

MINUTES of the 152<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL SESSION  
of the  
PEE DEE ASSOCIATION  
of  
ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS  
in session at  
Beaverdam Original Free Will Baptist Church  
Columbus County, North Carolina

October 16, 2021

The next session will be held at Oak Grove Original Free Will Baptist Church (Bladen County) on the Saturday before the third Sunday in October 2022 (October 15, 2022) beginning at 9:00 a.m.

**PEE DEE ASSOCIATION OFFICERS**

**MODERATOR:** Rev. Dean Cartrette

**CLERK:** Dr. Danny D. McPherson

**ASST. MODERATOR:** Rev. Heath Conner

**TREASURER:** Ron Settle

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**MODERATOR**

Rev. Dean Cartrette  
409 Porter Rd. Tabor City, NC 28463  
910 377-2109

**ASST. MODERATOR**

Rev. Heath Conner  
727 Mt. Olive Rd. Bladenboro, NC 28320  
910 740-4454

**CLERK**

Dr. Danny D. McPherson  
69 Brice Ward Rd. Chadbourne, NC 28431  
910 642-5664  
910 840-6225

**TREASURER**

Ron Settle  
2651 Whitehall Rd. Whiteville, NC 28472  
910 840 - 3130

**MEMBER AT LARGE**

Rev. Larry Greenwood  
1783 Swamp Fox Hwy. Tabor City, NC 28463  
910 840-2034

**ORDAINING COUNCIL**

Rev. James H. Nobles, Chairman  
122 Mercer Rd.  
Chadbourn, NC 28431  
910 234-9712

Rev. Dallas Byrd  
PO Box 57  
Clarendon, NC 28432  
910 212-8849

Rev. F. 'Buddy' Seay  
726 Woodrow Cribb Rd.  
Clarendon, NC 28432  
910 653-7777

Rev. Jamey Ward  
2892 Will Inman Rd.  
Tabor City, NC 28463  
910 918-5388

Rev. Kenneth Woolwine  
1881 Sommerset Rd. SW.  
Ocean Isle Beach, NC 28469  
304 712-5183

#### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

G.C. Bryan  
Bladenboro, NC 28320

Ricky Fowler  
3707 Walter Todd Rd.  
Clarendon, NC 28432

J.R. McPherson  
15493 Peacock Rd.  
Chadbourn, NC 28431

Nelson D. Soles  
1175 Carolina Rd.  
Tabor City, NC 28463

#### **ORDAINED MINISTERS**

Rev. Jeff Barton  
304 Buck Rd.  
Maxton, NC 28364  
910 354-7379

Rev. Derek Batten  
415 Emily Drive  
Chadbourn, NC 28431  
910 234-6780

Rev. George Benton  
305 E. Walter St.  
Whiteville, NC 28472

Rev. Joseph B. Benton, III  
2510 Ole King St.  
Conway, SC 29526

Rev. Gary Bryan  
1902 Horseshoe Rd.  
Bladenboro, NC 28320

Rev. Dr. Tommy Bryson  
241 Soles Rd.  
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910 641-0262

Rev. Dallas Byrd  
PO Box 57  
Clarendon, NC 28432  
910 212-8849

Rev. Dr. Bobby Carden  
PO Box 734  
Bladenboro, NC 28320

910 863-3792  
Rev. Eddie Carter  
495 Brewer Drive  
Red Springs, NC 28377  
910 257-7357

Rev. Dean Cartrette  
409 Porter Rd.  
Tabor City, NC 28463  
910 377-2109

Rev. Heath Conner  
727 Mt. Olive Rd.  
Bladenboro, NC 28320  
910 740-4454

Rev. Jacob Cribb  
6951 Melanie Way NW  
Ash, NC 28420  
910 363-6516

Rev. Pete Cribb  
18981 Peacock Rd.  
Whiteville, NC 28472  
910 625-0956

Rev. Freddie Edwards  
1799 Guyton Rd.  
Bladenboro, NC 28320

Rev. Rickey Evans  
2240 N. Old Georgetown Rd.  
Coward, SC 29530  
843 503-4400

Rev. Eugene Gaskin  
6843 Hughes-Smith Rd. NW  
Ash, NC 28420  
910 880-9168

Rev. Larry Greenwood  
6083 Swamp Fox Hwy. W.  
Tabor City, NC 28463  
910 840-2034

Rev. Drake Harper  
298 Ward Town Rd. S  
Whiteville, NC 28472  
910 234-4948

Rev. William Hearl  
1115 Hwy. 548  
Conway, SC 29528  
843 365-9189

Rev. Donny Jernigan  
67 Sugar Plum Lane  
Whiteville, NC 28472  
910 625-7857

Rev. Johnny Johnson  
1898 Log Cabin Rd.  
Loris, SC 29569  
843 465 6897

Rev. Paul Lambert  
4301 New Britton Hwy. E.  
Whiteville, NC 28472  
910 317-6223

Rev. Timmy Locklear  
88 Live Oak Lane  
Tabor City, NC 28463  
910 234-4495

Rev. Jimmy McNeill  
7680 Rennert Rd.  
Shannon, NC 28368  
910 827-2142

Rev. Wade McPherson  
Chevy Lane  
Chadbourn, NC 28431

Rev. James Howard Nobles  
122 Mercer Rd.  
Chadbourn, NC 28431  
910 234-9712

Rev. Hollon Norris  
8703 Old Stake Rd.  
Tabor City, NC 28463  
910 653-2430

Rev. Colton Reaves  
13159 New Britton Hwy  
Nakina, NC 28455  
910 770-2221

Rev. F. 'Buddy' Seay  
726 Woodrow Cribb Rd.  
Clarendon, NC 28432  
910 918-3446

Rev. Edward Spivey  
355 Spivey Rd.  
Tabor City, NC 28463

Rev. Clifford Strickland  
1740 Greenpond Rd.  
Loris, SC 29569  
843 756-0936

Rev. Jackie Strickland  
4058 Smyrna Rd.  
Whiteville, NC 28472  
910 234-0791

Rev. Jamey Ward  
2892 Will Inman Rd.  
Tabor City, NC 28463  
910 653-9053

Rev. William E. Ward  
5360 Peachtree Rd.  
Myrtle Beach, SC 29577  
843 458-9531

Rev. Jeff Westerfield  
1273 Hinnant Rd.  
Selma, NC 27576  
301 751-6037

Rev. Sonny R. Williams, Jr.  
43 Phillips Road  
Selma, NC 27576  
919 634-8578

Rev. Kenneth Woolwine  
1881 Sommersett Rd. SW.  
Ocean Isle Beach, NC 28469  
304 712-5183

**LICENTIATE(S)**  
NA

**MEMBER CHURCHES OF THE ASSOCIATION**  
(for year ending June 30, 2021)

<b><u>CHURCH</u></b>	<b><u>PASTOR</u></b>
Beaverdam	Rev. F. 'Buddy' Seay
Cypress Creek	Rev. Jeff Barton
Emerson	Rev. Heath Conner
Freedom	Vacant
Little Bethel	Rev. Dean Cartrette
Macedonia	Rev. Jamey Ward
Mission Valley	Rev. Paul Lambert
Mt. Beulah	Rev. Derek Batten
Mt. Calvary	Rev. Jimmy McNeill
Mt. Olive	Rev. Timmy Locklear
Oak Grove	Rev. Jackie Strickland
Pine Level	Rev. Colton Reaves
Pireway	Rev. Kenneth Woolwine
Pleasant Meadow	Vacant
Thomasboro	Rev. Dallas Byrd
Trinity	Vacant
White Oak	Rev. Dr. Bobby Carden

## PROCEEDINGS

The One Hundred-Second Annual Session of the Pee Dee Association of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina convened at Beaverdam Original Free Will Baptist Church in Columbus County, NC October 16, 2021.

The session opened as the congregation sang "Victory in Jesus." Moderator Rev. Dean Cartrette called the meeting to order and gave the devotional services, taking his text from 1 Kings 9: 1 – 7. Rev. James Howard Nobles led the congregation in prayer.

Rev. F. 'Buddy' Seay of Beaverdam Original Free Will Baptist Church gave the welcome address with response by the moderator.

The moderator welcomed everyone and invited visitors to enjoy the Association activities but reminded them that they could not take part in any business. Afterwards, the moderator announced the house in order for business.

The clerk reviewed a printed preliminary agenda which had been distributed to all delegates and guests and also shared that Assistant Moderator Rev. Heath Conner was substituting as treasurer due to Brother Ron Settle's absence.

The roll of churches was called. Macedonia and Pleasant Meadow were represented by letter but no delegates. Trinity and White Oak were not represented with either letter or delegates. All other churches were represented by letters and/or delegates.

The roll of ministers was called. Revs. George Benton, Joseph B. Benton, Gary Bryan, Bobby Carden, Eddie Carter, Freddie Edwards, Rickey Evans, Drake Harper, Donny Jernigan, Johnny Johnson, Hollon Norris, Colton Reaves, Edward Spivey, Clifford Strickland, Jamey Ward, William E. Ward, and Kenneth Woolwine were absent. Excuses were offered in behalf of Revs. George Benton, Joseph B. Benton, Gary Bryan, Freddie Edwards, Hollon Norris, Colton Reaves, Clifford Strickland, Jamey Ward, and Kenneth Woolwine. Rev. Derek Batten made a motion, which was properly seconded, to grant their requests. Motion carried.

The moderator appointed the following committees:

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: Jerry Godwin, Paul Nobles, & Jackie Spivey

OBITUARY: Elgin Cribb, Tommy Cribb, & Lynn Ward

RESOLUTION: Ricky Fowler, Rev. Wade McPherson & Harry Ransom

The moderator invited representatives from the denominational ministries to present their reports.

Rev. Mark Hobbs, President of the NC Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, brought greetings from the Convention and all its denominational ministries. He shared that though the 2021 Annual Convention had been cancelled due to Covid, plans were already underway for the 2022 convention scheduled for May 19, 2022. Rev. Hobbs shared that "special celebrations" would highlight the 2022 convention. Plans include to celebrate the Children's Home's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary; the University of Mount Olive's 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary; and the forthcoming retirement of Rev. Harold Jones, Director of Foreign Missions.

Others present who reviewed the work of their ministries included the following:

### Gail Heath—Ministry of Christian Education

- o reviewed the availability of camp scholarships for campers interested in attending Cragmont or Camp Vandemere; scholarships are due Dec. 1.
- o noted that camp scholarship money not used in recent years due to Covid was donated to Camp Vandemere and Cragmont.
- o shared that while some churches have restarted worship services, many have not begun Sunday School due to Covid. The Ministry of Christian Education is available to assist all churches in restarting Sunday School and to provide literature to smaller churches.
- o reminded everyone that nominations are encouraged for the "Sunday School Teacher of the Year" and "Sunday School Superintendent of the Year."

Rev. Harold Jones—Foreign Missions

- o indicated that after 40 years as Director of Foreign Missions, he plans to retire in 2022 after he has revisited the current mission fields.
- o shared that just as in the United States, Covid has taken the lives of many Free Will Baptist leaders in the nations where ministries exist. Prayers are much needed for all foreign mission ministries and leaders.
- o shared that he is available to visit and speak with local churches about the work of the Foreign Missions ministry—would love to visit the churches.

Dr. Ed Croom—President of the University of Mount Olive

- o shared that the University has adopted a theme of “renewal” for the current school year.
- o indicated that the university was in the process of re-evaluating the Department of Religion & Christian Studies.
- o noted that the annual church dinners have been cancelled due to Covid but that churches are encouraged to have a “UMO Day.” Church leaders may contact the university as to how it can be part of the activity.
- o shared his personal vision for the university over the next three – five years.

All presenters asked for sincere prayer, and all emphasized that their main purpose is to seek the unsaved and bring them to salvation through the Lord Jesus Christ.

Rev. F. ‘Buddy’ Seay moved to accept the reports and presentations as information; motion was seconded and carried.

The congregation sang a hymn and collected an offering for the Children’s Home (\$320.00).

The clerk called for and read church letters.

Following the morning recess, the moderator called the house back to order and re-convened with prayer by Rev. Heath Conner.

The moderator called for the clerk to read the committees’ reports.

**REPORTS**

**RESOLUTION**

We, the resolution committee, have no resolutions to bring at this time.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ricky Fowler  
Rev. Wade McPherson  
Harry Ransom

Report was received, & the committee was dismissed by motion (seconded & carried) from Rev. James Howard Nobles.

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

We, your committee, recommend that all our churches and homes use the King James Version of the Bible and that all literature distributed in our churches be of the King James Version only. We also request that more material exclusive to the King James Version be made available to local churches and that the material be free of references to other biblical versions.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jerry Godwin  
Paul Nobles  
Jackie Spivey

Report was received, & the committee was dismissed by motion (seconded & carried) from Rev. Jeff Westerfield.

### **OBITUARY**

We, your committee, regret to report that to the best of our knowledge, we had 27 deaths during this past year. We ask the congregation to stand and pause in silent prayer in memory of these brothers and sisters in Christ.

Respectfully submitted,

Elgin Cribb  
Tommy Cribb  
Lynn Ward

Report was received, & the committee was dismissed by motion (seconded & carried) from Rev. Jeff Westerfield.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Beginning balance (October 20, 2020)	2345.39
Deposit from Association	<u>1449.00</u>
TOTAL	\$3794.39

Checks for the past year	
# 528 Dr. Danny McPherson	125.00
# 529 Rev. Dean Cartrette	125.00
# 530 Ron Settle	125.00
# 531 Dr. Danny McPherson (postage)	32.00
# 532 Convention of Original Free Will Baptists (yearbooks)	330.00
# 533 Budget Printing	<u>517.74</u>
TOTAL CHECKS	\$1254.74

Balance (October 16, 2021)	\$2539.65
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Respectfully submitted,

Ron Settle, treasurer

Treasurer's report was accepted by motion (seconded & carried) from Rev. Derek Batten.

### **ORDAINING COUNCIL**

The Ordaining Council had no business to take care of during the past year.

Respectfully submitted,

The Pee Dee Association Ordaining Council  
Rev. Dallas Byrd, clerk

Rev. Sonny R. Williams Jr. moved to accept the report. Motion was seconded and carried.

Rev. Dallas Byrd made a motion that the Pee Dee Association extend the right hand of fellowship to Rev. Jacob Cribb, Rev. Eugene Gaskin, and

Rev. Sonny R. Williams Jr. Motion was seconded and carried.

### **NOTE:**

Rev. Drake Harper was not present, so the Association will extend the right hand of fellowship to him at the 2022 annual meeting.

### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The last two years have been a challenge for our world, for our nation—for individuals, families, communities, and churches. The Covid pandemic has affected every aspect of society—healthcare, schools & universities, churches, businesses, government, law enforcement, fire & rescue agencies—the list is endless. And whether from sickness or death, there have been and still are much hurt and pain within our communities. But though much has changed, God has not! He is still God the Father: the "I AM THAT I AM," He told Moses; the Creator of the universe who said of Himself, "I am the LORD, I change not" (Malachi 3: 6). He is God the Son: "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever" (Hebrews

13: 8); the “Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty” (Revelation 1: 8). He is God the Spirit: the “Comforter” that Jesus Himself prayed that God the Father would send so “that he may abide with you for ever” (John 14: 16). He is God the Word: “Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away” (Matthew 25: 35); “The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand forever” (Isaiah 40: 8). With all those promises, when “this I call to my mind, therefore have I hope. It is of the LORD’S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness. The LORD is my portion, saith my soul; therefore will I hope in him” (Lamentations 3: 21 – 24). Nothing speaks the love and faithfulness of God more than the Word of God itself. As the bride of Christ, let us claim and hold fast to these promises. In uncertain times, God is always our strength.

Despite the challenges we have faced, the Executive Committee is thankful that, to the best of our knowledge, the spirit and commitment of our congregations are strong. As always, we urge ministers and local congregations to remain faithful in their unity of the spirit, in their commitment to the local church, in their ministry to the saved and unsaved, and above all, in their absolute devotion to God. We also encourage pastors and church leaders to continue using creative but safe ways to share the gospel and to minister to their local congregations during the ongoing COVID 19 virus epidemic. As churches have restarted in-person services, some congregants still may be hesitant to return due to personal or family health concerns, and we certainly understand those situations. If, however, our church families become aware of others who have not yet returned to worship, let us with meekness and love let them know we miss them and encourage them to come be with us in the house of God.

#### Meeting Sunday, May 23, 2021 (3:00 p.m.)

The Executive Committee met Sunday, May 23, 2021 (3:00 p.m.) at Beaverdam Original Free Will Baptist Church. Members present included Rev. Dean Cartrette, Rev. Heath Connor, Rev. Larry Greenwood, and Dr. Danny McPherson. Brother Ron Settle was absent. The moderator shared a devotion from Acts 2: 1 – 8 after which Rev. Conner led the group in prayer.

The clerk shared that because Rev. F. ‘Buddy’ Seay had served two consecutive terms on the Executive Committee of the Convention, he could not serve a third consecutive term. After a break in service, a former representative on the Convention’s Executive Committee may serve again. Therefore, the Executive Committee of the Pee Dee Association needed to recommend a replacement to fill Rev. Seay’s vacancy because his term ended in May 2021. Rev. Larry Greenwood made a motion, seconded by Rev. Heath Conner, to recommend Dr. Danny McPherson to serve on the Convention’s Executive Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

McPherson shared that the Executive Committee should consider whether or not to plan for the 2021 Annual Meeting of the Pee Dee Association. Following discussion, Rev. Heath Conner made a motion, seconded by Rev. Greenwood, to plan for the 2021 Annual Association scheduled for Saturday, October 16 but to relocate it from Macedonia Original Free Will Baptist Church to Beaverdam Original Free Will Baptist Church in order to accommodate any need for social distancing related to the Covid virus. Motion carried unanimously. The clerk would contact Rev. Jamey Ward, pastor of Macedonia Free Will Baptist Church, and Rev. Buddy Seay, pastor of Beaverdam Original Free Will Baptist Church, to share these actions, and, if agreeable to all parties, McPherson would send a letter to all ministers of the Pee Dee advising them and their churches of these plans.

Rev. Larry Greenwood made a motion, seconded by Rev. Conner, to ask Rev. Jeff Barton, pastor of Cypress Creek Original Free Will Baptist Church, to bring the message at the 2021 Annual Association of the Pee Dee Association. Motion carried unanimously.

The Committee set Sunday, September 12, 2021 (3:00 p.m.) for its annual joint meeting with the Ordaining Council. McPherson would include this note on the letters mailed to Ordaining Council members.

With no other business, Rev. Heath Conner made a motion, seconded by Rev. Greenwood, to adjourn by benediction. Motion passed unanimously.

#### Meeting Sunday, September 12, 2021 (3:00 p.m.)

The Executive Committee and the Ordaining Council met jointly on Sunday afternoon, September 12, 2021 (3:00 p.m.) at Beaverdam Original Free Will Baptist Church. Members of the Ordaining Council present included Rev. Dallas Byrd, Rev. James Howard Nobles, Rev. Buddy Seay, & Rev. Kenneth Woolwine. Rev. Jamey Ward was absent. Members of the Executive Committee who were present included Rev. Dean Cartrette, Rev. Heath Conner, & Dr. Danny McPherson. Rev. Larry Greenwood and Brother Ron Settle were absent.

The moderator welcomed everyone and shared a devotion from Nehemiah 8:17 & 18 and Nehemiah 9:1–7 and then led the group in prayer.

After the entire group discussed the tentative plans for the 2021 annual meeting, the Executive Committee agreed to proceed with the 2021 Annual Meeting of the Pee Dee Association on Saturday, October 16, 2021 at Beaverdam Original Free Will Baptist Church. Due to the Covid virus, the group agreed upon the following precautionary measures:

- to lengthen the morning recess during which packaged refreshments would be available to those in attendance;
- not to serve lunch;
- to encourage social distancing and wearing masks; and
- to communicate these protocols with all ministers and church clerks who should share the information with delegates and others planning to attend the annual meeting.

Rev. Conner made a motion, seconded by McPherson, to include an agenda item at the annual meeting asking the Association to approve the Executive Committee's action recommending Bro. Danny McPherson to fill the vacancy on the Convention's Executive Committee as the Pee Dee Association representative—an action the Executive Committee had to take while the Association was out of session. Motion carried unanimously.

Rev. Dallas Byrd, clerk of the Ordaining Council, asked that the agenda include an opportunity for the right hand of fellowship to be extended to Rev. Jacob Cribb and Rev. Eugene Gaskin since they were unable to be so recognized in 2020 because the annual meeting was cancelled.

Because Rev. Byrd recently lost his home & its contents due to fire, the clerk volunteered to copy recent Ordaining Council annual reports and to mail them to Rev. Byrd.

The clerk mentioned that he thought it would be appropriate for the Association to show its appreciation for the men of God who share the Gospel. One way to express appreciation for their service could be to give a \$100 love offering to the annual speaker of the Association. Therefore, McPherson made a motion, seconded by Rev. Conner, recommending that the Association give a \$100 love offering to the annual speaker of the Association effective with the 2021 annual meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

The clerk shared that the Association would elect officers and select its nominee to serve on the Executive Committee of the State Convention at this annual meeting.

With no other business, McPherson made a motion, second by Rev. Conner, to adjourn by benediction. Motion carried unanimously, and Rev. Conner offered the benediction.

The Executive Committee's report is respectfully submitted,

Dr. Danny McPherson, clerk

Rev. James Howard Nobles moved to accept the report; motion was seconded & carried.

Rev. James Howard Nobles moved to omit the reading of the 2019 Association minutes and the 2020 Association "Report" because both were printed and made available to all churches, and the 2019 minutes were also available via the *Yearbook*. Motion carried.

### **OLD or UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

### **NEW BUSINESS**

The clerk share that those who serve on the Executive Committee of the Convention may serve no more than two consecutive terms after which they must have a break in service. However, after a break in service, a former representative on the Convention's Executive Committee may serve again.

Rev. F. 'Buddy' Seay had served two consecutive terms as of May 2021 and, therefore, could not serve a third consecutive term. Therefore, at its May 23, 2021 meeting, the Executive Committee of the Pee Dee Association had to recommend a replacement to fill Rev. Seay's vacancy because his term ended in May 2021. So, acting as the Association out of session, the Executive Committee of the Pee Dee Association recommended Brother Danny McPherson to serve a two-year term on the Convention Executive Committee ending May 2022. At this annual meeting, the clerk recommended that the Association consider a motion approving OR taking another action regarding the Committee's action recommending Bro.

Danny McPherson to fill the vacancy on the Convention's Executive Committee as the Pee Dee Association representative for the term ending May 2022.

Rev. Sonny R. Williams Jr. made a motion to approve Bro. Danny McPherson to fill the vacancy on the Convention's Executive Committee as the Pee Dee Association representative for the term ending May 2022. Motion was seconded and carried.

The clerk then shared that for the Pee Dee to have its recommendation for the Executive Committee representative to the Convention Nominating Committee on time, the Association needed to choose its recommendation today and on "odd years" henceforth. (The reason for this suggestion is that the two-year terms for those serving on the Convention Executive Committee end after the annual Convention. Because the annual meeting of the Pee Dee Association comes after the Convention, its recommendation would be too late to be considered.)

Rev. F. 'Buddy' Seay made a motion to select the person to recommend as the Pee Dee representative on the Convention Executive Committee for the term beginning after Annual Convention 2022 and ending after the Annual Convention 2024. Motion was seconded and carried.

The moderator opened the floor for nominations for the Pee Dee representative on the Convention Executive Committee for the term beginning after Annual Convention 2022 and ending after the Annual Convention 2024. Rev. James Howard Nobles nominated Danny McPherson. With no other nominations, Brother Elgin Cribb moved to close the nominations. Motion was seconded and carried. Brother Danny McPherson was chosen as the recommendation to the State Nominating Committee for their consideration.

The clerk shared that though the Association did not meet in 2020, the work of the Association continued. That work was recorded in the "Report of the 151<sup>st</sup> Year of the Pee Dee Association of Original Free Will Baptists." McPherson recommended, however, that the Association take action to accept or not to accept all information in the "Report of the 151<sup>st</sup> Year of the Pee Dee Association of Original Free Will Baptists" as information and to approve or not the 2020 Treasurer's Report, the 2020 Ordaining Council's Report, and the 2020 Executive Committee's Report.

Rev. James Howard Nobles made a motion to accept all information in the "Report of the 151<sup>st</sup> Year of the Pee Dee Association of Original Free Will Baptists" as information and to approve the 2020 Treasurer's Report, the 2020 Ordaining Council's Report, and the 2020 Executive Committee's Report. Motion was seconded and carried.

The clerk shared that at its September 21, 2021 meeting, the Executive Committee discussed how the Association might show appreciation for the men of God who preach the Gospel. One way would be to give a \$100 love offering to the speaker at the Association's annual meeting. McPherson offered this recommendation to the Association for consideration.

Rev. James Howard Nobles made a motion to accept the Executive Committee's recommendation and to give a \$100 love offering to the speaker at the Association's annual meeting beginning with the current meeting. Motion was seconded and carried.

The moderator reminded delegates and guests that the State Convention is in the process of examining and revising the *Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists*. Rev. F. 'Buddy' Seay (Ordaining Council) and the moderator, Rev. Dean Cartrette (Executive Committee), represent the Pee Dee. (NOTE: Initially, Dr. Danny McPherson served until he had to resign due to family illnesses. At that point, Rev. Cartrette filled the vacancy.) Rev. Cartrette indicated that various sub-committees review specific sections of the *Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists*, after which the entire committee reviews, discusses, and prepares any "final" recommended changes. Once the committee has completed the entire process, the final product will be reviewed at various levels including the Conference/Association level. The intent is for all Free Will Baptists to have an opportunity to review the product before any final action is taken.

The moderator noted that this was the year to elect officers. Rev. Derek Batten moved to elect the same officers for the next two-year cycle. Motion was seconded and carried. Officers include...

Rev. Dean Cartrette, Moderator

Rev. Heath Conner, Assistant Moderator

Bro. Ron Settle, Treasurer

Rev. Larry Greenwood, Member-at-large  
Dr. Danny D. McPherson, Clerk

Rev. James Howard Nobles moved (seconded & carried) to pay officers as usual.  
Brother Elgin Cribb reminded delegates and preachers to follow rules of order during the business session—rules such as to stand and be recognized by the moderator before addressing the body. Similar sentiments were echoed by Rev. James Howard Nobles.

Rev. Jacob Cribb moved to select a home for the 2022 annual meeting. Motion carried.

Rev. Jackie Strickland invited the Association to meet at Oak Grove Original Free Will Baptist Church for the 2022 annual meeting scheduled for October 15, 2022. Rev. Larry Greenwood moved that the invitation be accepted; motion was seconded and carried.

Rev. Jeff Westerfield moved to give Beaverdam Original Free Will Baptist Church a standing vote of thanks for their hospitality. Motion was seconded and carried.

In other business, the clerk shared that two days earlier (Thursday, October 14, 2021), he received a letter from the clerk of White Oak Original Free Will Baptist Church stating the church’s “intention to withdraw from the NC Association of Original Free Will Baptists, the Pee Dee Conference, and Union 1.” McPherson stated that the Executive Committee was not presenting this information for any action by the Association today. The Executive Committee will investigate the matter, along with appropriate responses and protocols related to the matter, and will report to the Association at a later date.

Rev. Buddy Seay moved (seconded & carried) to receive the report as information.

Rev. Larry Greenwood moved to adjourn the business portion of the annual meeting and to enter worship service. Motion was seconded and carried.

Rev. Jeff Barton, pastor of Cypress Creek Original Free Will Baptist Church, delivered the morning message.

As a precautionary measure related to Covid 19, the Executive Committee took action earlier asking that lunch not be served at this annual meeting. Therefore, after the morning message, Rev. Dean Cartrette adjourned the annual meeting with benediction.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Dean Cartrette  
Moderator

Dr. Danny D. McPherson  
Clerk