

Minutes of the Union Association Hillsdale Conference February 26, 2005

The meeting began at 10:00 a.m. at Woodward Free Will Baptist Church with music from New Life, Hillsdale's ministry team. Tim Eaton then shared some history of Hillsdale. Following a break, Steve Torrison, missionary appointee to Panama and member of Woodward FWB, spoke, telling anecdotes from their training and deputation. His wife, Lori, then sang "Your Grace Still Amazes Me."

Stacy Ross, pastor of the Guymon FWB Church and Hillsdale graduate, preached from Phillippians 2:19-24 on "Approved Character." Allen Mabra announced that the boards would meet during the lunch hour. Bro Steve Torrison led in prayer for the noon meal.

Convening after lunch, Bro. Stacy Ross gave the moderator's devotion. He then asked for the reading of the minutes. A correction was made to ask the Treasurer to send \$200 more to the FWB Family Ministries. Diane Smith made a motion to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Letters from the churches were read from all seven churches and delegates were present from all churches except Enid. Bro. Charlie Murphy made a motion to seat the delegates. It carried.

Bro. Allen Mabra gave the Treasurer's Report for Jane Gaston. He then moved to accept the report. It carried.

Allen Mabra then gave the Executive/Credentials Board report. (1) They had examined the books from September through August and found them to be satisfactory. Motion made and accepted to approve. Carried. (2) They recommended Erin Hale from Woodward FWB be given \$500 for her E-Team missions trip to Uruguay. Charlie Murphy moved to accept. Motion carried. (3) They recommended making up the difference between the church offering and the association's commitment of \$5,000 to the Hillsdale Chapel Fund. Charlie Murphy moved to accept. Motion carried.

Allen Mabra then gave the State Mission Board Report. He said Total Support Program giving was down a little at the end of the year, but up again at the beginning of this year. The Oak Hills church has gone self-supporting and Heartland is close.

Evan Parker gave the C.E. Board report. Bro. Stacy Ross is to be the camp evangelist this year, which will be from June 25 to July 1st. There is still a need for teachers for the 4th and 5th grades. Registration fees are due June 1st.

Susan Parker gave the Women Active for Christ report. It was accepted as information. Belva Mabra announced that a district CTS competition would be held in March if she received word of entries other than Woodward's. Bro. Murphy made a motion to give a standing vote of thanks to the Woodward church for their hospitality and thanks to the officers of the association. Motion carried. The moderator called for adjournment and the meeting was dismissed in prayer.

Clerk, Belva Mabra

**Minutes of the Union Association Mission Conference and Annual Meeting
Held September 17, 2005 at Woodward Free Will Baptist Church**

Host pastor Allen Mabra welcomed all present, stating that, although this is our Missions Conference, there are currently no missionaries on furlough in the state. Therefore, our speakers will be Bro. Jim Puckett, State Missions Director, and Allen Mabra, Chairman of the Oklahoma State Mission Board.

Bro. Bob Hale led the congregational singing. He then sang "Until Then" as a solo. Sis. Mary Johnson sang "His Eye Is on the Sparrow."

Bro. Jim Puckett spoke first. He mentioned that all missionaries are currently on the field, serving, and that there is a great need for the church to be praying for God to send more. He spoke from II Kings 7:1-10, equating the lepers' concern for Jerusalem to our concern for the church. He said God's heart is a missionary heart.

Next, the church showed a "video postcard" from Steve and Lori Torrison, missionaries to Panama from the Woodward church. They are currently in language school in Costa Rica. Erin Hale, Lori's younger sister, showed photographs of her recent E-Team mission trip to Uruguay. She thanked the association and its churches for their support and sang.

Bro. Allen Mabra preached from Ephesians 4:8-11 and Acts 13. He made the point that God gave evangelists (or missionaries) as a gift to the church, and gives the church the job of support. He said God does not call slackers or lazy people, he calls workers who are already working where they are.

Following the lunch break and congregational singing, Moderator Stacy Ross called the meeting to order. The clerk read the minutes of the previous meeting. They were approved as read. She then read the individual church letters. Bro. Charlie Murphy moved to accept the letters and seat the delegates. Motion carried.

Bro. Allen Mabra read the Treasurer's Report for Jane Gaston. He moved to accept the report. It carried. He then gave the Executive/Credentials Board Report:

- (1) Allen Boles was examined and approved for a license to preach for one year if the association approves. Bro. Murphy moved to accept. It carried.
- (2) To give the Total Support Program \$2,500 plus today's offering. Bro. Red Chastine moved to approve. Carried.
- (3) For a period of one year, to move the association meetings to Sunday evening, meeting at 5:00 pm with a meal to follow. The Hillsdale Conference would be February 26 and the Missions Conference/Annual Meeting would be September 17th. A vote would be taken at the Annual Meeting to decide whether or not to continue or change. Bro. Evan Parker moved to approve. Bro. Charlie Murphy seconded and spoke to its approval as hoping to improve attendance. Discussion followed. An amendment was offered by Clarence Shepherd to begin at 4:00 pm and allow the Exec. Committee to determine the order of service. Following a second, the amendment and the amended motion carried. Information is to be provided to churches by way of a reminder.

Election of Officers

Bro. Allen Mabra made a motion to return all officers except the Clerk and Assistant Clerk. Motion was seconded and carried. Belva Mabra nominated Sis. Jeanne Hale for the position of Clerk and offered to take the Assistant position. Nominations were ceased and they were elected.

The Executive Board position held by Bro. Scott Gaston was rotating off. Allen Mabra nominated Bro. Scott Gaston to the position. Nominations ceased and he was elected by acclamation. Sister Mary Yandell was re-elected to a position on the Christian Education Board.

Sister Susan Parker gave the Women Active for Christ report. She reported that they plan to meet in Clinton the last Saturday in March and in Woodward the last Saturday in August. Sis. Jill Lightsey is the delegate to both the State and National meetings.

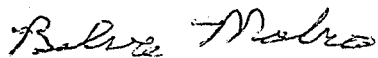
Bro. Evan Parker gave the Christian Education Board report. He stated that three children were saved at this year's camp. The camp lost money.

Bro. Jim Puckett gave the State Mission Board report – he gave thanks for the TSP offering. He reported that both 2004 and 2005 were down somewhat in giving to the Total Support Program and asked for promotion of October as TSP emphasis month. He said they were good years in other ways, however. Several works have gone self-supporting – the Chandler, Arizona work is doing well, the Edmond work also. There have been new missionaries going out – Howells to Uruguay and the Torrison to Panama by way of Costa Rica. Grove, Oklahoma has a new work started by a bi-vocational pastor. The Perpetual Land Fund received a gift from the H.I.S. Foundation to be used for purchasing land and building buildings for new churches.

Bro. Clarence Shepherd was elected to the State General Board for 2006. State Delegates from the churches were: Clinton – Janie Murphy, Woodward – Belva Mabra, German Church – Jill Lightsey, Guymon – Kelly Ross, and Antioch – Pauline Shepherd. Enid and Pampa had no delegate given.

Bro. Charlie Murphy stood to say thank you to the officers who serve, those who drive to the meetings, the good fellowship meal, and offered a motion to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting was dismissed in prayer, led by Bro. Allen Mabra.

Respectfully submitted,



Belva Mabra, Clerk