

1967-68

**MIDESSA
DISTRICT
ASSOCIATION
OF
FREE WILL
BAPTISTS**



1968 - 1969

Midessa District Association
of
Free Will Baptists
1968-1969

OFFICERS

Moderator	Rev. Earl Judd
Assistant Moderator	Rev. Dean Thompson
Clerk	Mrs. Sherman North
Treasurer	W. H. Johnson
Parliamentarian	Sherman North

BOARDS

Executive Board	3 Years	Rev. Johnny Walker
	2 Years	Rev. Dean Thompson
	1 Year	Sherman North
Credential Board	3 Years	Rev. Muriel Wilson
	2 Years	Rev. Johnny Walker
	1 Year	W. H. Johnson
Home Mission Board	3 Years	R. E. Lunsford
	2 Years	Glen Wood
	1 Year	Gene Rousseau
Sunday School Board	3 Years	Mrs. Dora Johnson
	2 Years	Mrs. Johnny Walker
	1 Year	Mrs. Betty Hobbs
Church Training Service	3 Years	Mrs. Pat Cates
	2 Years	Rev. James Sturgill
	1 Year	Marion Goff
Board of Trustees		Boyd Phillips
		David Sellers
		Charles Snowder
Auditing Committee	3 Years	Gary Uhls
	2 Years	Rev. Dean Burpo
	1 Year	Mr. Allison
Resolutions Committee	3 Years	Doris Rousseau
	2 Years	Mrs. Boyd Phillips
	1 Year	Mrs. Betty Hooper
C.T.S. Director		Mrs. Pat Cates
Temperance Committee	3 Years	Mrs. Marie Smart
	2 Years	Mrs. Marie Allison
	1 Year	Mrs. Earl Judd
Obituary Committee	3 Years	Mrs. R. E. Lunsford
	2 Years	Mrs. Ethel Sellers
	1 Year	Mrs. Betty Hobbs

NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBERS
OF OFFICERS AND CHAIRMEN

Rev. and Mrs. Earl Judd
2305 West 7th, Odessa, Texas 79760 FE 2-4173

Rev. Dean Thompson
1015 West Campbell, Kermit, Texas 586-2594

Rev. Dean Burpo
2307 14th Street, Lubbock, Texas

Rev. and Mrs. Johnny Walker
306 East 47th Street, Odessa, Texas 79760 EM 2-2978

Rev. Muriel Wilson
708 N. W. 12th Place, Andrews, Texas 523-4917

Rev. James Sturgill
1st Free Will Baptist Church, Seminole

Rev. Carl Cheshier
2900 West Michigan, Midland, Texas OX 4-2882

Sherman and Ila M. North
Box 903, Fort Stockton, Texas or ED 6-3030
1600 West Washington, Midland, Texas MU 4-6710

W. H. and Dora Johnson
4305 Versailles, Midland, Texas 79701 OX 4-0909

R. E. and Margie Lunsford
3407 Tanner Drive, Midland, Texas 79701 OX 4-2369

David and Ethel Sellers
Box 1950, Andrews, Texas 523-2328

Gary Uhls
407 West Hart, Midland, Texas 79701 MU 2-3047

Glen Wood
3802 Walnut, Odessa, Texas 79760

Gene and Doris Rousseau
5200 Bryan Road, Odessa, Texas 79760

Charles Snowden
808 Devonian Drive, Midland, Texas 79701 OX 4-5853

Pat Cates
1215 West Montgomery, Midland, Texas 79701 MU 2-4711

Marie Allison
Box 2382, Odessa, Texas 79760

Betty Hobbs
2717 N. Center, Odessa, Texas 79760 EM 2-1064

Boyd Phillips
Odessa, Texas

Marie Smart
Odessa, Texas

Marion Goff
Odessa, Texas

Minutes of the Midessa Association Quarterly Meeting when convened with Bible Free Will Baptist Church, Odessa, Texas, September 9, 1967.

Friday Night, 7:30 P. M. — Woman's Auxiliary Meeting

Saturday Morning, 9:00 A. M. — The Midessa District Quarterly Meeting convened at Bible Free Will Baptist Church, Odessa, Texas, on September 9, 1967.

Rev. E. E. Zoellers moderated the session.

The meeting opened with congregational singing led by Rev. Dean Thompson, with Sister Betty Hobbs at the piano.

Prayer was led by Brother James Sturgill, Seminole, Texas.

Brother and Sister James Sturgill, Brother and Sister Muriel Wilson and daughter and Brother Dean Burpo were introduced as new members to our association.

A Credential Report was given by Brother Sherman North. 6 Churches reported with \$60.00 and 35 Delegates. Motion passed that the report be accepted and the delegates seated.

A letter of resignation by Rev. Kenneth Brandon as Moderator of the Midessa District Association, was read to the congregation. Motion passed to accept his resignation.

Rev. E. E. Zoellers, Rev. Muriel Wilson, and Rev. Dean Thompson were nominated for Moderator. Rev. Zoellers was elected.

Rev. Gene Jackson resigned as Assistant Moderator of Midessa District Association. Motion passed to accept his resignation. Rev. Dean Thompson and Rev. James Sturgill were nominated for Assistant Moderator. Rev. Thompson was elected.

Rev. E. E. Zoellers offered his resignation as Midessa District Clerk. Motion passed to accept his resignation. Sister Sherman North and Rev. Muriel Wilson were nominated for Clerk. Sister North was elected.

A letter of resignation of Sister Onita Brandon as a member of Christian Training Service Board was read. Motion passed to accept her resignation. Rev. James Sturgill was nominated and elected by acclamation as a C.T.S. Board member to replace Sister Brandon.

Treasurer's report was given by Brother Bill Johnson. Present bank balance \$329.53, Savings account balance \$8,704.37. Motion made and seconded that this report be accepted. Motion carried.

Rev. Gene Jackson resigned as a member of the Home Missions Board. Motion passed to accept his resignation. Brother Gene Rousseau, Brother Leo Jones and Rev. Muriel Wilson were nominated to the Home Missions Board. Rev. Muriel Wilson was elected as the one year man and Brother Gene Rousseau was elected 2 year man.

Rev. Fred King resigned as a member of the Home Mission Board. Motion passed to accept his resignation.

Rev. Gene Jackson gave an oral report of the Home Missions Board. He reported \$250.00 given to Seminole Mission to help move their pastor to Seminole. Also, he reported giving \$600.00 to Lubbock Church to move their pastor to Lubbock.

The Sunday School Report was given by Sister Dora Johnson. Motion passed to receive the report as information.

Sunday School Report:

Total Enrollment 466, New Members 50, Dropped 24, No. of Departments 11,

Amount of Offering \$2,823.82, Ave. Grade 56, Contacts 2,824, Attendance 336, No. of Classes 38.

Submitted by,
Dora Johnson

Church Training Service Report was given by Sister Pat Cates. Motion passed to accept the report with the recommendation that our next Youth Rally be October 21, 1967.

C.T.S. Report:

Total Enrollment 263, No. of C.T.S.'s 32, Ave. Attendance 200, Offering \$226.90, Dropped 28, Ave. Grade 60.

Submitted by,
Pat Cates

Obituary Report was given by Sister Ethel Sellers. Motion passed that this report be received and that we stand for a moment of silent prayer.

Obituary Report:

1 death — Sister Evelyn Fitch of Bible Church, Odessa, Texas.

Submitted by,
Ethel Sellers

The Resolutions Report was given by Sister Betty Kelly. Motion passed to accept the resolution.

Resolution: Whereas, there is a desperate need for strengthening the home front consisting of our local churches, and whereas, The National Association of Free Will Baptists and The Texas State Association of Free Will Baptist's have urged that this is best done on the district level and, whereas, the proceeds from the sale of The First Free Will Baptist Church, San Angelo, Texas; and The Truth Free Will Baptist Church of Levelland, Texas was received by our District Association, with the promise and thought in mind of establishing other churches in our District, Therefore; "Be it resolved that the Midessa Association keep a surplus on hand of \$10,000.00 for the express purpose of aiding in the construction of new church buildings in our District and the repair or enlargement of churches now existing in our District, and that this money be offered to qualifying churches on a loan basis."

Submitted by,
Betty Kelly
Barbara Zoellers

Sister Martha Jackson resigned as C.T.S. Board member. Motion passed to accept her resignation. Sister Jean Pennington nominated and elected by acclamation to replace Sister Jackson.

Rev. Fred King resigned as a member of The Credential Board. Motion passed to accept his resignation. Rev. Burpo, Rev. Muriel Wilson, Brother Leo Jones, and Rev. Pervis Williams were nominated to The Credential Board. Rev. Pervis Williams was elected.

Motion made and seconded to authorize the Clerk authority to purchase a file or a brief case to keep records in. Motion carried.

Motion made and seconded that Brother David Sellars and Rev. E. E. Zoellers investigate the contract sale with the Levelland Church. Motion carried.

Motion passed to adjourn business.

We recessed for a few moments.

After recess, we began our worship service with congregational singing led by Rev. Zoellers.

Rev. Pervis Williams led our hearts in prayer.

Brother Wooten and Brother Patterson from Levelland, Texas were introduced and welcomed to our Association as guests.

The morning message was brought by Rev. Dean Burpo of Lubbock, Texas. The scripture text was, II Samuel 23:10. "When Others Flee" was the title of the message. Special emphasis was placed on falling away and on un-concern of christians. The message challenged each heart in the congregation.

Brother Bill Johnson asked God's blessing on the food and dismissed in prayer.

The meeting was adjourned.

Mrs. Sherman North
District Clerk

December 9, 1967

The Midessa District Association met December 9, 1967 at Westside Free Will Baptist Church, Midland, Texas.
Friday Night, 7:30 P. M. — Woman's District Auxiliary Meeting.

Saturday Morning, 9:30 A. M. — The session began with congregational singing led by Rev. Dean Thompson.

Rev. E. E. Zoellers moderated the meeting.

Rev. Joe Aaragon led our hearts in prayer.

A partial report of The Credential Board was given by Rev. Zoellers. Motion passed to receive the partial report and seat the delegates.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Brother Bill Johnson. Motion passed to receive the report.

Treasurer's Report:

Bank balance was \$470.44. Savings Account balance was \$9,302.29.

Submitted by,
W. H. Johnson, Treasurer

A verbal report was given by Rev. James Sturgill on the Seminole Mission. He reported an Average attendance of 20 in Sunday School and Church. Also, he reported the purchase of property in Seminole, Texas.

Rev. Earl Judd, pastor of The First Church, Odessa, Texas reported that First Church had extra seats to be given to any church in the district that need them.

Motion passed to have The Home Mission Board advertise in the Texas State and National Publications as to the intent and interest of establishing a Free Will Baptist Church in Abilene, Texas. The results of this plea to be reported at the next session.

The Sunday School Report was given by Sister Dora Johnson. Motion passed to receive the report.

Sunday School Report:

Total Enrollment 426, New Members 14, Dropped 34, No. of Departments 17, No. of Classes 40, Ave. Grade 59, Contacts 2,596, Ave. Attendance 51, Offering \$2,321.30.

Submitted by,
Dora Johnson

The Church Training Service Report was given by Sister Pat Cates. Motion passed to receive the report as information.

C.T.S. Report:

Total Enrollment 232, No. of C.T.S.'s 19, Ave. Attendance 183, Offering \$797.68, Dropped 10, Grade 74.

Submitted by,
Rev. James Sturgill
Mrs. Pat Cates

The next session will convene with The Faith Free Will Baptist Church, Andrews, Texas. A Verbal report, on the Andrews Church, was given by Rev. Muriel Wilson. He reported that progress was being made. He reported 15

decisions for Christ, 5 by baptism. Finances are increasing.

An increase in Sunday School Attendance to 100, was reported by Rev. Earl Judd, First Church of Odessa, Texas. 2 decisions for Christ were reported and an increase in offering.

Rev. Dean Thompson gave a report on the First Church of Kermit, Texas. He reported Sunday School Attendance had increased from 42-50, and that the church had become more spiritual.

Progress is being made at the First Church of Lubbock reports Rev. Dean Burpo.

Report of The Westside Church of Midland, Texas was given by Rev. E. E. Zoellers. He reported attendance was steady, the new church building is progressing, 5 new couples saved and added to the church.

Nominations in order for a two year person to serve on Church Training Service Board. Brother Johnny Walker was nominated and elected by acclamation.

Rev. Dean Burpo gave The Auditing Report. Motion passed to receive the report.

Auditing Committee Report:

We the Auditing Committee have audited the books of the District and found them to be correct and in order to date. 12/8/67.

Submitted by,
Rev. Dean Burpo
Brother Charles Snowder

An additional Credential Report was given by Rev. Zoellers.

Credential Report:

The Credential Committee examined Brother Wesley Bray from Bible Free Will Baptist Church, Odessa, Texas for ordination for Deacon. We recommend that the Midessa District refer him to his home church for ordination with the approval of the District Association. Motion passed that we as a District adopt this recommendation.

Submitted by,
Rev. E. E. Zoellers
Brother Bill Johnson

Motion made and seconded that the Credential Board be given the authority to examine and approve candidates for ordination and report it back to the next Quarterly Meeting. Motion passed.

The First Church of Odessa, Texas recommended Brother Boyd Phillips be examined for ordination for Deacon. The Credential Board will examine him and report to the next session.

Motion passed to give host church a rising vote of thanks for their kind hospitality.

Motion passed to adjourn.

Rev. E. E. Zoellers dismissed in prayer.

After recess we congregated for the morning worship.

The morning message was delivered by Rev. Muriel Wilson, Andrews, Texas. It was a blessing to our hearts.

The meeting was adjourned.

Mrs. Sherman North
District Clerk

March 9, 1968

The Midessa District Association Quarterly Meeting met at the Community Building in Andrews, Texas on March 9, 1968.

The session began with congregational singing led by Rev. Dean Thompson.

Rev. Dean Thompson moderated the session in the absence of Rev. E. E. Zoellers.

Rev. Muriel Wilson led our hearts in prayer.

The moderator's devotional thoughts were brought from II Timothy 2:19. Many inspiring thoughts were made from this portion of God's Word.

Rev. O'Donnell, from Oklahoma Bible College, was introduced and asked to bring a few words concerning Oklahoma Bible College. He reported an enrollment of 8,036 acres of land and 4 buildings. The school is being financed through the Bond Program which pays 6% interest.

At this time the delegates were recognized and seated.

A partial Credential Report was given by Rev. Muriel Wilson. Motion passed to accept the partial report.

Credential Report: 29 Delegates, \$50.00 in letters and 5 Churches reporting.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Sister Sherman North. Bank Balance was \$419.83, Savings Account Balance was \$10,053.18. Motion passed to accept the report as given.

The Minutes were read and approved.

The Church Training Service Report was given by Sister Pat Cates. Motion passed to accept it as given.

C.T.S. Report:

Total Enrollment 154, No. of C.T.S.'s 24, Attendance 132, Offering \$729.37, Dropped 5, Grade 39.

Submitted by,
Rev. Johnny Walker
Rev. James Sturgill
Mrs. Pat Cates

Motion made, seconded and carried to have a King and Queen contest in our District Association.

Motion passed to pay our District King's and Queen's way to the National Association.

Motion passed to give \$60.00 to our District winners of Tic Tac Toe and Declamation for expense money to the Texas State Convention.

Motion, made, seconded and carried to give Rev. Rashie Kennedy \$50.00 as a love offering.

Motion made and seconded that we contribute \$25.00 a month to the Oklahoma Bible College. Motion carried.

Rev. Muriel Wilson gave a Home Missions Report concerning establishing a new work in Abilene, Texas. He reported no response to the pleas made in the State and National Publications.

The Bible Free Will Baptist Church recommended that Brother Mickie Lee Shirley be examined by the Credential Board to be put on license for the

ministry. The Credential Board will meet at a later date to examine him and will report to the next Quarterly Meeting.

Recess:

After recess, Rev. James Sturgill led the congregation in, "Stand Up For Jesus."

Rev. Earl Judd led our hearts in prayer.

The morning message was delivered by Rev. Rashie Kennedy, State Executive Secretary. Scripture text was Col. 2:1, 2;3. The Topic of the message was, "Our Hearts Knit Together In Love." Some points of the good message were, through praying, caring and sharing.

The meeting was adjourned.

God's blessings were said on the good meal that was served.

Mrs. Sherman North
District Clerk

June 8, 1968

The Midessa District Association of Free Will Baptist met June 8, 1968 at First Free Will Baptist Church of Odessa, Texas.

Rev. Dean Thompson, Assistant Moderator, conducted the session until a new Moderator was elected.

The session began with congregational singing led by Rev. Dean Thompson.

Brother Bill Johnson led our hearts in prayer.

Rev. Earl Judd brought a devotional. Scripture text was Luke 2:41-46. After the good devotional, the congregation knelt around the altar uniting our hearts in prayer.

The delegates were seated and the congregation gave them the right hand of Christian fellowship.

Brother and Sister McAffray from Carlsbad, New Mexico were introduced and welcomed as visitors to our association.

Nominations were in order at this time for a Moderator to replace Rev. E. E. Zoeller who has moved out of our district. Rev. Earl Judd and Rev. Dean Thompson were nominated. Rev. Earl Judd was elected.

Rev. Earl Judd moderated the remainder of the session.

The election of officers was held.

Moderator: Rev. Earl Judd and Rev. Dean Thompson were nominated. Rev. Earl Judd was elected.

Assistant Moderator: Rev. Dean Thompson was nominated and elected by acclamation.

Clerk: Sister Sherman North was nominated and elected by acclamation.

Treasurer: Brother W. H. Johnson was nominated and elected by acclamation.

Parliamentarian: Brother Sherman North was nominated and elected by acclamation.

Executive Board: Rev. Johnny Walker was nominated and elected by acclamation.

Credential Board: Brother Johnny Walker and Brother Muriel Wilson were nominated. Rev. Wilson was elected for 3 Year Term. Rev. Johnny Walker, and Rev. James Sturgill were nominated for Two Year Term. Rev. Walker was elected.

Home Mission Board: 3 Year Term — Brother R. E. Lunsford was nominated and elected by acclamation.

Sunday School Board: 3 Year Term — Sister Dora Johnson and Sister Johnny Walker were nominated. Sister Dora Johnson was elected.

2 Year Term — Sister Johnny Walker was nominated and elected by acclamation.

1 Year Term — Sister Betty Hobbs was nominated and elected by acclamation.

Christian Training Service Board: 3 Year Term — Sister Pat Cates and Brother Marion Goff were nominated. Sister Cates was elected.

Rev. Johnny Walker offered his resignation as 1 Year Man — on the Christian Training Service Board. Motion passed to receive the resignation.

1 Year Term — Brother Dutch Lunsford and Brother Marion Goff were nominated. Brother Goff was elected.

Board Of Trustees: Brother R. E. Lunsford and Brother Boyd Phillips were nominated. Brother Phillips was elected.

Auditing Committee: 2 Year Term — Brother Gary Uhls was nominated and elected by acclamation. *1 Year Term:* Brother Allison was nominated and elected by acclamation.

Resolutions Committee: 3 Year Term — Sister Doris Rousseau was nominated and elected by acclamation. *2 Year Term* — Sister Boyd Phillips was nominated and elected by acclamation.

C.T.S. Youth Director: Sister Pat Cates was nominated and elected by acclamation.

Temperance Committee: 3 Year Term — Sister Earl Judd, Sister Marie Allison, Sister Frances Taylor and Sister Marie Smart were nominated. Sister Smart was elected.

2 Year Term — Sister Marie Allison was nominated and elected by acclamation.

1 Year Term — Sister Earl Judd was nominated and elected by acclamation.

Obituary Committee: 3 Year Term — Sister Betty Hobbs and Sister Margie Lunsford were nominated. Sister Lunsford was elected.

1 Year Term — Sister Betty Hobbs was nominated and elected by acclamation.

The Credential Board gave their report.

Credential Board Report:

6 Churches and 1 Mission reported, 25 Delegates and \$65.00 in church letters. We recommend that Mike Shirley be put on license for the ministry for 1 year. Motion passed to receive this report.

Submitted by,
Rev. Muriel Wilson
Brother W. H. Johnson
Rev. Johnny Walker

Treasurer's Report was given by Brother Bill Johnson. Bank balance was \$564.52, Savings Account balance was \$10,553.18. Motion made and seconded to receive this report as given. Motion carried.

Submitted by,
Brother W. H. Johnson

The Sunday School Report was given by Sister Dora Johnson.

Sunday School Report:

Total Enrollment 360, New Members 44, Dropped 24, Departments 15, No. of Classes 15, Ave. Grade 51, Contacts 2,343, Offering \$4,146.63, Ave. Attendance 54. Motion passed to receive this report as given.

Submitted by,
Sister Dora Johnson

C.T.S. Report was given by Sister Pat Cates.

C.T.S. Report:

Enrollment 253, No. of C.T.S. 11, Ave. Attendance 108, Ave. Dropped 46,

Offering \$1,991.20, Ave. Grade 47. Motion passed to receive this report as given.

Submitted by,
Sister Pat Cates
Rev. Johnny Walker

Motion passed to accept First Church, Kermit, Texas, invitation to the next Quarterly Meeting.

An oral Obituary Report was given. Brother Bob Fitch, Odessa, Texas, Brother Nolan Ferrell have deceased. Brother Dean Burpo led our hearts in prayer.

Motion carried that our District Clerk write Parkview Assembly of God Church in Levelland, Texas asking for an explanation as to why we have not received any monthly payments, in 12 months, on the church property in Levelland. Motion passed that next year we work on a percentage basis on the King and Queen contest instead of who has the most money for votes.

Motion amended to read that at such time as we decide to have a King and Queen contest, (instead of next year). Amendment carried.

Motion passed to give the Moderator the authority to appoint a committee to go back through old minutes and bring the constitutional changes up to date.

Motion passed that we table plans for having a Sunday School Institute until next Quarterly Meeting.

Motion passed that we get report blanks and digest of reports printed.

Motion passed to give host church a rising vote of thanks for their kind hospitality.

Rev. Muriel Wilson led in prayer.

Brother Johnny Walker blessed our hearts with a special, "I Want To Stroll Over Heaven With You."

The morning message was delivered by Rev. McAffray, Carlsbad, New Mexico. The topic of the message was, "Go Ye Therefore and Teach All Nations".

Rev. Dean Burpo asked the Lord's blessing on the food.

The session was adjourned.

Mrs. Sherman North
District Clerk

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
OF THE
MIDESSA ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST

PREAMBLE

To the end that all things may be done decently and in order, and that we may more readily help each other in our Christian service as members of the Midessa Association, of Free Will Baptists, we adopt the following Constitution and By-Laws as methods of our work.

ARTICLE I

NAME AND OBJECT

Section I Name — The Midessa Association of Free Will Baptists.

Section II Object — This Association, believing in the inspired Word of God, and as the sole rule of faith and practice, and acknowledging its adherence to all the teachings of Christ, is organized for the purpose of the worship of God according to the teachings of His Word; to practice the precepts and examples of the church of our Lord Jesus Christ as set forth in the New Testament; to sustain the ordinances and doctrines; and to preach and propagate among all people of the earth the Gospel of God's salvation by personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord.

ARTICLE II

ASSOCIATIONAL AFFILIATION

Section II — This local body of Free Will Baptist shall be a member of the Texas State Association of Free Will Baptist, and the National Association of Free Will Baptist; and shall report regularly by delegation and any necessary letters.

ARTICLE III

MEMBERSHIP

Section I — No church shall be accepted as a member of this Association in any manner without the will of the body duly expressed by its vote.

Section II — The geographical location of this Association, using Midland as the center, shall be; North to Lubbock, East to Sweetwater, Southeast to Sonora and San Angelo, South to Sheffield, Southwest to Fort Stockton, West to Pecos and Northwest to the New Mexico State line.

Section III — Any Church, doctrinally sound, approved by the Credentials Committee, within the above named locality, and complying with and endorsing this Constitution and By-Laws, and meeting the approval of the General Body when in session, may be accepted.

Section IV — Each Church may be represented by delegation according to the following basis:

Church	2 Delegates
Sunday School	1 Delegate
Church Training Service	1 Delegate
Ladies' Auxiliary	1 Delegate
Master's Men or Brotherhood	1 Delegate

Total: 6 Delegates

No Church shall exceed six elected delegates.

Section V — All ordained personnel, and Chairmen of Boards, or their proxies, pastor's wives, and deacons wives in good standing with their local Church and Association, shall have a standing vote.

Section VI — Each delegation shall be qualified upon presenting to the Association, through the Credentials Committee, an authorized statistical letter signed by the pastor (or moderator) and church clerk, together with the stipulated associational dues. Failure to present the proper credentials shall disqualify the delegation.

Section VII — New churches wishing to become members of this Association, shall present such petitionary letters as shall be authorized by the body.

Section VIII — Upon the adoption of the report of the Credentials Committee, the delegates may be seated. Manner of seating the delegates shall be left to the discretion of the moderator.

ARTICLE IV

OFFICERS

Section I — The officers of the Association shall be: Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk, Treasurer, Parliamentarian, and Chairman of Standing Boards or their proxies.

Section II — It shall be the duty of the moderator to call the Association to order and to preside over all sessions thereof. In the absence of the moderator, the assistant moderator shall preside, or in his absence, the clerk or the senior minister shall preside until the election of a moderator protempore. Between sessions, the moderator is chairman of the executive committee.

Section III — It shall be the duty of the assistant moderator to assist the moderator in maintaining order and preside over the Association in his absence, or at request.

Section IV — It shall be the duty of the clerk to make and keep accurate records of all sessions of the association, to have copies of the minutes printed and distributed to the churches comprising this association, to make and keep good and accurate records of all meetings of the executive committee, and to enter the same in the minutes of the next session of this association. Between sessions, the clerk is secretary of the executive committee.

Section V — It shall be the duty of the treasurer to receive all funds paid or donated to the Association and to make duly authorized disbursements; to make and keep a good and accurate record of all funds received and disbursed, and to report the same to the Association at the annual session. Between sessions, he is a member of the executive committee.

Section VI — It shall be the duty of the parliamentarian to familiarize himself with the parliamentary law recognized by the Association, and to be ready to dispose of any point of order that be referred to him.

Section VII — The officers of the Association shall be elected at the beginning of each annual session and shall assume office at the close of the session at which they were elected.

ARTICLE V

MEETINGS

Section I — This Association shall have four meetings a year. They shall be as follows:

1. The Friday night and Saturday before the second Sunday in December.
2. The Friday night and Saturday before the second Sunday in March.

3. The Friday night and Saturday before the second Sunday in June.
4. The Friday night and Saturday before the second Sunday in September.

Section II — In the December, March and June meetings, a quarterly report shall be given by all churches. In the September meeting, a quarterly report and an annual report shall be given by all churches.

Section III — The delegation from 50% of the membership churches shall constitute a quorum.

Section IV — The place of meeting shall be selected by majority vote of all members present; however, no invitation will be accepted by the Association unless it is written into the church letter by authority of the church.

ARTICLE VI

FINANCE

Section I — Each church shall send \$10.00 in each regular meeting of this Association.

Section II — Each church must support the plan endorsed by the National Association of Free Will Baptists. The present plan being the cooperative plan which is 10% of the gross income of each church. This money shall be directed to this Association's treasurer, and he in turn shall act according to the District budget set at each annual meeting, or otherwise as directed by the District in the allocation of District monies.

Section III — Allocation of Associational monies:

1. Executive Committee
2. Standing Boards and Committees
3. Associational expense — Minutes, State and National dues, expense of District delegates to State Association, when not held in local District, and any other need directed by this Association.

ARTICLE VII

STANDING COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

Section I Executive Board — This Board shall consist of seven members who shall be as follows: Three members shall be officers of the Association. They shall be the Moderator, as chairman, the Clerk and the Treasurer. The other four members shall be elected by the body. At least two of these from the laity. They shall be elected in such a way as to require one to be elected each year. To this Board is delegated power to act in behalf of, and for this Association between regular sessions. This Board has the right to execute discipline in regards to any church that they may deem necessary. The Board shall have power to fill vacancies that may occur in its own body.

Section II Board of Trustees — This Board shall consist of three members. They shall hold office at the will of this Association. They shall control any property entrusted to this Association.

Section III Credential Board — There shall be three members elected from ordained personnel belonging to this Association. They shall examine all credentials and give any necessary examinations. This board shall issue Ministers' cards to those in good standing. They shall be elected by the body in such a way as to require one to be elected each year.

Section IV Church Training Service Board — This Board shall have three members. They shall be responsible for the Church Training Service Program of this Association. They shall be elected by the body in such a way as to require one member each year to be elected.

Section V Sunday School Board — This Board shall have three members.

They shall be responsible for the Sunday School Program of this Association. They shall be elected by the body in such a way as to require one member to be elected each year.

Section VI Home Mission Board — This Board shall have three members. They shall be responsible for all Home Mission work of this Association. They shall be elected by the body in such a way as to require one member to be elected each year.

Section VII The Standing Committees shall be: Resolutions, Obituary, Temperance and Auditing Committee. Each of these committees shall have three members who shall be elected on the same basis as the standing boards.

BY-LAWS

1. The Moderator or Assistant Moderator, or in their absence, the oldest minister present, shall call the Association into conference.
2. Each session shall be opened and closed with prayer.
3. Visiting brethren are invited to sit as advisory members.
4. Those who speak shall arise and address the moderator. Personal reflections shall be avoided in all debates.
5. If any proposition or motion under debate contains two or more points, it shall be divided at the request of any member and a vote taken.
6. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded.
7. No one shall speak more than twice on the same subject without special leave of the Moderator.
8. The Moderator shall not allow discussion when not carried on in a Christian Spirit.
9. The ruling of the Moderator may be overruled by a two-thirds majority of the members voting.
10. No questions from any church shall come under the consideration of the Association unless it has first been discussed in its own church.
11. At each Association, arrangements shall be made to insure two or more sermons or their Equivalent devotional exercises each day.
12. In the event any church in this Association becomes unorthodox in the Free Will Baptist faith and practices, or inactive, said church shall become Associational property. In the event this District becomes unorthodox in the Free Will Baptist faith and practices, or inactive, all Associational properties shall become the property of the Texas State Association of Free Will Baptists.

Amendment to By-Law No. 12 — If any church in this Association becomes unorthodox in the Free Will Baptist faith and practices, or go down until they cannot transact business because they are disorganized, it shall become the property of the Association and the Executive Board shall have power to execute legal papers for the property. In the Event the churches in this Association become unorthodox in the Free Will Baptist Faith and practices, or inactive, all church and Association property shall become property of the Texas State Association of Free Will Baptists.

13. Ministers coming to this Association from other states or associations must be willing to submit to an examination by the Credential Board, if said Board deems it necessary. Any church belonging to this Association must be willing to submit to, and abide by this examination.

Amendment to By-Law No. 13 — Any minister who becomes unorthodox in the Free Will Baptist faith and practice, or in his conduct, shall be dealt with by the executive board of the Association, and if he is proven

guilty, will turn his credentials over to the Executive Board until such time that they may be lawfully redeemed.

14. Petitioning churches must read this constitution and by-laws to their respective churches before admission to this body.
15. This Constitution and By-Laws may be amended at any regular meeting of this Association, provided it carries a two-thirds majority of all voting members present. Proposed changes must be in writing, and submitted by three or more elected or standing delegates, and given to the Credentials Board, who shall present it along with church letters. The proposed change shall be tabled as the last item of business, thus allowing everyone time to think and discuss said proposed change.
16. Written examinations shall be required by any candidate for license or ordination in this Association or any church belonging to this Association.
17. If any church has not complied with this constitution in every way, they shall be subject to automatic dismissal from this Association, and that the Executive Board, with the Credential Board shall make their recommendation to the Association.
18. Each church must meet their financial obligations as nearly as possible on the first of each month.
19. Deacons must be on trial for a full six months. Ministers on trial for a full year.
20. No person shall be ordained who does not believe in, and practice tithing.
21. No person shall be licensed or ordained, or shall officiate as a pastor or deacon, who has ever been divorced at any time.
22. All parliamentary procedure shall be according to Robert's Rules of Order.

