

Minutes of the Executive Board Meeting
June 24, 2013 at 6:30 p.m.
at First General Baptist Church, Kennett, MO

The following were in attendance:

Mark Book, Moderator/CE Board Rep
Wanda Britt, Member at Large
Frank Brown, Member at Large
James Turner, Member at Large
Todd Milburn, Presbytery Moderator
Danny Dortch, Presbytery Clerk
Lisa Hargrave, Association Clerk

The meeting was called to order and members welcomed by Moderator Mark Book.

Opening prayer was given by Mark Book.

The minutes of the previous meeting were examined. A motion and second was made to accept the minutes as presented. This was carried.

The financial report of the MoArk Association was examined. A motion and second was made to accept the report as presented. This was carried.

Old Business:

- No old business.

Board Reports:

- A motion and second to accept the written Nominating Committee report. This was carried.
- The written Presbytery report was reviewed. A motion and second was made to accept the report. This was carried.
- The Christian Education Board presented a written report to the Executive Board. This report was examined. An oral report was also given regarding current plans for a Fall workshop. A motion and second was made to accept the reports as presented. This was carried.
- The MoArk Missions report was examined. A motion and second was made to accept the report. This was carried.
- The Council of Associations representative submitted a written report to the Executive Board. A motion and second was made to accept the report as presented. This was carried.
- Oral report given for Camp Allen. A motion and second was made to accept the report. This was carried.

- The Bill Haynes Scholarship Fund written financial report was submitted. A motion and second was made to raise the reimbursement amounts by an additional \$50 for each level. A motion and second was made to accept the written report. This was carried.

New Business:

- The Christian Education Board offered to coordinate with the Executive Board to help secure training and presenters for the Annual Association in lieu of the CE Board’s Spring workshop. A motion and second was made to accept this offer for the 2014 Association. This was carried.
- The Association will be celebrating 100th anniversary in March 2014. The moderator shared ideas for the meeting. The moderator opened the floor to ideas for the Association meeting.
- The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 15 at 6:00 p.m.
- A motion and second was made to adjourn. This was carried.
- Closing prayer was given by Todd Milburn.

Reports Presented to the Executive Board

General Association Fund Report

Date	Num	Description	Memo	Amount	
1/1/2012		Beginning Balance Jan 1, 2012			\$17,526.34
1/29/2013	DEP	Church Dues	Church Dues	\$2,202.00	\$19,728.34
2/5/2013	485	Drury Hotels	Jeff Smith Assoc. Speaker	(\$80.44)	\$19,647.90
2/9/2013	486	Clerk Reimbursement	March 2012-March 2013	(\$800.00)	\$18,847.90
2/12/2013	DEP	MoArk Presbytery	1/2 Website Fee	\$150.00	\$18,997.90
2/12/2013	DEP	Church Dues	Church Dues	\$6,318.00	\$25,315.90
3/15/2013	DEP	Church Dues	Church Dues	\$2,262.00	\$27,577.90
3/20/2013	487	MoArk Missions	19% Disbursement	(\$2,048.58)	\$25,529.32
3/20/2013	488	MoArk Christian Education	15% Disbursement	(\$1,617.30)	\$23,912.02
3/20/2013	489	MoArk Youth	15% Disbursement	(\$1,617.30)	\$22,294.72
3/20/2013	490	Bill Haynes Scholarship Fund	2% Disbursement	(\$215.64)	\$22,079.08
3/20/2013	491	Camp Allen	Gift 10% Dues	(\$1,078.20)	\$21,000.88
3/22/2013	492	General Association	Dues 1797 members x .75	(\$1,347.75)	\$19,653.13
3/22/2013	493	Jeff Smith	Assoc. Speaker Honorarium	(\$500.00)	\$19,153.13
3/27/2013		Bank error	Ck 487 processed as 2048.48	\$0.10	\$19,153.23
6/19/2013	DEP	Clay Co. Electric	Refund	\$43.02	\$19,196.25
					\$19,196.25
					\$19,196.25

\$19,196.25

Nominating Committee Report for June 24, 2013 Executive Board Meeting

The Nominating Committee does not have anything new at this time. We are always thinking of ways to come up with names of people to serve. Any suggestions or nominees from the executive board would be great.

—Paula Richardson, Chairman

Presbytery Report for June 24, 2013 Executive Board Meeting

I am not aware of any updates for the Presbytery. The second reading of the proposed change to the Constitution to eliminate fall sitting of Presbytery will be read and the Deacon candidate for Forest Grove has completed LAMP and will be ordained.

—Todd Milburn, 2013 Presbytery Moderator

MoArk Christian Education Report to the MoArk Executive Board – June 2013

The MoArk Christian Education Board met at 6 p.m. Tuesday, April 23, 2013 at the Kennett First General Baptist Church. Members present were Bryan Johnson, Mary Beth Haywood, Kent Luke, Jeff Smart, Mark Book, Steve McElwrath and Kim Hellebusch.

The meeting opened with prayer led by Jeff Smart. The first order of business was the election of new officers for 2013-14. A motion was made and seconded to retain the officers from the previous year. This motion carried. Officers are President-Bryan Johnson, Vice-President-Steve McElwrath and Secretary-Treasurer-Mark Book.

The minutes of the February 2013 meeting and financial report were reviewed and approved. Brother Bryan had provided a copy from the organizational draft for the MoArk CE board as a reminder of our purpose as “to plan, promote and execute programs, or opportunities for the total enrichment of the churches.” As part of this discussion, he reviewed past workshops offered by the Board since 2009. Noting that the first seminar was the best attended and that the attendance has decreased since that time. The Toler “Vibrant Church” seminar was discussed. The attendance was small with an estimated 42 attending. The April date and conflicting events were mentioned as reasons for the low attendance. The group discussed possible other methods of presenting workshops that would encourage attendance and whether we are trying to offer too many different training sessions during the year.

Brother Kent shared about the Landmark Leadership Conference he attended on April 20, 2013 at Cross Point Church in Ava MO. He had the program and copies of the front cover as an idea source for future advertisements for MoArk training. He shared about how well attended the conference had been and that it was actually the associational meeting for the participating churches. The group discussed the possibility of working with the March MoArk Association meeting as an opportunity to present training rather than having an

event in February. Brother Mark was asked about this since he is serving as moderator for the March 2014 meeting. He said he was willing to consider ideas from the Christian Education board for the training sessions at the association meeting. Possible scheduling ideas were discussed for this. Brother Mark said he would pray about and consider how to make this work for further discussion at our next meeting. Presentation of this idea to the MoArk Executive Council was mentioned. The benefits of sharing expenses for speakers between the Association and the Board were discussed.

The surveys from the Vibrant Church seminar were reviewed. Responses were overwhelmingly positive from those who attended for the presenter, material, length of presentation, etc. The workbook was mentioned as helpful by several respondents.

Brother Bryan discussed possible topics for a Fall 2013 workshop and the possibility of using the Wednesday night format again. One possibility was an evangelistic training offered by the Billy Graham Association called "My Hope America." He said it is supposed to be offered all across America in November 2013, but required training earlier in the year. We also discussed possible video training materials for Fall 2013 for discipleship and teacher training. Members were asked to make contacts and research materials for such a training. Brother Mark was asked to contact Franklin Dumond, Brother Bryan will talk to Clint Cook and Brother Kent is going to talk to Luther Rhodes regarding ideas and resources. Brother Steve was asked to check with Brother Marston Carpenter regarding the Billy Graham event this fall to get more information for the board. Each person was asked to research information they received and forward it to other members before the meeting for review.

The next meeting was scheduled for 6 p.m. Tuesday, May 28 at the Kennett First General Baptist church. This meeting was postponed and rescheduled for 5:30 Monday, June 24 at the Kennett First General Baptist Church.

Submitted by Mark Book –CE Board secretary/treasurer

MoArk Missions Report to the Executive Board, June 24, 2013

The latest happenings for Hope Church;

Anthony is making plans for the upcoming transition with the praise team. Members of the Hitts Chapel praise team and one from the Fagus GBC have been providing worship since the church's inception with the plan being that they would eventually be phased out as such a team could be assembled from within Hope Church. A worship leader has emerged and the transition phase has begun. The target date for the completion of this transition is sometime in the first part of August. At that time one member from the Hitts Chapel GBC and one from the Fagus GBC will remain to work with the new worship leader until further developments.

Currently things are on track for the church to assume ownership of the facilities this fall.

A relationship has been forged with Terrell Somerville, Pastor of Freedom GBC in Gallatin, TN. Terrell served as a regional church planter coach for National Missions. Terrell and Anthony speak regularly. Terrell has provided great insight and direction.

Statistical information for Hope Church as follows.

Statistical information for Hope Church

<u>Month & Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Offering</u>	<u>Conversions</u>	<u>Baptisms</u>
February				
10th	38	1,500		
17th	27	280		
24th	30	300		
March				
3rd	31	528		
10th	31	588	3	
17th	40	350		4
24th	53	565	2	1
31st	75	1,200	2	3
April				
7th	56	450	1	
14th	55	550		3
21st	77	590		
28th	56	550		
May				
5th	54	900		
12th	83	760		

2013 COUNCIL OF ASSOCIATIONS (C/A) SUMMARY

**Council of Associations (C/A) Meeting
Oakland City University May 6, 2013 – 9 a.m.**

Interim Executive Director Clint Cook spoke about visions and the vision God has given him. He is a third generation General Baptist preacher and started preaching at the age of 16 and started pastoring at the age of 22. He shared Joshua 22:10-28 and how the 2 ½ tribes built an altar and

explained they built the altar as a witness, to their children and the other tribe's children, connecting them to God. We should consider sending a message to the generations after us to connect them to God. He recommended that we should write down our spiritual journey for future generations. Rev. Cook went on to say he has seen God take a church from 50-1000. He knows there will be a day when we do not have to see any General Baptist Churches close but stay open for future generations to serve God. We are General Baptist and commissioned by God to reach the generations. The Church is alive and well!

Rev. Cook went on to say he wants to promote a movement of young leaders from the General Baptist movement. He will be calling some young leaders to offer them a chance to work for God. He went on to talk about the National Youth Conference and Generation Next Conference. Generation Next Conference will target young leaders ages 18-35. He wants the General Baptist movement to be known in hell.

Dr. Franklin Dumond reported the response to the Messenger has been very positive. This has been a primary means of communication with our General Baptist people. The projections of the rate of growth for the Messenger mailing list have been met and bypassed. The current mailing list is between 18 and 19 thousand people. This causes our production costs to be much higher than anticipated so this causes a problem. We cannot dedicate someone to the Messenger due to all of the funds going to production cost. Projected intense recruitment to sign up to receive the Messenger is on hold.

Chairman Oren Alcorn reported from the Executive Council. He had the following motions on behalf of the Executive Council:

- A motion was made that this body affirm the Executive Council's decision to continue the Flex-time agreement as it relates to the office of the Executive Director. The motion received a second. Motion carried.
- A motion was made that this body approve the recommendation of Clint Cook to the next setting of the General Association of General Baptists at the Mission & Ministry Summit in July 2013 for election to the office of Executive Director. The motion received a second. Motion carried.
- A motion was made that this body approve the 2014 Budget to be approved in its final stage in November. The motion received a second. Motion carried.
- A motion was made that a correction to the General Baptist Investment Fund, Inc. Constitution and By-laws be approved as printed and corrected in the minutes of the Executive Council meeting on April 8, 2013. The motion received a second. Motion carried.

Administrative/Financial Officer Linda McDonough shared our involvement with the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA). She explained that we have numerous resources available to us through the ECFA. If you are interested in learning about these resources, please contact Linda at linda.mcdonough@generalbaptist.com. These resources are too numerous to list here in this report. You can also go to the ECFA website at ECFA.org.

Ministry Evaluations Committee Chairman Joey Graves reported the committee's findings with the following recommendations:

- No recommendations were made to Congregational Ministries or the Administrative/Financial Department.
- A recommendation was made to International and National Missions to formulate in print the current ministry philosophy and missions strategy for marketing and public relations purposes.
- A recommendation was made to formalize and properly define the flex-time position of the Executive Director.
- A recommendation was made to properly define the organizational hierarchy of the departments, specifically either formalizing the Chief of Staff position or operating by the Bylaws directly accountable and reporting to the Executive Director.
- A recommendation was made to empower the Executive Director to lead and manage the departments to work towards a holistic denominational goal in conjunction to their departmental goals.

These recommendations were made to the departments and not to the C/A.

2013 Mission & Ministry Summit Moderator Gary Baldus reported the facility for this Summit is very nice and nothing like we have ever had before. He talked about the three keynote speakers, Judah Smith, David Murrow, and Larry Osborne. David Murrow wrote a book called "Why Men Hate Going to Church." Larry Osborn has written books on how to close the back door of the church. Judah Smith is a dynamic speaker who connects well with young people. Rev. Baldus went on to say the break-out sessions will be hands on training not just telling. Next Level Coaching will be highlighted this year during the break-out sessions.

Progress Committee Chairman Dr. Danny Dunivan submitted the following report.

Report of the Progress Committee

This committee has been charged with carrying out a self-study of denominational effectiveness and structures. At the Council of Associations meeting in November, we submitted a proposal for a change to the C/A Constitution: Article VI—Officers, Election, and Duties, A.1. Those changes have not yet been undertaken by the Constitution and Bylaws Committee. We would like the following wording to be considered by that committee:

- **President:** The executive director of the denomination shall serve as president of the corporation with the usual and specific powers authorized by the Council of Associations and common to such office. In the event the office of the executive director is vacant or the executive director is unable or unwilling to fulfill designated responsibilities, ~~the chairperson of the Council of Associations shall function as the~~ **Executive Council upon recommendation of the Personnel Committee shall appoint an Interim Executive Director who shall serve as** president of the corporation until a successor is named or the issue is resolved.

Also at the November meeting, we conducted a set of listening sessions on the following topics:

- Council of Association membership
- Concerns about a quorum at the Council of Associations' meetings
- The relationship between General Baptist institutional ministries and the Council of Associations

As a result of those listening sessions, the Progress Committee re-evaluated the proposals surrounding at-large membership. To address concerns about Council of Association quorums, we propose the following changes to the C/A Bylaws, Article I—Meetings:

- The council shall establish two regular meeting dates each year and shall be subject to called meetings. A quorum shall be constituted when **a majority of all representatives registered** ~~one representative of one-half of all associations that have registered their representative(s)~~ with the office of the executive director are present.

To clarify the relationships between General Baptist Institutional Ministries and the Council of Associations, we propose the following changes to the C/A Bylaws, Article VI, B:

B) The Institutional Ministries Shall Be:

Institutional Ministries shall be those General Baptist institutions that function to aid, assist, and support Basic Ministries in their efforts to build up God's Kingdom through the Church. **A regular memo of understanding shall define the specific ways each institution performs these functions.**

Each Institutional Ministry may be incorporated, ~~but shall be subordinate~~ and **shall remain** accountable to the General Association of General Baptists through its Council of Associations. These ~~shall~~ **might** include ~~but not be limited to colleges and universities, nursing homes, Compassionate Care, General Baptist Investment Fund, and Stinson Press~~ **institutions of higher education, health care ministries, adoption and family service ministries, financial service agencies, and publishing/printing houses.**

1. ~~All of the~~ Institutional Ministry boards ~~may will~~ function as subsidiary corporations to the parent corporation. In order to prevent a duplication of services, formal working agreements will be negotiated between the Institutional Ministries and ministry departments regarding the funds or services provided to General Baptist people.
2. Board members serving the Institutional Ministries elected at the annual meeting of the General Association shall be responsible to and report to the General Association through the Executive Council of the Council of Associations and remain in a communication relationship with the executive director **as detailed in the memo of understanding.**
3. Articles of incorporation and constitutions and bylaws, including all future amendments and changes, shall be **disclosed to the** ~~in compliance with denominational policies and shall be approved by the~~ Council of Associations **prior to ratifying the memorandum of understanding.** ~~The~~ delegates to the annual meeting of the General Association of General Baptists **shall review these memoranda as part of the annual report of the Council of Associations.**
4. Corporate officers and directors shall be nominated by the respective ministries in compliance with denominational policy. ~~Ministries may nominate Council of Associations members, but are not restricted thereto. Such nominees shall be submitted to the Nominating Committee of the Council of Associations for observation pertaining to such things as duplicate nominations and term limits.~~
5. The Institutional Ministry corporate directors will select and employ their directors, president, and health care administrators, ~~subject to the approval of the delegates of the General Association.~~
6. Directors, presidents, and administrators of the Institutional Ministries will function as a part of the Leadership Team **at the invitation of the executive director** as follows:
 - a. The long-range planning and visioning sessions.

- b. Meetings where issues are being discussed, reports are being coordinated, and decisions are being made that relate to their ministries.
- c. When the Basic Ministries and service units are developing contractual or other agreements related to joint or contracted ventures aimed at meeting needs of the General Baptist people at large.
- d. Meetings when the expertise of the leadership of Institutional Ministries may be needed.

The General Association Bylaws, Article IV, C.2 will also require a mirrored change.

The Progress Committee plans on making recommendations at the November Council of Association meeting concerning the following topics:

- The structure and alignment of strategic planning, evaluation, and assessment loops
- The shape of ongoing self-study within the Council of Associations and the end of the committee's work.

These recommendations are made to the Constitution and By-laws Committee of the Council of Associations.

National Missions Director Donald Key reported there will be a church planted in Cookeville, Tennessee in the fall of 2014. He went on to say National Missions has had three men attend the Assessment Center in Johnson City, Tennessee. Irv Ryder will be serving as an intern for one year with Carl Nichols and Relevant Church in Locust Grove, Georgia and plant a church in 2014. Josh Hearn feels led to plant a church in Springfield, Tennessee and Dennis Amaral is looking to plant a church in Arkansas.

Women's Ministries Director Patti Thornton reported that last November, Women's Ministries (WM) met with women from all over the denomination and talked about where WM needed to go in its ministry. Over the last ten years, General Baptists have given to and through WM almost \$4 million. Doing together what we cannot do alone is not just a slogan for WM, it's who they are. Mrs. Thornton went on to say that the women at this meeting decided to move forward with whatever God has for them to do. The 4th Annual Inside Out event is scheduled for September 27-29 at Deer Run Retreat near Franklin, TN. Tammie Head will be speaking at the 2013 Missions & Ministry Summit.

Administrative/Financial Services Director Linda McDonough reported the 1st Quarter Financials finished in the black. Unified Giving is above the goal at this time. The Pension and Foundation are doing well with the market being kind during the 1st quarter.

International Missions Director Sean Warren reported on his most recent trip to India and visiting a church there that had been torn down seven times and the pastor had rebuilt seven times. He went on to announce that God has provided a unique opportunity to General Baptists to serve on the board of The International Training Alliance, the governing board of Leadership Matters Course. This organization provides leadership training to pastors.

Congregational Ministries Director Franklin Dumond reported he has been striving towards providing opportunities for networking. There are five of these opportunities planned for this year with the first being the Ministers Retreat, May 28-30. The National Youth Conference will be June 21-23. The 2013 Mission & Ministry Summit will be held July 15-17. Dr. Dumond went on to say the Senior Adult

Retreat, September 3-5, already has several people registered. The newest of opportunities available to young leaders ages 18-35 is the Generation Next Conference, October 18-19 in Evansville, IN.

Interim Executive Director Clint Cook reported he believes our best days are ahead of us. There will be another round of Next Level Coaching starting this fall. He is looking into ways of streaming these sessions. Rev. Cook went on to say he would like to help turn around 200 General Baptist churches through Next Level Coaching.

Special Offering at the 2013 Mission & Ministry Summit – Special offerings will be received for International Missions and Women’s Ministries at the Summit.

A Motion was made by Jack Boyer that the language included in the Evaluation Committee’s report *“which supports and agrees with the vision, plans, and leadership of our Executive Director”* be referred to the Constitution and Bylaws Committee for consideration for inclusion in Bylaw V.6.

The next Executive Council meeting will be October 7, 2013 at the ministries offices in Poplar Bluff, MO.

The next Council of Association meeting will be November 4, 2013 at Fellowship GB Church in Poplar Bluff, MO.

Bill Haynes Scholarship Fund Report to the MoArk Executive Board

Submitted by Bryan Johnson

June 24, 2013

As of June 20, 2013 this is the balance in the two certificates we have deposited with the GBIF (General Baptist Investment Fund):

Certificate # 3589 Balance: \$10,987.98 earning 2.50% on demand (No penalty for withdrawal)

Certificate # 3590 Balance: \$23,614.92 earning 3.10% - maturity date of July 7, 2013

1. We have had one verbal request for re-imbursement from Brother Todd Milburn after having completed the Three Levels of the L.A.M.P. Program as now required for ordination with the MoArk Presbytery of General Baptist.

I have verified with Pastor James Hamlett, that the "Doctrine & Credentials" Committee has received proof of his completion of the L.A.M.P. program and they will be forwarding that documentation to me for my records.

Therefore, I will be disbursing \$1,050.00 (\$100.00 – Level one; \$350.00 – Level two; and \$600.00 – Level three) from the Bill Haynes Scholarship Fund as soon as I have spoken to Brother Todd concerning the specifics of the amount and to whom I am to send it.

2. Brother Todd also has a deacon that has also completed the first level of the L.A.M.P. program and as soon as verification is received, I will forward \$100.00 to cover his expense as well, per their request.
3. In response to an email sent by Brother Marston Carpenter, requesting clarification on the how those completing the different levels of the L.A.M.P. program are reimbursed for their expenses.
 - a. Though mentioned on the Moark Website, **I recommend** that we place a new TAB at the top of the MoArk Website, which will include the Bill Haynes Scholarship Board Guidelines including the following Clarification as to the payout of fees for the completion of the L.A.M.P. program IF the Executive Board deems appropriate:

The Bill Haynes Scholarship Fund will pay the registration fee and material cost (books, etc) for each applicant to the Lamp program as a requirement of ordination and is authorized to grant monies to an applicant to cover these expenses in the amount of \$100 for Level One, \$350 for Level Two, and \$600 for Level Three, or less, IF the applicant request such, due to his personal cost being less than expected. These monies will be disbursed directly to the applicant upon presenting verification of completion of each level of the LAMP program to the Bill Haynes Scholarship Fund Chair.

4. As noted above, I plan on allowing Certificate #3590 to automatically renew as of the date of expiration noted at the beginning of this report.

Respectfully submitted by:

Bryan Johnson