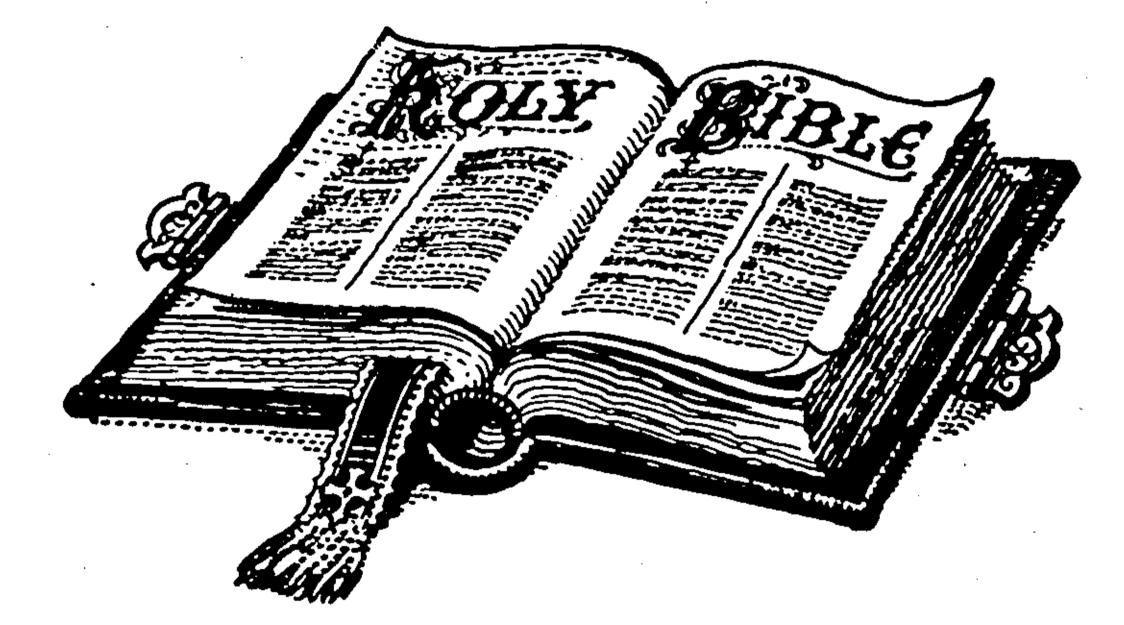
THE LIBERTY ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

1989-90

Minutes of the Year and Annual Session



When convened with

Trinity Free Will Baptist Church 410 Oregon St. Ypsilanti, MI

Trinity FWBC 410 Oregon St. Ypsilanti, MI

MINUTES OF THE FORTIETH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE LIBERTY ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST

Assistant Moderator Rev. Robert Roscoe 313/942-1107

Clerk Bro. Louis Tolbert 313/461-6435

Treasurer and Assistant Clerk . Bro. Clinton V. Garrett 313/482-4605

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Call to Order by Moderator Call for letters from churches Election of Officers Rules of Decorum Corresponding letters Board Reports Unfinished Business New Business

BOARD MEMBERS PRESBYTERY BOARD

Rev. Ralph Nix
Rev. Darrell Hyder 4 years
Rev. Loyd Locklear
Rev. Ollie Lafferty
Rev. William Ford 1 year

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Rev. Robert Roscoe
Rev. Terry Lester 4 years
Rev. Larry Iddins
Rev. George Johnson
Rev. Austin Begley 1 year

YOUTH CAMP BOARD MEMBER

Rev. Rick Locklear

STATE HOME MISSIONS

Rev. George Johnson

Minutes of the Quarterly Meeting of the Liberty Association of Free Will Baptist when convened at the Woodhaven FWB Church August, 1989

FRIDAY EVENING

The Friday Evening Service was dismissed due to conflict with Youth Camp.

SATURDAY MORNING

This setting of the Liberty Association of FWB was convened with Rev. George Johnson leading the Congregation in "Amazing Grace." Rev. Loyd Locklear, host pastor, welcomed everyone and Rev. William Ford prayed the opening prayer.

Rev. Larry Murphy held the devotion reading from II Corinthian 5:17 entitled "A New Creature." Rev. Charles Cooper, Moderator, called the Association to order. Rev. Cooper dismissed the board members.

Bro. Louis Tolbert, Clerk, read the letters from each church and the delegates were seated. Bro. Cooper welcomed the visitors, Mark Blatrip. Bro. Cooper read the Rules of Decorum, Bro. Louis Tolbert read the minutes from the last setting, they were accepted as read. Bro. Vernon Garrett read the Treasurer report, it was accepted as read.

Placement: Due to Women's Retreat a motion was made to change the date of this setting of the Liberty Assoication from Nov. 3 and Nov. 4 to Nov. 10 and Nov. 11. The Troy FWB requested this setting. Request honored.

Rev. Bill Lucas was chosen to preach the Introductory Message with Rev. Loyd Locklear as alternate.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Information: Deacons are standing delegates in the National Association. 1990 Meeting will be in Phoenix, Arizona.

Executive Board: Bro. Johnson

Item #1: For as much as this body has in the past voted and approved by-laws and Constitutional amendments which have governed this body, which as yet have not been added to our written Constitution an by-laws, we recommend that we appoint Bro. Louis and Sis. Doretta Tolbert to research the Association records and bring to the next meeting any constitutional amendments and by-laws which have not been added to the record which we recommend be added to our 90-91 Liberty Association Minutes.

We recommend that we compensate them for their time and expense they incur in this matter.

Item #2: We recommend that we give our offering today to the Tecumseh Mission.

Item #3: We recommend that we give this host church a standing vote of thanks.

Item #4: We recommend that there be a new interest displayed by our Church's in the Liberty Conference toward our state work. This must include both *Pastor* and *Pew*.

Motion made to accept report. Motion carried.

Item #1: Motion Made to accept recommendation. Motion carried.
Item #2: Motion Made to accept recommendation. Motion carried.
Item #3: Motion Made to accept recommendation. Motion carried.
Item #4: Motion Made to accept recommendation. Motion carried.

PRESBYTERY BOARD: No Report

Home Mission: Bro. Johnson gave report on Tecumseh Mission doing good but still needs support. Motion made to accept report. Motion carried.

Youth Camp: Rick Locklear. Camp doing good but Senior Camp was down in attendance. Motion made to accept report. Motion carried.

Women's Auxiliary: Connie Dean. Auxiliary Retreat Nov. 3 and Nov. 4 1989 Battle Creek. Report for information.

BREAK

The service began with Bro. Johnson leading congregation in "It Is Love," Bro. Begley prayed for the service. Bro. Johnson, Bro. Cooper, Bro. Rick Locklear and Bro. Loyd Locklear sang "We'll soon be done with Troubles and Trials" and "I Can Tell you the Time" for the special singing. Bro. Ollie Lafferty read from St. John 2:1-11 for the message entitled "Formula For Success." The invitation was given, announcements were made and Rev. Loyd Locklear dismissed in prayer.

Minutes of the Liberty Association of Free Will Baptist when convened at the Troy Free Will Baptist Church November 10 - 11, 1989

The service began with the local director leading the congregation in "Blessed Assurance." Rev. Charles Cooper the host pastor and Moderator welcomed everyone. Rev. Tom Ford read from Psalms 37:37 for the devotion entitled "How to Have Perfect Peace." The Moderator then called the conference to order. An offering was taken for the Tecumseh Mission, Rev. Cooper prayed for the offering and Rev. George Johnson led the congregation in "The Gloryland Way" as the offering was received. Rev. Cooper dismissed the boards. He appointed Bro. Nix and Bro. Murphy to meet with the Presbytery Board. Rev. Cooper then recognized the visitors, Paul Plandanon from the Assembly of God in Ferndale. He then appointed an Obituary committee of Sis. Peggy Lafferty, Sis. Celeste Roscoe and Sis. Kathy Murphy. Rev. Johnson then led the congregation in "Amazing Grace" and a medley of old favorites. Special singing was Bro. Johnson, Bro. Cooper and Bro. Gordie Rohroff.

Rev. Leon Gibson came forward to bring the message. He have a good report for the Tecumseh Mission and that things was giong well. He read from Jeremiah 1:4-10 and Psalms 1:1-3 for the message. Bro. Johnson led "Just As I Am" as the invitation was given and Rev. Ollie Lafferty dismissed in prayer.

SATURDAY MORNING

Bro. Glen Strouse led the congregation in "Tis So Sweet." Bro. Cooper welcomed everyone. Rev. Larry Murphy read from Ecc. 3:19 for the devotion.

Rev. Charles Cooper, the moderator called this setting of the conference to order. Bro. Cooper appointed Sis. Doretta Tolbert to set in for Bro. Vernon Garrett the Treasurer for this setting. Bro. Louis Tolbert read the letters from each Church. Bro. Tolbert called the names of the Officers and Board Members. Rev. Cooper seated the delegates and excused the Boards. Rev. Cooper read the Rules of Decorum. Bro. Tolbert read the minutes from the last setting. Minutes accepted as read. Sis. Tolbert gave the Treasurer's report. Treasurer's report accepted as read.

BUSINESS:

Placement: Whittaker Free Will Baptist

Introductory Speaker and Alternate: Rev. Johnson made recommendation we have Bro. Cooper chose a speaker from the precher's coming from Nashville to attend the Minister's Retreat. Recommendation accepted.

EXECUTIVE BOARD:

- 1. We recommend we give Friday night offering and enough to make \$100.00 to Tecumseh Mission.
- We recommend we give Saturday's offering up to \$100.00 to Foreign Missions.
- 3. We recommend we give standing vote of thanks to the host church.

Motion made to accept report.

- 1. Motion made to accept recommendation. Motion carried.
- 2. Motion made to accept recommendation. Motion carried.
- 3. Motion made to accept recommendation. Motion carried.

Ladied Auxiliary: Retreat - Was a great success. Provision Closet needs everything. State meeting for 1990 will be at the Philadelphia Church, April 28, 1990. Christmas stockings needs to be gotten to Lucille as soon as possible. District Meeting, March 10, 1990, Old Fashion. Save coupons, soup labels, sunglasses and continuous need for bandages.

Motion to accept as information. Motion carried.

Presbytery Board:

- 1. We recommend that we give Rev. Lilly a letter of standing up until May 2, 1989 which is the date that the Free Will Baptist Chapel withdrew from the Liberty Association of Free Will Baptist. He has not attended the Liberty Association since that time.
- 2. We recommend that we send for a letter of good standing for Rev. Leon Gibson.

Motion made to accept report.

Item #1: Motion made we give Rev. Lilly a letter of standing up until May 2, 1989 which is the date that the Free Will Baptist Chapel withdrew from the Liberty Association of Free Will Baptist. He has not attended the Liberty Association since that time. Motion carried. **Item #2:** Motion made we send for letter of good standing for Rev. Leon Gibson. Motion carried.

BREAK:

Worship Service:

Bro. Glen Strouse led the congregation in "Glad Reunion Day." Rev. Robert Roscoe prayed the opening prayer. Ushers came forward to take up offering while Bro. Strouse led "When the roll is called up yonder." Bro. Rohroff sang for the special singing.

Rev. Tom McCollough, Missionary to France thanked everyone for their support and reported that the Church in France is doing great. He read from John 1:6-8, 15-34 and brought the message entitled "A Transparent Witness."

Bro. Strouse led "Have Thine Own Way" as the invitation was given. Announcements were made and Rev. George Johnson prayed the benediction and blessing of food.

> Minutes of the Liberty Association of Free Will Baptist when convened at the Whittaker Free Will Baptist Church February 1 - 2, 1990

FRIDAY

Services began with Bro. Louis Tolbert leading the congregation in His Love Lights the Way with Tammy Tolbert at the piano. Rev. Loyd Locklear prayed the opening prayer. Host pastor, Rev. Robert Roscoe, read from Psalms 29, 1-2 & 11 for the devotions. Those that wanted gathered at the Altar for prayer with Rev. Ralph Nix leading in prayer. Rev. Charles Cooper, Moderator called the conference to order. Sis. Tammy played the piano while the offering was received. Bro. Cooper prayed for the offering. Bro. Cooper excused the boards.

Bro. Louis led the congregation in Press On and Lily of the Valley. Sis. Tammy Tolbert sang for the special singing "I believe Jesus" and "When He Was on the Cross"

Rev. Roger Reeds, General Director of the Sunday School Department, brought the morning message entitled "What Is A Christian?"

SATURDAY MORNING

Bro. Walker Harris led the congregation in "When the roll is called up Yonder."

The Youth Group presented their testimony in song for the special singing. Bro. Charles Cooper read from Acts chapter 1 for the devotion. Rev. Austin Begley prayed the opening prayer. Rev. Cooper called the conference to order. Bro. Louis Tolbert read the letters from each church and the roll call for board members and seated the delegates. Boards were excused. Rev. Cooper recognized the visitors Rev. Roger Reeds from Nashville and Rev. Roscoe's grandparents. Rev. Cooper, Moderator, read the rules of Decorum. Bro. Louis Tolbert read the minutes from the last setting. Approved as read. Bro. Vernon Garrett gave the Treasurer's Report. Approved as read.

BUSINESS:

Placement and Speakers was tabled until the annual setting. BOARD REPORTS

Presbytery Report

Item #1: We recommend that Rev. Robert Roscoe be ordained to preach the gospel.

Item #2: We recommend that Rev. Roger Daniels be given a letter of good standing up until the time he left the association.

We recommend we receive the report as read. Motion carried.

Item #1: We recommend that Rev. Robert Roscoe be ordained to preach the gospel. Motion carried.

Item #2: We recommend that Rev. Roger Daniels be given a letter of good standing up until the time he left the association. Motion carried.

Home Mission: Rev. J. B. Varney gave report on Tecumseh Mission. Recommended that each church have Easter Sunday for an offering of 30 pieces of silver. Recommend we receive as information.

Women's Auxiliary: Michigan State meeting will be April 21, 1990, Philadelphia FWB. This is provision closet time. District Ladies Auxiliary - March 10, 1990, Old Fashion FWB. Remember our Missionaries in prayer. Many are on furlough due to sickness. Recommended we receive as information.

Executive Board: We recommend we give Bro. & Sis. Louis Tolbert an honorarium for the research of the Minutes and Constitution in the amount of \$200.00.

We recommend that the Moderator appoint a five (5) member constitutional committee to update the constitution and make recommendation at the next conference.

We recommend we give an honorarium to our speakers Rev. Roger Reeds and Rev. J. B. Varney of \$100.00 each.

We recommend we give the Whittaker FWB a standing vote of thanks for hosting the Association.

Item #1: Recommend we give Bro. & Sis. Louis Tolbert an honorarium for the research of the Minutes and Constitution in the amount of \$200.00. Motion made to accept. Motion carried. Item #2: We recommend that the Moderator appoint a five (5) member constitutional committee to update the constitution and make recommendation at the next conference. Motion made to accept. Motion carried. Item #3: We recommend we give an honorarium to our speakers Rev. Roger Reeds and Rev. J. B. Varney of \$100.00 each. Motion made to accept. Motion carried. Item #4: We recommend we give the Whittaker FWB a standing vote of thanks for hosting the Association. Motion made to accept. Motion carried.

Bro. Cooper, Moderator, nominated Bro. Louis Tolbert, Bro. Glen Strouse, Rev. Tom Ford, Rev. Loyd Locklear and Rev. George Johnson for the committee to study the research from the minutes and constitution.

BREAK

Morning Worship

Bro. Walker Harris led the congregation in song. Rev. Larry Murphy opened in prayer. An offering was received. Rev. Cooper prayed for the offering. Special singing was the Harris Singers and Sis. Tammy Tolbert.

Rev. J. B. Varney read from 1st Corinthians Chapter 9 for his message.

Ordination Service:

Rev. Loyd Locklear gave the charge to Rev. Robert Roscoe. Sis Roscoe joined him at the Altar. The ordained authority gathered at the Altar for prayer.

Announcements were made.

The Conference was dismissed in prayer.

Minutes of the Liberty Association of Free Will Baptist when convened at **Trinity Free Will Baptist Church** May 4-5, 1990

The service began with Bro. Vernon Garrett leading the congregation in "When the Roll is Called Up Yonder." Rev. Ollie Lafferty welcomed everyone to the Church. Bro. Jim Walker lead in prayer. Rev. Charles Cooper welcomed everyone to the Liberty Association. Visitors were recognized. Bro. Cooper dismissed the boards. He appointed Bro. Rob Roscoe and Bro. Rick Locklear to meet with the Executive board. The obituary committee, Sis. Peggy Lafferty, Sis. Celeste Roscoe, Sis. Kathy Murphy. Bro. Vernon lead in "Rock of Ages" and offering taken up for the three missionaries that are visiting the association. Bro. Lonnie Sparks gave devotion. Romans Chapter 1 verse 13.

Bro. Vernon lead in "Amazing Grace"

Bro. Cooper, Bro. Rick Locklear, Bro. Vernon Garrett and Bro. Walker Harris sang "Hide Me, Rock of Ages" and "Just A Little Talk with Jesus."

Bro. Tom Ford brought the message. Luke Chapter 15 berse 25 to 32. "The Elder Brother." Bro. Vernon lead "Just As I Am." Bro. Leon Gibson dismissed in prayer.

Saturday Morning:

Bro. Vernon opened service by leading "Nothing but the Blood." Bro. Loyd Locklear lead in prayer. Bro. Ollie Lafferty gave devotion. I Corinthians Chapter 1 verse 1 to 9. Bro. Ollie had prayer. Bro. Cooper recognized Trinity winning Sunday School campaign. Bro. Cooper asked ushers to come and take offering for the missionaries. Bro. Vernon sang "Amazing Grace." Trinity youth group sang "My Turn Now," "When Others See a Shepherd Boy, God May See a King," "Standing on the Solid Rock," "Just Inside the Gate," "Thank You." The youth group did a wonderful job!

Officers Roll Call

Boards are excused. Bro. Cooper recognized the visitors. Rules of Decorum were read by the moderator. Reading of the minutes of the last conference were read by Bro. Vernon Garrett. Motion made and carried to accept the minutes as read. Next Conference August 3rd and 4th.

Treasurers report read by Bro. Vernon Garrett. Motion made and carried. Treasurers report be accepted.

BUSINESS:

Quarterly meeting will be at the Woodhaven FWB. Speaker will be Bro. Jim Robinson. Alternate: Bro. Rob Roscoe.

Annual will be at Troy FWB. Introductory message: Bro. Rob Roscoe. Alternate: Bro. Terry Lester.

Women Auxiliary:

Sis. Pauline Pennix told about the state meeting. Liberty District June 9, Trinity, National - September, North Carolina; Michigan State - November, Battle Creek. Motion made and accepted.

Youth Camp:

1st week - Jr. camp, 2nd week of August, 1990 - Sr. camp. Had some trouble getting camp this year.

Obituary Report:

Sis. Peggy Lafferty gave report. Bro. Ray Adkins lead in prayer in remembrance of the deceased.

Home Mission:

Bro. Johnson gave the report. Tecumseh mission is doing very good. The thirty pieces of silver at Easter went well. Bro. Gibson thanks everyone for their support. The building permit came in and they can now build. Motion made and carried to accept the report.

BUSINESS:

Consitution is to be ready next meeting because of sickness. Motion made and carried to accept report.

Budget Committee:

Adopt budget we now have \$240.00 per quarter. Motion made and carried to accept report.

EXECUTIVE BOARD:

Bro. Johnson recommend giving \$1,000.00 to missionaries attending conference. Give honorarium \$100.00 to all officers. Give the host church standing vote of thanks. We recommend retaining Bro. Cooper as Moderator, Bro. Rob Roscoe as Asst. Moderator, Bro. Louis Tolbert as Clerk and Bro. Vernon Garrett as Asst. Clerk, Bro. Ralph Nix to Presbytery Board, Bro. Rick Locklear to Summer Camp Board. Home Mission Board elect Bro. Johnson.

PRESBYTERY BOARD:

Recommend Bro. Terry Lester and Bro. Rob Roscoe serve on the board. Bro. Herston Webb needs his papers from the Metropolitan Association.

First Church of Hazel Park, May 17th. Bro. Valance for Masters' Men State Convention. May 18 and 19. Kirby FWB.

Delegates - Sis. Johnson National - Pheonix, Arizona - July 15 thru 19.

Motion made and carried to dismiss business and take a break.

Bro. Vernon Garrett lead "The Easter Gate." Bro. Larry Murphy lead in prayer. Bro. Locklear, Bro. Johnson, Bro. Cooper and Bro. Vernon Garrett sang "We Shall Rise" and "Hide Me, rock of Ages."

Bro. Cooper introduced Dr. Ken Eagleton, Jr. from the Ivory Coast. He read from John Chapter 4 Verse 35 to 38. "Lessons from the Harvest."

Bro. Walker Harris lead in "Kneel at the Cross." Invitation given by Bro. Cooper.

Announcements given and Bro. Ollie dismissed and said Blessing on the food.

TREASURERS REPORT 1989-90

1989-90
Starting Balance \$2,197.56
Total Income
14,759.11
Total Expenses 10,977.93
Ending Balance
INCOME:
Special Offering 371.00
Lewiston Payments
East Side FWB
First FWB Adrian
First FWB Flint 1,484.55
First FWB Monroe
Memorial FWB 80.00
Old Fashioned FWB 2,934.00
Ten Mile FWB 150.00
Trinity FWB
Troy FWB
Whittaker FWB
Woodhaven FWB
Total Income
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EXPENSES:
National Board Retirement
National Association FWB
Michigan State Home Mission
State Budget State Assoc. FWB
Standard Printing
Michigan State Association
National Co-Op 428.00
Department Foreign Missions
Hall Rental 936.46
Charles Cooper Programs
JB Varney - Gratuity 13.00
Roger Reed - Gratuity 100.00
Vernon Garrett - Gratuity
Chales Cooper - Gratuity
Louis Tolbert - Gratuity
Louis Tolbert (gift research minutes) 200.00
Clerk Fee
Supplies & Postage
Total Expenses

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- 1. The Association, when convened, shall be opened and closed by singing and prayer.
- 2. Only one person shall speak at a time who shall arise to his feet and address the Moderator and not proceed until recognized by the Moderator.
- 3. Each person thus speaking shall not be interrupted in speech except by the Moderator, until he gets through, nor shall the Moderator interrupt him unless he breaks order.
- 4. The person speaking shall adhere to the question and shall in no wise cast reflections on any person who may have spoken before him.
- 5. No person shall speak more than three times on the same subject without leave of the Association.
- 6. No person shall laugh or whisper in time of public speech.
- 7. Members shall address each other by the appellation of brother or brethren, or sisters.
- 8. No member of this Association shall absent himself when the Association is sitting in conference without leave of the Moderator.
- 9. The names of the members of this Association shall be enrolled and called over as often as the Association thinks it necessary.
- 10. No member shall speak longer than fifteen minutes at any time without leave of the Moderator.

CONSTITUTION OF THE LIBERTY ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

1. This Association, when properly convened, shall consist of a Moderator, and Assistant Moderator, Clerk, and Assistant Clerk, whom shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present. The duty of the Moderator shall be to keep the Association in order, state questions fairly and take the vote thereon; to have no vote unless the Association be equally divided, in which case he shall have the deciding vote.

The duty of the Clerk shall be to keep a fair record of the proceedings of the Association. The assistants to the Moderator or Clerk shall be to assist, or occupy their respective seats when vacant, or otherwise necessary.

2. This Association shall be composed of ordained Ministers. Deacons, and Licentiates, together with messengers duly chosen by the church of their membership in our union, who the members judge best qualified to represent them. Said messengers bearing letters certifying to their appointment.

Said Ministers and Licentiates shall be men of good report, within and without, of honest integrity and full of the Holy Ghost, meeting the qualifications to that of 1 Tim. 3. Coming under the hands, or approval of the Ordaining Council. Pastors shall be chosen by the suffrage of the church, or churches they serve; whose tenure of service shall be faithfully maintained until terminated, and that effected only by 60 days notice of said intention, and the selection of an active Minister within the bounds of this Association to succeed him. It is agreed, however, one may be selected from other sources, being approved by the Ordaining Council of this Association.

- 3. In the letters from the churches shall be expressed their respective number in fellowship, and the number received, dismissed, excluded, or died since the last setting of the Association, day of church meeting. Pastor or Clerk.
- 4. No query shall be received by this Association from any church until it has been acted upon by said church and referred to the Association. In which case the Associaiton shall take up the matter, acting as advisory counsel to promote peace and harmony according to true discipline of Divine grace.
- 5. Every church in this Association shall be entitled to a representation of Messengers not exceeding five; together with said clerk and ordained authority.

- 6. This Association shall maintain a Presbytery Board selected from the ordained authority, preferably Ministers; five in number; also an Executive Board consisting of five, selected from the body, whose tenure of office shall be ranging from one to five years. The Association shall select, annually, to supply the vacancies as they occur.
- 7. Every motion, when in order and properly sustained, shall be acted upon unless withdrawn by the mover; that is to say, to present matters for discussion, trying the merits of the same, and, if found worth and orthodox, to adopt it.
- 8. This Association shall not exercise power so as to lord it over God's heritage so as to infringe on the eternal rights of any. Maintaining the right and privileges, and relationships to each church to that of individual members; that is to say, if a church trespass against a sister church, the church injured shall try to reclaim them by Gospel steps; whereupon, if a reconciliation cannot be effected, the said church in default shall be dropped from our counsel.
- 9. We agree to do all regular business by a majority of members present.
- 10. Any church may be admitted into this Association by a petitionary letter and messengers, if however, said church is found to be orthodox and orderly. Such admission shall be manifested by the Moderator extending the right hand of fellowship to said messengers. 11. This Association shall sit as an advisory council, to advise, if prudent, in all matters of difficulty; to ascertain the cause of non-representation, to select from this body such committees deemed necessary to the functioning of the body; to invite and entertain counsel with all brother ministers commensurate with safety; to exclude, or disannual any member not conforming to the Rules of Decorum, and shall report his, or their conduct to the church of which they held membership. 12. This Association shall not, at any time, engage in what may seem to be of a commercial nature. However, it shall be the duty of each church to provide the means of defraying current expenses of the Association. 13. This Association possesses appellate jurisdiciton in all matters concerning the Ministers of the council, as touching their qualification, of his many character and general conduct; strict adherence to the principles and doctrine of faith and practice, not deviating from that set forth in the Articles of Faith of Free

Will Baptist. Particularly that of the plan of redemption, of the Christian fellowship in the unity of Spirit and the bounds of peace; or failing to keep the Ordinances, and the preseverance in faith, ready to be revealed in glory at the appearance of our Lord Jesus Christ; when both saints and the wicked dead shall be resurrected, the saints to everlasting life and the wicked to eternal damnation.

- 14. This Association shall advise, or recommend the support of denominational enterprises according to the ability, or means otherwise provided, and under the jurisdiction of the local church.
- 15. This Association shall possess the rights to repel, or exclude anyone coming unto us preaching, or advocating any other doctrine than that set forth in the original Articles of Faith of Free Will Baptists.
- 16. This constitution shall not be changed, or amended, only by a three-fourths majority of Ministers, as also the Deacons, and likewise the duly elected representatives at the regular annual settling of the Association.

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LIBERTY ASSOCIATION

Rev. Charles Cooper 654 S. Bywood Clawson, MI 48017 313-435-5932

CHURCH

East Side FWB 13781 E. 9 Mile Rd. Warren, MI 48089 313-773-4370

Faith FWB 64395 Romeo-Plank Rd. Romeo, MI 48065 313-752-7002

First FWB of Adrian 3240 Sharp Rd. Adrian, MI 49221 517-263-7620

First FWB of Flint G-5458 Fenton Rd. Flint, MI 48507 313-239-2391

PASTOR

Rev. Wm. Ford 20182 Colemen Rd. Mt. Clemens, MI 48043 313-791-5368

Rev. Brian Tolliver 3120 Garrick Warren, MI 48091 313-756-7571

Rev. Darrell Hyder 538 State St. Adrian, MI 49221 517-263-7620

Rev. Larry Murphy G-5470 Fenton Rd. Flint, MI 48507 313-395-2176 Louis G. Tolbert 9660 Willis Road Willis, MI 48191 313-461-6435

CLERK

Brenda K. Ford 34327 Whittaker Mt. Clemens, MI 48043 313-791-6800

Nora Varney 371 Third St. Romeo, MI 48065 313-752-4207

Angie Hyder 538 State St. Adrian, MI 49221 517-263-7620

Linda Jones 4475 Regency Rd. Swartz Creek, MI 48473 313-655-6277

First FWB of Monroe 6248 Dunbar Rd. Monroe, MI 48161 313-243-0025

Memorial FWB 1326 E. Lincoln Royal Oak, MI 48068 313-547-2794

North Warren FWB 3003 Chicago Rd. Warren, MI 48092 313-264-6720

Ten Mile FWB 74 W. 10 Mile Rd. Madison Hts., MI 313-541-5152

Trinity FWB 410 Oregon St. Ypsilanti, MI 48198 313-483-8011 Rev. James Robinson 2449 Second Street LaSalle, MI 48145 313-241-3162

Rev. Ralph Nix 313 E. Lincoln Royal Oak, MI 48068 313-398-9749

Rev. George Johnson 3061 Chicago Rd. Warren, MI 48902 313-268-8993

Rev. Terry Lester 30223 Alger Madison Hts., Ml 48071-1861 313-583-8547

Rev. Ollie Lafferty 1188 Wendell Ypsilanti, MI 48198 313-483-1700 Ella Fay Begley 5560 Central Drive Monroe, MI 48161 313-243-0600

Norma Letourneau 4115 Dickson Drive Sterling Hts. MI 48310 313-939-5062

Mary Johnson 3061[•]Chicago Rd. Warren, MI 48092 313-268-8993

Brenda Lusk 938 Edgewood Dr. Royal Oak, MI 48067 313-543-6577

Linda Varney 429 S. Harris Rd. Ypsilanti, MI 48198 313-485-8247 **Troy FWB** 2300 John R. Troy, MI 48033 313-689-8686

Whittaker FWB Church 11117 Whittaker Rd. Whittaker, MI 48190 313-461-1008 Box 374 Willis, MI 48191

Woodhaven FWB 26191 Allen Rd. Woodhaven, MI 48193 313-675-5455

Rev. Austin Begley 5560 Central Dr. Monroe, MI 48161 313-243-0600

Rev. Oddis Birchett

Rev. James Bostic 23757 Melville Hazel Park, MI 48030 313-542-7609

Rev. Charles Cooper 654 S. Bywood Clawson, MI 48017 313-435-5932

Rev. Robert Roscoe 38440 Wade Romulus, MI 48174 313-942-1107

Rev. Loyd Locklear 26191 Allen Rd. Woodhaven, MI 48193 313-671-6242

Louise Tharpe 163 W. Annabelle Hazel Park, MI 48030 313-547-6707

Doretta Tolbert 9660 Willis Rd. Willis, MI 48191 313-461-6435

Cuba Goins 8251 Margaret Taylor, MI 48180 313-291-4062

ORDAINED MINISTERS

Rev. Larry Iddins 22500 Hoffman St. Clair Shores, MI 48082 Royal Oak, MI 48068 313-294-5178

Rev. George Johnson 3061 Chicago Warren, MI 48092 313-268-8993

Rev. Ralph Nix 313 E. Lincoln 313-398-9749

Rev. James Robinson 2949 Second Street LaSalle, MI 313-241-3126

Rev. Charles Cooper 654 S. Bywood Clawson, MI 48107 313-435-5932

Rev. Oscar Cummings 56456 Romeo Plank Rd. Washington, MI 781-9204

Rev. Wm. Ford 21082 Coleman Mt. Clemmens, MI 48403 313-791-5368

Rev. Darrell Hyder 538 State St. Adrian, MI 49221 517-263-2097

Rev. Ollie Lafferty 1188 Wendell Ypsilanti, MI 48198 313-483-1700

Rev. Terry Lester 30223 Alger Madison Hts., MI 48071-1861 313-583-8547

Rev. Rick Locklear 14308 Park Gibraltor, MI 48176 313-675-5113

Rev. Larry Murphy G-5470 Fenton Rd. Flint, MI 48507

Rev. Robert Roscoe 38440 Wade Romulus, MI 48174 942-1107

Rev. Winford Smith

LICENSED MINISTRIES

Wayne Miracle Woodhaven, MI

Tim Steele East Side FWB

Jeff Woodward East Side FWB

Dan Johnson Woodhaven FWB

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. GOD. We believe in one true and living. Triune God; composed of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, equal in divine Essence, Purpose, Power and Glory. - St. John 1:1; I Cor. 8:6; St. John 10:30.

2. CHRIST. We believe that Jesus Christ is the divine Son of God. Was with the Father and the Holy Spirit at the time of the Creation, left the Courts of Heaven and came to this earth. Took upon Himself the form of humanity, sin excepted, by being born of the Virgin Mary, manifested His power, was crucified, placed in Joseph's tomb, rose from the dead the third day, completed the great plan of salvation, walked and talked with His disciples, publicly ascended up to Heaven, and that He will descend again to gather His jewels home. —Isaiah 9:6; St. John 1:14; Luke 1:26-28; Matt. 14:13-21; Mark 16:9-19; Luke 24:50-53; Acts 1:9-12; Mark 15:22-47.

3. HOLY SPIRIT. We believe that the Holy Spirit has visited true believers in all ages, and especially since the ascension of the SON back to the Father, and His coming on the day of Pentecost. Has taken up His office work among all nations of people, as a Divine Reprover, Comforter and Guide. — Judges 6:34; 11:29; St. John 16:8-14; Isaiah 63:10-12; Ephesians 4:30; Acts 8:17-20; Ezek. 36:27; Joel 2:28.

4. THE BIBLE. We believe the Bible, which is composed of the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, was given by Inspiration of God, is our way-bill from earth to heaven, and the only infallible rule of faith and practice. $-\Pi$ Peter 1:19-21; II Tim. 3:14-17; Daniel 10:21; Acts 1:16-17; Matthew 21:42.

5. THE FALL OF MAN. We believe that God created man good,

gave him a just law by which he should be governed; with promise of reward for faithfulness and with penalties of punishment for disobedience. God gave man power of free moral agency to choose the right and reject the wrong. But our first parents heeded the voice of the great enemy of souls, voluntarily transgressed the law of GOD, fell, with their posterity under the just penalty of the same, and were unable of their own power to extricate or save themselves from the great dilema into which they had fallen. God gave them the hope of salvation through the coming of Christ. - Gen. 1:27; 2:16-17; Psalms 51:5; Gen. 6:5; Rom. 5:12-19; John 3:6; Eph. 2:3.

6. REDEMPTION, SALVATION, ADOPTION. We believe that Jesus Christ by His birth, death, burial, resurrection and ascension paid the purchase price for the redemption of the whole human race, arranged a pardon for all who come upon Gospel terms; and a law or adoption into the Kingdom of heaven, and an eternal inheritance into the glorified kingdom above. — Heb. 8:12; Gal. 3:13; 4:4-5; Titus 2:14; St. John 3:16; Isaiah 15:22. 7. CONDITIONS OF SALVATION. We believe that all persons, dying in infancy and all idiots are saved by the atoning merits of the Son of God without any act on their part that persons coming to the years of accountability, transgressing the law of God, must upon their part exercise faith in Jesus Christ through repentance toward God, at the completion of which pardon takes place in the mind of the Father and by the Holy Spirit they pass through the ordeal of regeneration, are washed in the blood of the Lamb and are planted in the Kingdom of Christ. — John 3; Matt. 19:13-22; I Cor. 7:10; Luke 18:16-17; St. John 4:11-16; Psalms 98:3.

8. SALVATION FREE. We believe that God desires the salvation of all Christ died for all; and whosoever will may come and be saved upon the terms of the Gospel. -1 Peter 1:9:25; Revelation 22:17.

9. BAPTISM. We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion of the believers in water, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, in which are represented the burial and the resurrection of Christ; also represents our death to sin and only those who have come under the presbytery of the elders are qualified to administer the same. - Matt. 3:14-16; 3:5-6; I Peter 3:21; St. John 3:23; Acts 10:47; Matt. 28:19.

10. COMMUNION AND FEET WASHING. We believe that the Lord's Supper and the washing of the saints' feet are ordinances of the Gospel of Christ; the Lord's Supper was instituted by our Savior to commenorate His broken body and shed blood for the sins of the world, and to show our remembrance of Him till he comes. All Christians have a right to the Lord's Supper and should be invited; "Let a man examine himself and so let him eat."

The washing of the feet was instituted by our Lord at the same time that the Supper was instituted as an act of humility to show our love for each other, and both ordinances should be perpetuated by all Christians until His second coming.— Luke 22:19-20; I Cor. 11:20-29; St. John 13:1-17; Matt. 26:26-29.

11. THE SABBATH. We believe that the Christian Sabbath should be observed as a day of rest and for the worship of God; that we should abstain from all sinful amusements and secular employments, works of mercy and piety excepted. — Exodus 20:11, 31:12-18; Deut. 5:12-15; Ezek. 20:12; Matt. 28:1; Luke 23:56; Acts 13:42-48; Mark 2:27.

12. CALL TO THE MINISTRY. We believe in a divine call of the ministry; that God in His goodness and power of grace, impress His ministers with the burden of lost souls, to the extent that the call becomes irresistable with personal contentment; that when they yield to the call and exercise the native gifts according to the Scirptures, with a full reliance upon Him, He accompanies them in person of the Holy Spirit to guide them in the way of truth and to bless their labors according to His purpose. — Jonah 1:1; Jer. 1:5; Mark 3:14; Acts 1:22-26; Matt. 28:19.

13. THE INVISIBLE CHURCH. We believe that the Invisible or Spiritual Church is the redeemed in the aggregate, is the family of God, is composed of all true Christians of every congregation from righteous Abel to the restitution of all things, from every kindred, nation, tongue and people. — Eph. 3:16-21; Heb. 12:22-23; I Pet. 2:5; Eph. 2:20-22; Acts 2:47; Matt. 16:18. 14. THE VISIBLE CHURCH. We believe that a visible church of Christ is a congregation of faithful men and women, having obtained fellowship with the Lord and with each other, agreeing to keep up a good discipline and doctorine according to the rules of the Gospel. — II Thess. 1:1; Acts 16:5; III John 1:10; Matt. 18:17; Acts 20:28; Revelation 1:4-20.

15. PERSEVERANCE. We believe that all true believers in Christ should persevere in divine grace and in the knowledge of the truth, and that God's grace is sufficient to help them to overcome all the obstacles of life, and that all the combined forces of the great enemy of souls on earth and in hell (or in his eternal abode) are not able to pluck them from His hand so long as they walk in the path of duty; but those who sidestep and wilfully refuse or neglect to perform their duty, they would backside if persistently continued, would be eternally lost. — II Peter 1:12; II Cor. 9:10; II Peter 1:4-8; II Peter 2:2; Rom. 8:35-39; Apostasy; II Peter 1:8-9; I Cor. 10:1-13; Heb. 12:15-17; I John 5:16; Heb. 6:1-6; I Tim. 4:1-2; Heb. 3:12; St. John 15:1-7; Matt. 12:31-32.

16. CHRIST, THE HEAD OF THE CHURCH. We believe that Christ is the Head of the Church, and that the government of the local church is with the body. - Col. 1:18-19; Matt. 16:18; Heb. 12:23; Matt. 21:42; Eph. 1:22; Acts. 16:4-5.

17. SANCTIFICATION. Sanctification is a work of God's grace, by which the soul is cleansed from all sin and wholly consecrated to Christ. It takes place in regeneration, and the Christian can and should abide in this state to the end of life, constantly growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. — I Cor. 6:11; II Thess. 2:13; Heb. 12:14; Phil. 3:21; II Thess. 5:19-23; St. John 17:17-19; II Tim. 2:20-21.

18. THE RESURRECTION. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, both of the righteous and the wicked When the resurrection shall take place, the soul and the body shall be united, the righteous shall be received into everlasting happiness to reign with God forever; but the wicked shall go away into everlasting punishment. — Matt. 28:6; John 5:28-29; I Cor. 15:51-58.

19. THE SOUL. The soul is endless, hence does not die with the body, but immediately after death enters into a conscious state of happiness or misery, according to the spiritual character here possessed. - Phil. 1:23; Luke 23:43; Rev. 6:9; Luke 16:19-25; Matt. 19:28.

20. JUDGMENT. We believe that there will be a general universal judgment, when all men shall be judged according to their works, whether they be good or bad, and that immediately thereafter the wicked shall enter into everlasting punishment, and the righteous into eternal happiness. - II Thess. 1:4-9; Rev. 14:9-13; Luke 16:23; Rev. 21:8; II Cor. 5:10; Matt. 12:36-37; Rev. 20:12-13; Acts 17:31.

1973

Presbytery Board recommended that any minister ordained in this Liberty Association of Free Will Baptists be asked for his credentials if he should leave the association and not; within one year join himself to another association of like faith. A motion carried to accept as stated.

1974-75

Passed: Proposal to procedure change on Friday night instead of reading the letters from the churches we should dispense this until Saturday morning. Currently we are reading the roll Friday and Saturday and this is a duplication and waste of time. I would like to recommend that on Friday night each Church present to the Clerk a list of their delegation along with their letter. The Association Clerk along with help from the host Church would be permitted to retire to some area of privacy

and prepare a name card for each delegate.

We the executive board recommend that the men who are Licensed to Preach the Gospel be issued a good standing card. Motion carried.

We the executive board recommend the Clerk be compensated for their time spent in preparing the minutes of each meeting and the annual. \$25.00 each associational meeting. \$50.00 Annual minutes. Motion carried.

The presbytery Board recommends that the minutes of each quarterly meeting be published in the Annual minutes; eliminating unnecessary information. Motion carried. Motion made to have duties typed and copied and given to those in such office. Motion carried.

1975-76

The minutes of the Association setting be read and accepted at the following setting of the Association. This would serve two purposes...It would bring tabled business back on the floor. It would also give our Clerk time to fellowship with the Association at the noon meal. And no business should be translated at the dinner table. Motion carried.

Motion to remove Item Number One of report of last setting. That all business that is to come before the Liberty Association be routed through the Executive Board. That is may be brought on the floor through this board. Item Number One reworded: "All business that comes to the association should be routed through the Executive Board that it may be handled in a business manner. One of the main duties of the Executive Board is to present the business of the association. If in the event, that business is brought before the Executive Board and the Executive Board doesn't think it should be brought before the association, the parties bringing such information shall be so informed and they have the right as individuals to bring it before the association at the business setting. Any emergency business that comes before the association during a setting may still be handled as emergency business. Motion carried.

Report on the Duties of Officers and Board by Executive Board and Assistant Moderator. Motion to accept duties. (In minutes)

We, the presbytery board, would like to have a clarification on annulment and divorce. When someone has a marriage annuled, have they been legally married in the eyes of God? We would like to get a ruling on this from the body of the association. Motion was made that if the marriage was anulled then the person was not married in the eyes of God. Motion carried.

1976-77

Motion made to print 250 minutes. Motion carried. Propose that annual setting have an afternoon session on Saturday for the election of officers. Motion carried.

1977-78

Motion made to eliminate the afternoon session of the annual conference. Motion carried. Any church that is host to the Association, that plan a revival, at that time should notify the clerk and moderator of the association four (4) weeks in advance. Motion carried. Motion to move from the table that each preacher, licensed or ordained, or deacon attend at least 2 regular settings and annual setting or remit a letter with reason as to why he can't attned. No good standing card will be granted unless this is done. We the Executive Board recommend that Officers be elected at end of all other business at annual setting. Motion carried.

1978-79

We the Executive Board propose that any board member that has served a 5 year term shall not be eligible for reelection to that particular board for a rest period of 2 years. Motion carried.

We the executive Board recommend that we waive indefinitely the rule that a person serve on only one board at one time with the exception of the Executive Board and presbytery board. Motion carried.

We recommend that Item 1 of 1978 August minutes be amended that there by only one year rest period instead of two. Motion carried.

1979-80

Recommended that there be a registering of ministers, deacons, delegages and visitors. Motion carried.

We recommend that the association issue the Treaties of the FWB to the men that are being licensed.

If there is anything that should come before the Presbytery Board at a setting of the association, we recommend that we be notified two weeks prior to the setting. Carried.

Motion made to have the annual setting by request as the quarterly. Motion carried.

Motion made that each church do their own examining and ordaining of deacons. The local church would also issue the cards of good standing. Motion carried.

1980-81

We recommend that each church be responsible for ID tags for their delegates. The clerk of each church will be responsible for making tags. Motion carried.

We recommend to have supplement pages in the back of the minutes on articles that govern the body so they may be current. Motion carried.

1981-82

Bro. Curtis Lilly gave the following recommendation fromt he board: Friday nights offering go to the Home Mission. Carried.

Recommendation to change the books given to the lecensed ministers to Systematics. Carried.

1982-83

Motion made and accepted that the Moderator serve only three consecutive years then step down.

Motion made and accepted to let the Moderator appoint a budget committee.

Recommended and accepted to give \$100.00 to the host church at each setting to cover expenses of hall rental and other expenses.

A recommendation that only those deacons who are in good standing with their church have their names listed on the church letters. Accepted. A recommendation that a written examination of instructions and questions be given to all ministers who come into full fellowship with the Association. Accepted.

1983-84

Proposed and accepted to give the clerk the authority to get the minutes printed at the place of his discretion.

1985-86

We request that licenses be renewed after one year of personal wor. Discussion tabled. We recommend that the item concerning the renewal of Ministers Licenses that was tabled in August be removed from the table and be decided upon. We recommend that all licensed Ministers report annually in writing to the Presbytery Board concerning their work. Their license will automatically be renewed as long as they are in good standing with the conference. Motion carried.

1987-88

Recommend that each church send \$200.00 each setting. Carried

Motion made to remove from the table the recommendation we omit the February of the Liberty Association. Carried.

Motion made to leave the February setting as is. Motion carried.

1988-89

We recommend our Mission Board be dissolved and each church support out State Mission program. Carried.

Motion made to keep same budget as last year \$239.00 per quarter. Carried.

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 Motion to remove Item Number One of report of last setting. That all business that is to come before the Liberty Association be routed through the Executive Board . . . That it may be brought on the floor through this board.

Item Number One as reworded:

"All business that comes to the association should be routed through the Executive Board that it may be handled in a business like manner.

One of the main duties of the Executive Board is to present the business of the association.

This in no way takes away the right of any individual to bring business before the association.

If in the event, that business is brought before the Executive Board and the Executive Board doesn't think it should be brought before the association, the parties bringing such information shall be so informed and they have the right as individuals to bring it before the association at the business setting.

Any emergency business that comes before the association during a setting may still be handled as emergency business"

Motion to accept Item Number One as worded. Motion carried.

2. Due to the death of Bro. Beadles there is a vacancy on the Presbytery Board-the unexpired term is eight (8) months, rather than elect somebody to this office for the remaining period we recommend that the office be left vacant and filled at the annual setting. Motion made to adopt Item Number 2. Motion carried.

 Report on the Duties of Officers and Board Executive by Executive Board and Assistant Moderator.

-Executive Board

The board is to evaluate and properly word all business that is to come to the body of the association.

If they should feel that an item of business should not be brought to the floor they must explain to the originator the reason for their rejection and if the originator of the item wishes to present it himself he is then at liberty to do so.

The board serves as the nominating committee for all vacated offices in the association except on the Executive Board itself.

The board should also serve with the Presbytery in observing the procedings of the association and its officers and help steer all operations in the proper directions.

This board must be ready to take on and perform special assignments that the association may give to them.

Motion made to accept duties. Motion carried.

-Presbytery Board

Responsible for acting as an advisory board on individual problems within the association.

Responsible for examining candidates recommended by member churches for liscense and ordination.

Responsible for administering the ordination services.

Motion made to accept duties. Motion carried.

-Moderator

Control and direct all quarterly meeting of the Liberty Association and keep harmony and brotherly love in all meetings.

Be a standing member of all committees in the Liberty Association.

Promote all Liberty Association, State Association and National Association projects and when ever practical and possible take an active part in such.

Keep informed and be ready to take an active part in activies that will make for a better association.

Motion made to accept duties. Motion carried.

-Assistant Moderator -

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Be available and ready to take over as Moderator in the event the Moderator is unable to fill his position for any reason.

Take over for Moderator when Moderator wants to speak on any given subject.

Motion made to accept duties. Motion carried.

-Promotional Secretary

The Executive Board would like to recommend this office be abolished and these duties be taken over by the Assistant Moderator.

Motion to accept Executive Board recommendation. Motion carried.

-Obiturary Committee

We recommend this office be abolished and this report be given to the Asst. Clerk.

Motion made to accept this recommendation. Motion carried.

-Foreign Missions Promotional Secretary

Bring the needs of the missionaries before the association.

Promote the support of foreign missions from the association.

Get individual churches to be receptive to the missionaries while on furlough. Get on the mailing list of the National Association to receive, from the Director of Foreign Missions, literature pertaining to foreign missions.

Remind, by letter, each church to have new members to their congregations enrolled to receive "Heartbeat of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions."

Motion made to accept duties. Motion carried.

-Home Mission Board

The board is designed to aid any new mission work that is a branch off of the Home Mission Association.

To seek for a desirous area for a new work, along with a Preacher that has a desire for such work.

Then they are to assist the new work in what ever capacity they can for a resonable time.

Such as:

They should through the association aid in finance, personal work, and attendance whenever possible.

Motion made to accept duties. Motion carried.

-Youth Director

Organize, promote and maintain a united youth organization in the Liberty Association.

- (a) Take an active part in Associational activies.
- (b) Have a periodical Youth Rally involving all Churches in the Association.
- (c) Promote Youth Camp, CTS Organizations, and possibly a Youth Retreat once a year.

Motion made to accept duties. Motion carried.

-Clerk

The duty of the Clerk shall be to keep a fair record of the proceedings of the Association.

Read letters and call roll of delegates.

Read minutes of last quarterly meeting at each setting of Association.

Type minutes, have copies made, and mail copies to each Board member.

Mail copies of new letters to Clerks of Churches for next setting.

Make name tags for delegates for business session of each Conference.

Make out deacons and ministers cards yearly.

Compile annual letters from Churches and letter into State Association in June.

Mail annual Church letters to National Association in Nashville. Get minutes and other necessary information together and have annual minutes printed.

Compile list of ministers and clerks and mail to National Association in Nashville.

Purchase necessary printed forms, cards, ministers ordination and License, deacon ordination forms, ministers and deacons cards, etc.

Reprint the following forms as needed.(a) Letters for Association.(b) Ministers reports.(c) Agenda for Association setting.(d) Serve on Advisory Committee.

Motion made to accept duties. Motion carried.

-Treasurer

Collects money-offerings, special offerings

and representation fee.

Deposits money in bank. Writes checks. Balances bank statements. Pays all associational bills. Keeps financial records of association. Acts as Assistant Clerk. Gives obituary report.

Motion made to accept duties. Motion carried.

Motion made to have duties typed and copied and given to those in such offices. Motion carried.