

Council of Associations meeting
November 13, 2017
9:00 am

Welcome and prayer by Chairman Josh Carpenter. He shared Mathew 9:9.

47 Council of Association representatives were in attendance with 35 Associations represented.

Chairman Carpenter conducted orientation for new members.

Meeting was called to order and the agenda was accepted by consensus.

Permission to deviate from agenda was accepted by consensus

The following newly elected Council of Association members were seated:

<i>Brian Burris</i>	<i>Central Ill</i>	<i>Thomas Fields</i>	<i>Cherokee Home</i>
<i>Mat Murphy</i>	<i>Evansville</i>	<i>Shawn Bradford</i>	<i>Galilee</i>
<i>Earl Day</i>	<i>Green River Union</i>	<i>Thomas Entinghe</i>	<i>Michiana</i>
<i>Bryan Johnson</i>	<i>MOARK</i>	<i>Rick Strole</i>	<i>Mt Olivet</i>
<i>Charles Causey</i>	<i>North Liberty</i>	<i>Russell Smith</i>	<i>Union Grove</i>
<i>David Kiegel</i>	<i>United of IN</i>	<i>Billy Henderson</i>	<i>Wolf Bayou</i>

Executive Council Chairman Jim Schremp gave the recommendation by Executive Council to make a change to the

Bylaws Article IV - Executive Council, 2. *The Personnel Committee shall be comprised of seven members elected by the Executive Council to guide the search process for the executive director and for the directors of the ministry departments who are subject to the direction of the executive director. The Personnel Committee shall conduct annual and periodic evaluations of ~~staff~~ **Executive Director**, and shall negotiate in conflict situations, and shall assume any other duties specified in the job description approved by the Council of Associations.*

- Motion and second to accept the recommendation from the Executive Council.
Carried

Executive Director Clint Cook thanked everyone for taking the time to attend this important meeting. He asked the Leadership Team to all come to the front. He talked about the General Baptist Anniversary coming up. The Leadership Team has been talking about and asking what God wants for the denomination leading up to the 2023 anniversary. Sometimes we over estimate what we can do in one year but under estimate what we can do in 3-5 years. Direction determines destination. So we need to set the direction for the coming years. He wants General Baptist to raise up 200 young leaders in the USA by the year 2023. We need to get ready for them. The first component to reaching this goal, pray for a next generation leader, Numbers 27:15-17. Second component, identify 200 young leaders. Third, expose and stretch these

young leaders that have been identified. Fourth, educate and train. Fifth is fundraising. Sixth is formal education. Seventh is other education.

Congregational Director Dr. Franklin Dumond directed everyone to the charts in his report so he could give a better explanation. The Mission & Ministry Summit continues to gain new attendees each year. 2017 Evansville event had approximately 307 new attendees that were not already in our database. He went on to say that his Legacy work is decreasing and he is very happy about that trend. Turnaround 20/20 is doing well. Dr. Dumond talked about the excellent training that will be available at the 2018 Mission & Ministry Summit.

International Director Mark Powell started by saying that before he became a director he was a Council Representative. He highlighted some things from his written report. He said he was amazed to find that only 14% of every dollar stays in Poplar Bluff. Powell highlighted the number of salvations in our international churches to be 1,060 and explained that Jamaica indentifies baptismal events and not individual people baptized. Jamaica had 15 baptismal events. There are now three Bible Institutes in Mexico. Powell talked about Honduras and Faith Home where we now have a medical doctor, and educational specialist, and a psychologist who worked for Family Services. With these additions the cost of operating Faith Home has increased. The decision has been made to increase the sponsorship amounts. New Faith Home Child Sponsorships will now be \$25.00. **LAUNCH Give** has raised \$50,000 which goes to missions. Ed Stevens offering is approaching \$40,000. Several weeks prior to this offering, many were devastated by flooding and destruction, so giving is down for Ed Stevens. There have been 13 participants in the internship program that Dr. Jim Pratt heads up. Powell said there is a SIM card for cell phones that have the "Jesus Message" on them. This is something that is burdening his heart. He wants to be able to use this to spread the gospel.

Admin, Pension & Foundation Director Linda McDonough directed everyone to her printed report. The 'Emergency Fund' will be fully funded by January; this will help with the budget next year. The Pension and Foundation posted some of the largest gains with no losses. She expressed her sincere thanks for all the cards, messages and especially for the prayers this past year.

Barnabas Project Leader John Brumfiel explained what the Barnabas Project is all about. It's a support group for pastors. Since April there have been close to 2,200 contacts made. This group was able to participate with a break-out session at the last Summit and the Ministers Conference. He said it is an honor to be able to minister to ministers.

Go Project & National Missions Leader Carl Nichols said when he came into this role almost 3 years ago, National Missions was operating on a \$75,000 deficit and was operating by putting planters on the field and then hoping there would be money to fund them. There are 2 church planters at this time. A few days prior to launch day for both churches the area was flooded. The assessment method is being changed to make

sure the church planters are better communicators. An internship program was launched earlier this year to train young leaders in ministry.

Launch Boot Camp Director Dr. Jim Pratt explained that this is for 7th grade through 12th grade that will meet on a weekend in January 2019, to seek God's will in their lives. This is not just another retreat; it's a self assessment to seek God's call on their life.

Table discussion about what was said in these reports.

They were excited about the internship program. Excited about how 200 leaders by 2023 and the impact that will make. How fast the denomination has responded to training leadership. Excited about Mark's report and that only 14% of GBIM budget stays at the office. Liked the idea of using SIM card to reach people and tell them about Christ.

Questions followed.

- Motion and second to accept Executive Director's report. Carried.

Executive Council election results:

Mat Murphy	Evansville Area	Bob Comer	Generation
Kirk Bodem	Michigan	Kenneth Sullivan	Mt. Union
Byron Beck	Poplar Bluff	Steve Dame	Union
David Kiegel	United of IN	Billy Henderson	Wolf Bayou

Evaluation Committee report was in the meeting packet.

- Motion and second to receive the Evaluation Committee report. Carried.

Oakland City University President Dr Ray Barber reported. Recently OCU had Founders Day with Mark Powell speaking. The Board of Directors met at that time and voted to start a new building project. The board also began a strategic plan, with several layers of participation. This plan leads into what was discussed about increased training for young General Baptist leaders. This fall, OCU will be offering a new Bachelor of Arts degree in Christian Studies. This will help General Baptist pastors and lay people.

- Motion and second to receive OCU report. Carried.

Stinson Press President Dwayne Foster reported. The printing industry is changing. Stinson Board will be discussing its current properties so that it can get to where Stinson Press can give back to the ministry.

- Motion and second to receive Stinson Press report. Carried.

Women's Ministry Executive Director Patti Thornton reported they have a new booklet that Stinson Press printed. Inside Out Women's Event was hosted by Skyline Church this year and they went all out to take care of the ladies. She recently attended the North American Baptist Women's meeting in Canada. Thornton went on to encourage this council not to overlook women for leadership roles.

- Motion and second to receive Women's Ministry report. Carried.

General Baptist Investment Fund President Steve Naff reported. Much the same as long time General Baptist people do not know they can buy shares to support children at Faith Home,

many do not know they can invest in the ministry and make it possible for churches to borrow for building expansions and such. GBIF is basically a savings and loan. It also sponsors many of the General Baptist events. Next year is projected to be a good year.

- Motion and second to receive the GBIF report. Carried.

Table discussion:

What current needs do your local churches have that denominational ministries could assist with?

C/A needs to do a better job of communicating.

How to communicate to new families that have no GB roots.

More tools to communicate what it is to be GB as a church. Could do this in SS or small groups.

More training for rural churches, specific to them.

Mission opportunities for new start-up minded people.

Have local or regional mini Summits.

Natural skepticism on whether HQ will actually help the local association. Trust issues.

Technology training needs. Contextualized.

Endowment information. Estate planning.

What resources do your local churches have that are not being utilized by our denominational ministries?

Finding a way to use the resource of endurance.

Resources could be shared from church to church.

Need web based portal to share resources.

Our denominational ministry is a give and take.

Nominating Committee report

C/A Chairman Josh Carpenter

Vice Chairman Joey Rupard

Nominating Committee – Kenneth Sullivan, Kirk Bodem, and Janet Farris

Ministry Evaluation Committee – Byron Beck & Debbie Epps

Constitution & Bylaws – Bob Comer

Foundation/Stewardship – Charles Smith & Mark White

Pension Trust – Jim French & Don Key

- Motion and second to accept the nominations and proceed to elect. Carried.

Byron Beck was elected to Executive Council so he cannot serve on Evaluation Committee.

David Johnson was nominated from the floor to the Ministry Evaluation Committee.

- Motion and second nominations cease and proceed to elect. Carried.

Election of General Baptist Council of Association's Corporate Officers

- Motion and second to elect Clint Cook as President and Kelly Copeland as Secretary. Carried.

M&M Summit report was given by Jeff Roth. July 16-19, 2018 is the next meeting. He met with some volunteers a few weeks ago. The Summit will have Carey Nieuwhof and Karl Vaters. Roth says there will be some great training from these speakers. The theme is do everything "For His Glory." He asked the pastors if they were called to lead their church. We have a command to go to all the nations with the gospel. It is not a suggestion; it is a command so He can show His power in us for His glory.

Other business

The question of whether churches should be able to join the General Association and not be part of a local Association.

- Motion and second to adjourn at 2:31. Carried with closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Kelly Copeland, Secretary
Council of Associations

Organization of Executive Council Immediately following adjournment

The Executive Council met in order to organize its new members.
Chairman Jim Schremp opened nominations for Chairman and Vice Chairman.

- Motion and second to retain Jim Schremp as Chairman of the Executive Council. Carried.
- Motion and second to retain Steve Dame as Vice Chairman of the Executive Council. Carried.
- Motion and second to retain Joey Rupard as the Member at Large. Carried.
- Motion and second to retain Kirk Bodem to the Personnel Committee. Carried.
- Motion and second to elect Byron Beck to the Personnel Committee. Carried.
- Motion and second to elect Mat Murphy, Kenneth Sullivan, and Tammy Scheller to the Budget Committee. Carried.

On the Personnel Committee – Motion and second to retain Ron Jagers as Chairman. Carried. Motion and second to elect Dustin Thompson as Vice Chairman. Carried. Motion and second to elect Lance Johnson as Secretary. Carried.

On the Budget Committee – Motion and second to elect Pat Dunivan as Chairman. Carried. Motion and second to elect Jim Rudolph as Secretary. Carried. This committee did not elect a Vice Chairman.

- Motion and second to adjourn at 2:43. Carried.

Preliminary Dates for 2018

Executive Council: April 10, 2018 @ 9:00 a.m. and October 2, 2018.

Council of Associations: May 7, 2018 (OCU) and November 12, 2018 (Poplar Bluff).

Evaluation Committee: January/February to review 2017 progress toward goals and October to review proposed 2019 goals.

Personnel Committee: January/February for review and October to prepare for Executive Council meeting.

Budget Committee: March to review draft of 2019 budget and October to prepare for Executive Council meeting by reviewing and revising 2019 budget.