feels he is ready for ordination, he again approaches his local Church and signifies this. The local Church, if it also feels that the candidate may be ready, now files a petition with the Association that the candidate be examined for ordination.
5. Having received petition from the local Church, the Association's ordaining committee proceeds to "examine" the candidate. In reference to this step in the procedure, it should be noted that the details of the practice differ considerably from one place to another, but the basic practice is the same. Each Association has some level of organization (a presbytery, ordination council or committee, etc.) which conducts the examination. Many groups require that a candidate fill out a formal "application" at this stage. This application should cover basic information on the candidate. The national bookstore has application forms for sale.
6. The Ordination Committee reports the results of its examination to the Association as a whole and makes recommendations to be acted upon by the Association as a body. If a recommendation is made and approved that the candidate be ordained, the actual service of ordination soon follows. (In some cases, the committee for examination will recommend some further studies for the candidate before he should be ordained. In which case, his license will be renewed until the suggestions are followed and another examination made, or in some cases, the committee should recommend that the candidate completely withdraw for consideration as an ordained Minister, in which case his license should not continue to be renewed.)

It should be noted here that in at least one or two areas, a recommendation for ordination does not have to be approved by the Associational body as a whole. Such a practice tends to forget that ordination, after all, is done by the Churches, not the ministry.

7. The procedure for setting up the ordination service varies considerably.

- A. In many Associations, the same committee that made the examination arranges and conducts the ordination service.
- B. In some areas, the Association recommendation is directed back to the local Church and the local Church arranges and conducts the ordination service.
- C. In some areas, the candidate is permitted to choose some or all of a committee of Ministers to arrange and conduct the ordination service.

In all areas, the service is conducted by Ministers as the ordained representatives of the Churches and includes that "laying on of hands" as signifying the candidate's call to the Gospel ministry.

### **THE MEANING OF ORDINATION**

There are some groups that do not practice any kind of official "ordination". Free Will Baptists are not among these, but it should not be inferred that Free Will Baptists believe the "Church" gives a man authority to preach. The authority for a man to preach lies solely with God. Free Will Baptists believe in a divinely called ministry.

Yet the visible Church always finds itself called on to pass judgment on the exercise of ALL spiritual gifts, the ministry included. The injunction of the Bible is everywhere - "Try the spirits." It is not sufficient that a man gain hearing simply because he says he is called by God and is bringing God's message.

Ordination, then, is simply the Church's official recognition that a man does indeed possess the gift and calling of God to the ministry and is therefore, entitled to be heard as such. As indicated in the previous discussion of the ordination procedure, there are really two levels of direct responsibility in ordination: the local Church - primary, and the Association ordination apparatus - secondary. Both levels should be thoroughly convinced, based on the evidence seen in life, ministry and knowledge, that the candidate has the required gift. The general public should always be able to rely upon the fact of ordination, as a clear sign that many Christians of mature judgment have recognized that the one ordained is gifted and capable to minister.

No group responsible for ordination would presume to imply that it is infallible. Candidates genuinely possessing the gift may, on occasion, be rejected. Although this is true, the ordaining councils must not simply decide to ordain just anyone because he desires it.

### **THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF ORDINATION**

The candidate, who has been ordained, continues to have certain responsibilities relating to those who have ordained him, in addition to his obvious responsibilities to the Lord who has called him.

First, he should report regularly to the body with which he holds ordination. Second, he should submit himself to any call issued by the body for disciplinary purposes. If he shows himself, by conduct or doctrine, to be unworthy of continuing as ordained, he should willingly relinquish his ordination certificate to those who have the authority, and having followed the correct procedures, request it.

### **THE TRANSFER OF ORDINATION**

Moving about from one place to another in the denomination often involves transferring ordination from one Association to another. A Minister in good standing in one Association is usually granted confirmation of his ordained status in another Association with a minimum of procedural requirements. Caution should be followed so that two (2) definite responsibilities are observed.

- A. The Association from which a Minister is transferring has the shared responsibilities to inform the new Association if there were any questions at all about the Minister's standing, conduct or doctrine.
- B. The Association to which the Minister is transferring should make sure by whatever means are necessary, that the Minister has left his former Association in good standing and is worthy by conduct and doctrine of ordination.

### **PART 2: STANDARDS FOR ORDINATION**

Obviously, there is considerable variety within the Free Will Baptist denomination in reference to requirements for ordination. The following outline will deal with the areas generally agreed to be most important.

#### **GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS OF CHARACTER AND CONDUCT**

The earlier portion of this booklet has made clear that the primary requirement is that the evidence given in the candidate's life be such as to convince those who observe, both in the candidate's local Church and in a broader area, that he possess the gift and calling of God.

Obviously, the official recommendation of the local Church should not be given to a candidate unless that recommendation can be fully relied on to mean that the candidate, by sufficient length of time, has given full assurance to the members of the Church that he meets the standards of these Biblical lists.

### **THE CANDIDATE'S BUSINESS RELATIONSHIPS**

One of Paul's specific requirements is that the Ministers "have a good report on them which are without" (1 Timothy 3:7). In reference to this, a matter of great importance is the candidate's financial reputation. The "Ministry" has been blighted by men who do not pay their bills. Every effort should be made to make sure the candidate is scrupulously careful to keep his finances in order.

To aid in achieving this assurance, several Free Will Baptist ordaining groups are now requiring the candidate to submit several credit references, and then perhaps, even the credit bureaus are closely checked.

### **THE CANDIDATE'S MINISTERIAL ACTIVITIES**

There have been far too many Free Will Baptist persons ordained as "preachers" who almost never preach or perform any real ministry for which ordination is required. Every effort should be made to be sure the candidate is actually going to be involved in ministerial duties. Indeed, he should already be manifesting ministerial abilities in some degree.

This need has brought more and more of our ordaining groups to follow this practice of only renewing license and not actually ordaining until a candidate actually gets involved in a specific "ministry" like pastoring, regular evangelistic work, missionary labor or other types of Church employment needing ordination. Perhaps this reflects Paul's requirement that the individual to be ordained not be a "novice" - neither as an immature Christian nor in the Christian service.

### **THE CANDIDATE'S MARITAL STATUS**

Perhaps one of the touchiest areas in connection with ordination requirements concerns divorce and remarriage. Paul says "the husband of one wife". Most groups do not take this to mean a single man cannot be ordained, but only that if he is married, he must not be a polygamist.

In a few areas, a person divorced and remarried might be ordained, although this is not true in most places. Whether this is right and good is a matter that needs a great deal of careful study across the whole denomination.

### **THE CANDIDATE'S SEX**

Throughout the years, a few women have been ordained to the Ministry in the denomination and a few are currently active. The general trend, however, has been in the opposite direction and most areas will not now ordain women.

## **THE CANDIDATE'S EDUCATION**

To our knowledge, there are no specific educational requirements connected with ordination that are generally followed across the denomination and probably there never should be. In order to raise the level of Biblical knowledge, (see the next section) however, there are a few areas now requiring the completion of certain Bible correspondence courses as a minimum before ordination.

### **THE CANDIDATE'S BIBLICAL KNOWLEDGE**

It is absolutely necessary that a Minister have a good general knowledge of the Word. Therefore, procedures are always in order among ordaining councils that will help them determine the candidate's level of Biblical knowledge. This is, indeed, one of the main purposes of the examination. When administered well, oral examinations along this line can be sufficient, but the trend now in many areas is to go to some type of written examination covering Biblical knowledge. Such examinations, whether written or oral, should cover:

- A. Knowledge of general Biblical facts.
- B. Ability to explain basic Biblical concepts.

In order to cover these matters well, such examinations have to be carefully planned. The ordainers should have recommendations about specific studies the candidate can get involved in to prepare him for the examinations, both before his first examination and in preparation for a second examination, if he fails to satisfy them the first time. Please note that there has been included an Appendix 1 of this booklet, a sample examination covering this area (and the next). This examination is much like one in actual use by one ordaining group in the Free Will Baptist denomination.

### **THE CANDIDATE'S DOCTRINAL POSITION**

Closely related to the previous are (Biblical knowledge) is the matter of the candidate's doctrinal position and understanding. By actual examination (again, either orally, or perhaps better, in writing), the ordainers should be completely satisfied on these counts:

- A. That the candidate is doctrinally sound and holds a clear-cut position in agreement with basic fundamentals of Christianity.
- B. That the candidate is denominationally sound and holds a clear-cut position in agreement with the distinctive doctrines of the Free Will Baptist denomination.
- C. That the candidate not only know the right words, but understands and can satisfactorily explain the doctrines involved in the two areas just mentioned.

### QUESTIONS ON DOCTRINE

- 1) Do you believe that the Scripture, the Old and New Testaments, are the infallible Word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice? \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) Do you believe in the Trinity? \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) Name the God Head: \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) Is salvation obtained through the Blood of Christ? \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) Name the condition of salvation: \_\_\_\_\_
- 6) Do you believe that speaking in an unknown tongue is evidence of having received the Baptism of the Holy Ghost? \_\_\_\_\_
- 7) Do you believe in a second definite work of Grace or Baptism in the Holy Ghost, separate and apart from regeneration? \_\_\_\_\_
- 8) What composes the body of Christ? \_\_\_\_\_
- 9) Does the Bible teach that God has an organized visible Church on this earth? \_\_\_\_\_
- 10) Do you believe that Baptism is a Gospel Ordinance? \_\_\_\_\_
- 11) Who are the proper subjects for Baptism? \_\_\_\_\_
- 12) Do you believe that immersion is the proper method of water baptism? \_\_\_\_\_
- 13) Do you believe that the Lord's Supper and Feet Washing are divine ordinances and should be observed repeatedly? \_\_\_\_\_
- 14) A. Do you teach and practice these ordinances? \_\_\_\_\_  
B. Do you practice the ordinances at night? \_\_\_\_\_
- 15) Do you believe in the possibility of apostasy? \_\_\_\_\_
- 16) Do you believe in the resurrection of the bodies of all men? \_\_\_\_\_
- 17) Do you believe that there will be a judgment when time and man's probation will close forever and then all will be judged according to their works? \_\_\_\_\_
- 18) Do you believe that immediately after the judgment that the righteous will enter into eternal life, and the wicked into a state of endless punishment? \_\_\_\_\_
- 19) Do you believe that Christ at His second coming will close the gospel dispensation, glorify His saints, and judge the world? \_\_\_\_\_

I pledge myself to teach and defend the Free Will Baptist Doctrine to the best of my ability. If at any future time I preach or teach any doctrine contrary to the Free Will Baptist Articles of Faith, I will surrender my credentials to the Association of which I am a member.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR MINISTERS TO BE ORDAINED

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
MEMBER OF THE \_\_\_\_\_ CHURCH

- 1) Do you have a license? \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) If you have a license, how long have you carried it? \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) By what Association was it issued? \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) How many sermons have you preached? \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) Where are you preaching now? \_\_\_\_\_
- 6) Why do you want to be ordained? \_\_\_\_\_
- 7) Are you married? \_\_\_\_\_ How many times? \_\_\_\_\_
- 8) If you have been married more than once, is a former companion living? \_\_\_\_\_
- 9) How many children do you have? \_\_\_\_\_
- 10) Is your wife a member of a Free Will Baptist Church? \_\_\_\_\_
- 11) How long have you been a Christian? \_\_\_\_\_
- 12) How long have you been a Free Will Baptist? \_\_\_\_\_
- 13) Is your wife willing that you be ordained? \_\_\_\_\_
- 14) Do you or your wife have any habits that would hinder your ministry? \_\_\_\_\_
- 15) If you have belonged to other denominations, give the name of each and the length of time with each: \*  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 16) In your opinion, what is God's plan for financing His Work? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 17) Do you tithe to the Church you are a member of? \_\_\_\_\_
- 18) Are you willing to make any sacrifice that may be involved in this ministry? \_\_\_\_\_

19) Are you willing to abstain from any indulgences that might hinder your effective influence in the ministry? \_\_\_\_\_

20) Will your financial circumstances hinder you in taking the pastoral care of a Church? \_\_\_\_\_

21) How much education do you have? \_\_\_\_\_

22) Have you had any special training in doctrinal and pastoral theology? \_\_\_\_\_

23) Have you had any course of study in Homiletics? \_\_\_\_\_

24) Do you have plans to better qualify yourself for the ministry? \_\_\_\_\_

25) If so, what are your plans? \_\_\_\_\_

26) Are you resolved to devote yourself wholly to the ministry? \_\_\_\_\_

27) Would you be willing to continue preaching under license if this committee felt that it was best? \_\_\_\_\_

28) Have you completed the Minister's Preparation Course? \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ITEMS OF IMPORTANCE FROM OLD MINUTES 1933 - 2019

- 1944 Motion carried that this Association not ordain anyone to ministry of the Gospel who is not a member of some Free Will Baptist Church in good standing & has been licensed to preach for one year & proven worthy of ordination & recommended by his Church for ordination.
- 1959 Motion carried that the Moderator be an ordained Free Will Baptist Minister or Deacon in good standing in the Association.
- 1961 Motion carried that any Minister coming to our Association from another Oklahoma Association, who is in good standing with the Association that he is leaving, be examined by the Ministers & Deacons Conference (now the Credential Board).
- 1966 Motion carried that any member coming from another faith must prove themselves for one year before holding office in this Association.
- 1968 Motion carried that new officers take their office immediately after the closing of business of the annual Association meeting.
- 1972 Adopted the National Ordination Guidelines.  
Motion carried to print the Women's Auxiliary report in the minutes.  
Adopted the Constitution from the First Oklahoma Association with August designated as the annual session. (Listed under NAME in Constitution.)  
Motion carried that the Camp Ground Board be given the authority to have their own Treasurer & handle the finances.
- 1973 Adopted the State Articles of Faith.
- 1978 Motion carried that we start our Annual meeting on Friday night with worship service & that all business be conducted on Saturday.
- 1979 Motion carried to record the starting time of our quarterly & annual meetings be as follows: Day services begin at 9:30 AM & Night services begin at 7:30 PM.
- 1982 Motion carried that when a member is elected to an office, board or committee, that he or she must be present.
- 1985 Motion carried to accept the recommendation from the Executive Board on the revision of the Cooperative giving in the Association. Revisions as follows: 60% to Co-op, 20% to General Fund & 20 % to Camp Ground Fund. This does not affect designated giving.
- 1989 Motion carried that the month of June be designated as Youth Camp Month.

- 1990 Motion carried that this Association will not ordain any Minister unless the work necessitates it.  
Motion carried that the Standing Camp Ground Board be made a permanent Board consisting of five members & that the 1 year man on that Board will be the Chairman.
- 1994 Note: Each Church will pay \$125 to help with Youth Camp. Each camper will pay \$5.00 fee.
- 1995 Motion carried that all moneys paid to the different projects & funds of the Denomination & Association go through the Association Treasurer, including church fees, CO-OP, camp ground, youth camp funds, etc., to be properly reported on the financials.  
Motion carried to pay all future Youth Camp Evangelists \$400.00, beginning in 1996.
- 1996 Motion carried to increase the amount paid for expenses of the General Board Member from \$100.00 to \$300.00.  
Motion carried to have semi-annual Association meetings.  
The one year man on each board will be chairman of each board.
- 1997 Reminder that all future candidates for licensing & ordination must complete Questionnaire for Ordination prior to coming before the Credential Board.
- 2002 Motion carried to adopt the Credential Board recommendation that any individual new to Free Will Baptist that desires to join this Association should receive & complete the State Questionnaire for Ordination prior to being considered for ordination.
- 2003 Motion carried to update the Rules of Order, By-Laws and Constitution.
- 2005 Motion carried to transfer the Youth Camp building & land to the Oklahoma State Association of Free Will Baptist.  
Motion carried to retain the current Camp Ground Board until the transfer of property is complete & at which time, it will be removed from the Constitution.
- 2006 Motion carried to accept the recommendation from the Resolution Committee to revise the Cooperative giving of the Association to 80% to State Co-op & 20% to Association General Fund. This does not affect designated giving.  
Motion carried to accept the recommendation from the Resolution Committee to change our Annual meeting to the second weekend in August.
- 2007 Motion carried to accept the Executive Board guidelines as follows:  
a) The Resolution Committee should make suggestions but not dollar amounts.  
b) The Temperance Committee should have Spiritual recommendations as the Resolution is more physical.  
c) The Divine Committee should continue to do as they have in the past.  
d) No more than one person from each church should be on each committee. The Moderator and Assistant Moderator will choose these committees.
- 2008 Motion carried to receive the Resolution Committee recommendations to uphold the resolutions found in the 2005 Free Will Baptist Year Book pages 69-70 concerning same sex marriages.

- 2009 By Law # 11 amended: Treasurer's books are to be audited yearly on the Friday night before the Saturday Annual Business Meeting in August.
- 2011 By Law # 10 amended: National delegate fee increased to \$150.00
- 2012 Motion carried to eliminate office of Reporter.
- 2013 Motion carried to eliminate the Youth Camp Board.
- 2014 Motion carried for the host church to provide speakers for each service indefinitely. (Divine committee will no longer be utilized.)
- 2015 Motion carried for Friday night services to be discontinued.  
Amended By-law # 11 - All Treasurer's books are to be audited yearly on Saturday morning of the annual business meeting in August by the Executive Board.  
Motion carried to indefinitely discontinue the Parliamentarian position.
- 2016 Note: District Women's Auxiliary voted to disband.  
Note: Countyline Church closed.
- 2017 Note: Hazelton dropped - no dues paid & no one attending meetings
- 2018 Motion carried that the Assistant Moderator be ordained & held to the same standards as the Moderator.  
Motion carried that the assistants of primary positions be held to the same standard and the prerequisites as the actual position requires. This may be modified on a case by case basis.  
Note: Will need motion to add this information to the constitution. - 2019 March meeting
- 2019 Amended By-Law # 10 - A fee of \$265.00 is to be sent to the Annual Session of this Association. (\$40.00 for printing of the minutes, \$50.00 for the State Delegate fee & \$175.00 for the National Delegate fee.)  
Updated Constitution - Officers: Both the Moderator and Assistant Moderator shall be ordained.

