

dup

FORMATION MEETING

NEW MEXICO STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREEWILL BAPTISTS

January 11, 1969

Brother Clarence Shepard of Clinton, Oklahoma acted as Moderator and opened the meeting. Brother Shepard asked each association represented to stand and express their desire to form a State Association. All complied. Those represented were the First New Mexico Association, North Central Association, and the Land of Enchantment Association.

The voting delegation consisted of seven ordained ministers, six ordained deacons, and seven elected delegates. The voting body totaled twenty.

The proposed by-laws, state constitution, rules of order, and articles of faith were read and changed as follows:

By-Laws:

By-Law number 1-- There was some question as to what constitutes a quorum. Brother Muril Wilson made a motion that five or more representatives from two or more quarterly meetings constitute a quorum for the State Association. The motion was seconded and carried.

A motion was made and seconded that each association be entitled to two delegates from each church or a number equal to two delegates from each church concerning Section II of Article III of the proposed constitution. The motion carried.

A motion was made concerning by-law number 14--that the word adjourned be changed to called. The motion was seconded and carried.

Brother McAffrey moved that the body adjourn for a worship service. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously. The body was adjourned for a ten-minute recess by prayer.

The business meeting resumed at 1:00 p.m. Brother Muril Wilson made a motion that Item 2 of the Rules of Order be deleted. The motion was seconded and carried.

Brother McAffrey moved that we accept the proposed constitution, by-laws, rules of order and articles of faith with the changes that had been made. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Election of officers followed. Nominated for Moderator were: Brother Muril Wilson, Brother Billings. Motion was made for nominations to cease and proceed to elect. The motion was seconded and carried. Brother Muril Wilson was elected as Moderator of the Association.

Nominated for Assistant Moderator were Brother McAffrey, Brother Bill McClintock, and Brother Billings. Motion was made for nominations to cease and proceed to elect. The motion was seconded and carried. Brother McAffrey was elected as Assistant Moderator.

Nominated for Clerk were Pat Pinson and Doris Herd. Motion was made and seconded for nominations to cease and proceed to elect. The motion carried. Pat Pinson was elected as Clerk.

Nominated for Assistant Clerk was Doris Herd. Motion was made and seconded that nominations cease and proceed to elected by acclamation. The motion carried and Doris Herd was elected as Assistant Clerk.

Nominated for Parliamentarian were William Baker and Warren Bell. Motion was made and seconded that nominations cease and proceed to elect. The motion carried. Warren Bell was elected as Parliamentarian.

Nominated as Executive Secretary were Harold Sexton and Brother Billings. Motion was made and seconded that nominations cease and proceed to elect. The motion carried. Brother Harold Sexton was elected as Executive Secretary.

EXECUTIVE BOARD:

Nominated for the five-year term on the Executive Board were O. H. Palmer, Brother Sewall, and Robert Ellis. Motion was made and seconded that nominations cease and proceed to elect. The motion carried. Brother Palmer was elected to the five-year position.

Nominated for the four-year position on the Executive Board were Brother Sewall, and Jim Pollock. Motion was made and seconded that nominations cease and proceed to elect. The motion carried. Brother Sewall was elected to the four-year position.

Nominated for the three-year position were Jim Pollock and Brother Gartman. Motion was made and seconded for nominations to cease and proceed to elect. The motion carried. Jim Pollock was elected to the three-year position.

Nominated for the two-year position was Brother Gartman. Motion was made the nominations cease and proceed to elect by acclamation. The motion was seconded and carried.

Nominated for the one-year position were Garland Davidson, Brother Roberts. Motion was made and seconded that nominations cease and proceed to elect. The motion carried. Brother Davidson was elected.

CHURCH EXTENSION AND MISSION BOARD

Through proper procedure Brother Robert Ellis was elected to the three-year position, Brother Hinton to the two-year position, and Brother Jack Williams to the one-year position of the Church Extension and Mission Board.

SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD

Brother Davidson made a motion that we do not elect such a board at the present time. The motion was seconded and carried.

C. T.S.

Motion was made and seconded that such a board need not be elected at the present time.

Following election of officers, Brother Woods of Oklahoma Bible College gave a talk on the school and the work they were doing.

A motion was made and seconded that the Association meeting be held during the last week in April, Thursday and Friday the 24th and 25th. The motion carried. It will be held in the First Church of Hobbs, New Mexico.

A motion was made and seconded that the Co-ordinating and Executive Boards meet on Wednesday night before the State Association. The motion carried.

A motion was made that the officers of the Association serve as program committee. The motion was seconded and carried.

A motion was made that we pay \$100.00 to cover the expenses of the men from Oklahoma. The motion was seconded and carried.

A motion was made that \$25.00 be given to Pat Pinson for the work she had done concerning the typing and copying of the state constitution. The motion was seconded and carried.

The meeting was adjourned by prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Pinson
Clerk

Rev. Bill McClintock
Bro. J. M. Pollock
Bro. Robert Ellis
Bro. Harold Sefton

CONSTITUTION OF STATE ASSOCIATION

PREAMBLE: From long experience, we the members of the Free Will Baptists denomination, being regularly baptized upon a profession of our faith in Jesus Christ, and realizing the necessity of a bond of union and fellowship among us as a church; and to preserve and maintain correspondence and co-ordination with us, do therefore ordain this Constitution for our better denomination government.

ARTICLE I

NAME: This organization shall be known as the New Mexico STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS.

ARTICLE II

PURPOSE: The purpose of this association shall be to enlist the cooperation of all Free Will Baptists in New Mexico in sending the gospel of Jesus Christ to all quarters both near and far, in winning the lost through the preaching of the gospel, and in teaching and training those who are saved to be holier and more efficient members of the body of Christ, thus advancing the interests of the Kingdom of God.

ARTICLE III

REPRESENTATION: Section 1. This Association shall be composed of all ordained ministers and deacons with membership in some local church which is a member of a district Association with membership in the State Association.

Section 2. Each District Association shall be entitled to a number of elected delegates equal with the number of churches composing said Association. These delegates may be recommended by the local churches and shall be endorsed by their district association. *2 delegates from each church*

ARTICLE IV

FINANCE: Each church shall send a representation fee of ten dollars.

ARTICLE V

OFFICERS: The officers of the State Association shall consist of a Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk and Assistant Clerk, Parliamentarian and an Executive Secretary, each of whom shall be elected at the close of each regular session, except the Executive Secretary, who shall be elected every two years.

ARTICLE V (continued)

OFFICERS: Section 2: Committees, as necessary, shall be appointed by the moderator, unless otherwise provided for, and shall hold office until their work is completed or until their successors are elected.

ARTICLE VI

DISCIPLINE: This State 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 a subordinate association, delegates of that association shall not be seated until these questions have been settled to the satisfaction of the Credential Committee.

Section 2: Decisions of the Credential Committee may be appealed. (1) All appeals coming before the State Association when sitting in a committee as a whole. (2) by special committee whose report shall be voted on without discussion.

ARTICLE VII

BOARDS: All standing boards shall be composed of three elected members who shall serve terms of 3, 2, and 1 years, and any ex-officio members provided for elsewhere. Ex-officio members shall not have vote. The co-ordinate board shall be composed of one member from each subordinate association, chairman of each standing board and the state officers. The standing boards shall include the Executive Board, the Church Extension and Mission Board, Sunday School Board, and Church Training Service Board, and any other board the Association deems necessary. Each board shall elect a chairman and clerk-treasurer to act for one year and to be elected at the close of each annual state association. The Co-ordinating Board shall be composed of the executive secretary and the chairman from each standing board.

AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE VII

Executive Board members shall be five elected members who shall serve terms of 5,4,3,2, and 1 years.

ARTICLE VIII

DUTIES AND RULES OF STANDING BOARDS: The Executive Board is elected at the discretion of the State Association of Free Will Baptists and shall act in behalf of the association when not in session, and shall have power and authority to elect such officers as might be deemed best for its own government and to carry out the plans and undertakings of the state association. To this Executive Board is further delegated power to collect funds and report and superintend such work for the field as may seem best and the means on hand may warrant.

ARTICLE VIII (continued)

This Executive Board shall keep a record of all work done, money raised, meetings held, and make a full and complete report to the regular meeting of the association and shall further receive and convey any property entrusted to said state association. They shall not have the power to purchase or sell any real estate property without the voice of the association.

The chairman and the secretary of said Executive Board shall sign all deeds, bonds, and notes, etc., and other papers by which the State Association is to become legally responsible.

The board shall have power to call the association in conference by notifying each Subordinating Association at least ten (10) days prior to conference.

(2) CO-ORDINATING BOARD: It shall be the duty of this board to meet with the Executive Board just prior to the State Association to hear reports of the standing boards and to make recommendation to the State Association. They shall also serve as Credential Committee.

(3) CHURCH EXTENSION AND MISSION BOARD: It shall be the duty of this board to work to promote an active missionary program in and for the State of New Mexico.

(4) CHURCH TRAINING SERVICE BOARD: It shall be the duty of this board to plan and assist in every way possible the C.T.S. work throughout the state. It will also be their responsibility to promote an active C.T.S. work in each Subordinate Association and to encourage C.T.S. institutes. It shall also be the duty of this board to plan and direct a State Youth Camp or Camps.

(5) SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD: Their duties shall include the planning and operation of the State Sunday School Conventions, Institutes, and the encouragement of the organization of district conventions. They may carry through plans they think wise to actively promote Sunday School work in the state, and the publishing of literature deemed advisable by the State Association of Free Will Baptists.

(6) FILLING OF VACANCIES: All boards shall have power to fill vacancies that may arise between sessions of the association. Such appointment valid only until next session of association.

ARTICLE IX

This constitution may be amended or altered at any regular session of the State Association by a two-thirds vote of members present, provided proposed amendment or alteration be presented in writing to the body one day in advance.

ARTICLE X

Elected delegates to State Association shall be retained as standing delegates for special called meetings.

BY LAWS OF STATE ASSOCIATION

1. The Clerk or assistant clerk, or in their absence, the senior minister in years shall call the Association into conference, and if a quorum is present the moderator, or in his absence, the assistant moderator shall take charge; and if neither of them is present the senior minister in years shall act as Moderator. *For more from 2 or more districts*

2. It shall be the duty of the clerk to enroll the delegates *to for a* the Association, who shall present themselves with proper evidence of *quorum* their rights to seats therein, and those enrolled by the clerk shall compose the Association.

3. It shall be the duty of every District belonging to this Association to send a letter to every annual session of this Association reporting in the same, spiritual condition, benevolent work, and its statistics. Any District belonging to this Association, which shall fail to report itself for two successive sessions, may be dismissed from the Association by a two thirds vote of all members present.

4. Each meeting shall be opened by reading a portion of the Bible and with prayer, and shall be closed with prayer.

5. By a two-thirds vote of members present, a ruling of the moderator can be overruled.

6. This Association may correspond by messenger or otherwise with other religious bodies.

7. This Association shall sit with open doors except when it shall go into a committee of the whole.

8. Any person not a member of this Association may be allowed to take part in its discussions by obtaining permission from the moderator.

9. It shall be the duty of all the Association to be present at the time appointed for each meeting, and anyone wishing to retire shall first obtain leave of the moderator.

10. No person shall be allowed to nominate more than one member of any committee, provided the person nominated be elected.

11. The moderator shall not allow discussions when not carried on in a Christian spirit or when he thinks it will cause discord or division.

12. Anyone desiring to speak shall rise to his feet and address the moderator by the appellation "Brother Moderator," but shall not speak further until recognized by the moderator.

13. No members of this association shall be allowed to speak more than ten minutes nor twice on the same subject without permission from the moderator.

Collect 14. These By-Laws may be altered or amended at any regular or adjourned session of this Association by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

RULES OR ORDER

1. At every sitting of the Association, business shall be opened and concluded by prayer by the Moderator or whomsoever he may request.

2. ~~Ministers and deacons 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. No motion may be discussed until made and seconded.

5. When a motion has been made and seconded, and a member opposes its discussion, the Moderator shall put the question. "Shall it be discussed?" if negative, the question shall not be discussed.

RULES OF ORDER (continued)

6. If any proposition or motion under debate contains two or more points, it shall be divided at the request of any member, and the vote taken separately.

7. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded.

8. No one shall speak more than twice on the same subject without special leave of the Moderator.

9. All questions shall be decided by a majority vote of all Members present.

ARTICLES OF FAITH OF STATE ASSOCIATION

1. THE BIBLE- The Scriptures of the Old and New Testament were given by the inspiration of God, and are our infallible rules 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 the 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 is our ever-present Saviour and Lord.

4. THE HOLY SPIRIT- The Scriptures assigns 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 highest welfare of man 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 by faith.

8. THE TERMS OF SALVATION- The conditions of salvation are: 1. Repentance or sincere sorrow for sin and the hearty renunciations of it. 2. Faith or the unreserved committal of one's self to Christ as Saviour 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. 3. Continuance in faith and obedience until death.

ARTICLES OF FAITH OF STATE ASSOCIATION (continued)

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 and live, or to resist them and perish.

11. SALVATION FREE- God desires the salvation of all, the Gospel invites all, the Holy Spirit strives with all, and whosoever will many 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 the promise of eternal salvation.

13. BACKSLIDING AND APOSTASY- A person who has been regenerate 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, of universal obligation, and 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 (Matt. 23:23), and the Apostle Paul said, "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay be him in store as God hath prospered him." I Cor. 16:2.

16. THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH- The divine law requires that one day in seven be set apart from the secular employment and amusements for rest, worship, holy works and activities, and for personal communion with God.

17. RESURRECTION, JUDGEMENT 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 they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation: then the wicked shall " Go away into eternal punishment but the righteous into eternal life."