

By-Laws of the Blanco Baptist Association

Article I – Meetings

1. The Association shall meet annually at such time and place as the body may direct. The Executive Board shall have the power to change the time and place of the meeting or to call extra sessions of the body whenever deemed necessary.
2. The officers of the Association, in cooperation with the Director of Missions, shall plan the program for the Annual Meeting.

Article II – Membership

1. Any Baptist Church may cooperate with this Association by petition granted by a three-fourths majority vote of the messengers present and voting when the matter is presented. The petition must be submitted by the church to the ~~Credentials Committee~~ **Executive Board** ninety days prior to the annual meeting to allow adequate investigation.
2. The Association shall be comprised of messengers from cooperating churches and they must be members of the churches from which they come. The pastor of any church cooperating with the Association may be named as a messenger.
3. Each cooperating church shall be entitled to three messengers and an additional messenger for each forty members *or* fraction thereof, above sixty members in the church, provided that no church shall have more than eight messengers.
4. Each church shall submit to the Association an annual report containing such facts and statistics as may be requested. This report should be submitted to the associational office by November 1st.
5. Each church shall contribute financially to the work of the Association.
6. The faith and practice of the churches of this Association shall be in basic harmony with historic Baptist Beliefs as contained in the "Baptist Faith and Message" doctrinal statement.
7. The churches of this Association shall maintain a spirit of cooperation with the Association.
8. In full and hearty recognition of the independence of the local churches and of the fact that this Association is the creation of the cooperating churches, this body reserves the right to deny recognition and representation to any church. Before considering such action the Association shall, through its ~~Credentials Committee~~ **Executive Board**, make personal contact with the pastor and other church leaders for the purpose of seeking to solve any problems with reference to the relationship of the church to the Association. If no reconciliation can be achieved, the committee, after notifying the church, shall report at the Annual Meeting on conditions revealed by these investigations and shall make recommendation accordingly. Denial of recognition and representation shall require a three-fourths majority vote of the messengers present at the time the matter is presented.
9. A church may be removed from associational membership by:
 - 1) Requesting removal by written request.
 - 2) Moving support to another association.
 - 3) Lack of participation in activities and contribution and/or failure to return the Annual Church Profile to the association for two consecutive years.
 - 4) Ceasing to function by way of identity, belief and practice as a cooperating participant with Blanco Baptist Association.

Article III – Executive Board

1. The Executive Board shall provide leadership to the Association in fulfilling its mission as defined in the Blanco Baptist Association Constitution. ~~An~~ The Executive Board shall represent the Association in the interim between its Annual Meetings, and shall report to the Association in its Annual Meeting. . Representatives of member churches may attend all meetings of the Executive Board.
2. The Executive Board shall be comprised of ~~all officers Moderator, Vice-Moderator, Clerk, and Treasurer of the Association, one lay member from each cooperating church and mission, and pastors of cooperating churches and missions within the Association.~~ 15 members nominated by the Executive Board and approved by the messengers at the annual meeting. The messengers may also nominate other persons pursuant to Robert's Rules of Order. In nominating persons for the board, messengers should prayerfully consider the following:
 - 1) The talents and gifts needed on the board at the time of nomination;
 - 2) The nominee's commitment to the ministry of the association;
 - 3) The nominee's willingness and ability to devote the necessary time to fully participate in the association;
 - 4) The fair representation of the diverse constituencies served by the Association.The Officers of the Executive Board shall be Moderator, Vice-Moderator, and Clerk. The officers shall be elected at the first meeting following the annual meeting.
3. The initial Executive Board shall have five members serving a three year term, five members serving a two year term, and five members serving a one year term. Upon the expiration of each term a successor shall be elected to serve a three year term. A member shall not serve more than two consecutive terms.
4. Regular meetings of the Executive Board shall occur at a time and place designated at the first regular meeting following the annual meeting of the Association. Special Meetings may be called by the Moderator, Director of Missions, or by a majority vote of the Executive Board at a regularly scheduled meeting. Notice of each special meeting shall be given at least 5 calendars days before the day on which the meeting is to be held and will include the time, place, and purpose of the meeting. Business at special meeting shall be confined to the purpose stated in the notice. The Executive Board may take action without a meeting if a consent, in writing, setting forth the action shall be signed by all the members of the Executive Board.
5. The Director of Missions shall be an ex-officio, non-voting member of the Executive Board.
6. A member of the Executive Board may be removed at any time by $\frac{2}{3}$ majority vote of the remaining members of the Executive Board.
7. ~~3~~ No member of the Executive Board shall be eligible to vote in any manner relating to or affecting the church of which he or she is a member.
8. ~~4.~~ The Executive Board shall have the power to constitute its own internal regulation. ~~It shall form subcommittees to provide for personnel, missions development, Baptist Student Ministry, properties, and other areas as necessary to carry out the purpose and work of the Association to transact business in a body through subcommittees it may elect, and shall make a complete report to the Association.~~
9. The Executive Board shall recommend Trustees for Zephyr Baptist Encampment to the Association for approval at the annual meeting.
10. The Executive Board shall recommend a Treasurer to the Association for approval at the annual meeting. The Treasurer shall receive and care for the funds of the Association, ans shall disburse them under the direction of the body of its Executive Board. The Treasurer shall serve as a Trustee of the Association.
11. ~~5.~~The Executive Board shall elect a Director of Missions and such assistants as may be necessary, shall fix salaries, make financial arrangements and have such other powers and authority as may be necessary to carry on the work of the Association.
12. The Executive Board shall present an annual budget for the work of the association to be approved at the Annual meeting of the Association.
13. ~~6.~~ ~~Ten~~ Eight members or a majority of the Executive Board, shall constitute a quorum.

Article IV – Officers

1. The officers of the Association shall be a Moderator, Vice-Moderator, and Clerk. and Treasurer.
2. The Moderator shall perform the usual duties of a presiding officer, and shall be Chairman of the Executive Board. He The Moderator shall serve as a Trustee of the Association. He and shall not serve more than two years in succession.
3. The Vice-Moderator shall preside or officiate in the absence, removal or disability of the Moderator. He The Vice-Moderator shall serve as a Trustee of the Association. He and shall not serve more than two years in succession.
4. The Clerk shall be the recording officer of the body and shall represent the Association and its Executive Board in matters of correspondence.
5. ~~The Treasurer shall receive and care for the funds of the Association, and shall disburse them under the direction of the body of its Executive Board. The Treasurer shall serve as a Trustee of the Association.~~
5. 6. All officers shall be elected annually and their term shall begin at the close of the Annual Meeting. at the first Executive Board Meeting following the annual meeting

Article V – Trustees

1. The Moderator, Vice-Moderator, and Treasurer shall serve as Trustees of the Association.
2. The Trustees shall serve as legal representatives of the Association.
3. The Trustees shall serve as the Insurance Committee relating to any property owned or held by the Association.

Article VI – Councils of the Association

~~The Associational Council~~

~~The Associational Council shall consist of Moderator, Vice Moderator, Clerk, and Director of Missions and shall be charged with the following responsibilities:~~

- ~~(1) To formulate and recommend associational goals and objectives~~
- ~~(2) To develop and recommend plans for reaching the goals.~~
- ~~(3) To propose a calendar of associational activities.~~
- ~~(4) To review and coordinate the work of the associational organizations and committees and to provide adequate communication among the leaders of the work, but not to violate the direct reporting relationship of the various organizations and committees of the Association.;~~
- ~~(5) to evaluate program achievements and report the findings to the Association.~~

The Mission Development Council

~~The Mission Development Council of Blanco Association shall consist of five pastors (active or retired) nominated by the Nominating Committee and elected by the Executive Board of the Association. The director for the MDC shall be selected from the five nominated members by the Nominating Committee and elected by the Executive Board of the Association. The Director of Missions will serve as an ex-officio member.~~

Task:

- ~~1. Work with the churches in surveying and securing locations for new work and assist the church in securing resources needed for this ministry.~~
- ~~2. Review requests for financial support and make recommendations for such requests to the Executive Board.~~
- ~~3. Promote mission work throughout the association.~~

4. ~~Keep an updated map of area and location of possible mission points.~~
5. ~~Plan and promote the annual events of the association, emphasizing missions (Missions Banquet, ("On Missions Celebrations") etc) and special projects relating to organizations within the association.~~
6. ~~Work closely with the Director of Missions and report to the Executive Board.~~
7. ~~Give prayer support to the mission activities of the association.~~
8. ~~The MDC will consider requests for support from the representatives of the mission-oriented programs within the Association.~~

Article VII—Committees and Program Directors

The association shall form such committees, boards and programs as necessary to carry out the purpose and work of the association.

1. ~~Standing **committees** of the Association are: 1) Continuing Education Committee; 2) Zephyr Board Members; 3) Disaster Relief; 4) Credentials Committee; 5) Budget and Finance Committee; 6) Baptist Student Ministry Committee; 7) Youth Committee; and 8) Properties Committee. Committee members are nominated by the Nominating Committee annually and are approved at the Annual Meeting~~

2. ~~**Special Committees** (including Resolutions, Time, Place, Preacher, and Nominating Committee) may be elected by the Association or its Executive Board or appointed by the Moderator to serve specified periods of time to perform specific duties that cannot be performed by existing committees.~~

3. ~~**Program Directors:**~~

~~The Program Directors of the Association shall be elected at the Annual Meeting upon nomination by the Nominating Committee.~~

4. ~~**Resolutions Committee:**~~

~~The Committee shall receive all resolutions presented from the messengers at the Annual Meeting and shall recommend such resolutions as it deems proper, whether submitted to or prepared by the committee.)~~

5. ~~**Time, Place and Preacher Committee:**~~

~~The Committee shall recommend at the Annual Meeting the meeting place, date, and Annual Sermon preacher for the next Annual Meeting.~~

6. ~~**Nominating Committee:**~~

- 1) ~~The Nominating Committee shall be appointed at the first regular Executive Board Meeting after the Annual Meeting. The Committee shall function until the appointment of a new committee.~~
- 2) ~~The committee shall nominate officers to fill vacancies as they occur during the year.~~
- 3) ~~The committee shall present to the Executive Board nominations as needed. The Committee shall complete its annual nomination report of BBA officers, program directors and standing committees by the Executive Board Meeting held prior to the Annual Meeting.~~
- 4) ~~The nominations by the committee are subject to final approval at the Annual Meeting. After the report of this committee has been made, nominations may also be made from the floor for any or all officers and committee members.~~

- 5) ~~The committee shall present recommendations for Zephyr Baptist Encampment Trustees and members of standing committees.~~
- 6) ~~The Committee shall recommend a chairman for each standing committee.~~

~~7. **Credentials Committee:**~~

- 1) ~~The Credentials Committee shall be a standing committee with its members being nominated by the Nominating Committee. The committee shall have three members, one of whom shall be elected each year to serve for a three year term and is not eligible for reappointment until one year has elapsed.~~
- 2) ~~Members of the committee shall acquaint themselves with the facts concerning petitioning churches and be prepared to present the petitionary letters to the Association.~~
- 3) ~~The committee, at the request of the Association or its Executive Board, shall address any problems with reference to the relationship of the churches with the Association, as explained in Article II, Section 8 relating to membership, and report to the Executive Board.~~

~~8. **Budget and Finance Committee:**~~

- 1) ~~The Budget and Finance Committee shall be a standing committee with its members being nominated by the Nominating Committee. The committee shall have six members, two of whom shall be elected each year to serve for a three year term. In addition to these six members, the Director of Missions, the Moderator, the Treasurer and the Financial Secretary shall serve as ex-officio members of the committee. Members are not eligible for re-election until one year has elapsed following their service.~~
- 2) ~~The committee shall present a proposed annual budget at the Executive Board meeting held prior to the Annual Meeting of the Association.~~
- 3) ~~The committee shall serve as a budget control committee and if necessary shall make recommendations to the Executive Board concerning amendments to the budget.~~
- 4) ~~The committee shall promote Association Missions giving among the churches.~~

~~9. **Baptist Student Ministry Committee**~~

- 1) ~~The Baptist Student Ministry Committee shall be a standing committee with its members being nominated by the Nominating Committee. The committee shall have six members, two of whom shall be elected each year to serve for a three year term. Members are not eligible for re-election until one year has elapsed following their service.~~
- 2) ~~The committee shall have a regular schedule of meetings.~~
- 3) ~~The committee shall serve in an advisory capacity with the BSM director in respect to student ministries.~~
- 4) ~~The committee and the DOM shall consider student director personnel and shall make recommendations to the Executive Board for action.~~
- 5) ~~The committee shall submit annual budget proposals to the Association Budget and Finance Committee.~~
- 6) ~~The committee shall report to the Executive Board on activities and expenditure of all BSM funds.~~

~~10. **Youth Committee:**~~

- 1) ~~The Youth Committee shall be a standing committee with its members being nominated by the Nominating Committee. There shall be three members, one of whom is elected each year for a three year term. Members are not eligible for reelection until one year has elapsed following their service.~~
- 2) ~~The committee members shall assist the Youth Committee Chairman in coordinating association youth activities and programs.~~

~~11.~~ **Properties Committee:**

- ~~1) The Properties Committee shall be a standing committee as nominated by the Nominating Committee.~~
- ~~2) The committee shall have three elected members. The Director of Missions and the BSM Director shall serve as Ex Officio members.~~
- ~~3) The members of the committee shall be selected from individuals living in close proximity to the Associational property.~~
- ~~4) The committee shall be responsible for:
 - ~~a. Regular maintenance of all property, including cleaning and repair of buildings and care of the grounds.~~
 - ~~b. Recommendations for improvements to property.~~
 - ~~c. Recommendations of annual budget needs to the Budget and Finance Committee.~~
 - ~~d. Periodic survey of all property in order to provide preventative maintenance.~~~~
- ~~5) Any expenditure other than budgeted and designated funds must be approved by the Executive Board of the Association with the understanding that emergency funds for major repairs may be approved by a majority of the trustees of the Association.~~

~~Article VIII~~ **VI Trustees of Zephyr Baptist Encampment**

1. The Blanco Baptist Association shall have four (4) representatives on the Zephyr Baptist Encampment Board of Trustees, two of whom shall be elected each year to serve two-year terms. Members may serve two two-year terms and are not eligible for re-election until one year following their service.
2. The Blanco Baptist Association ~~Nominating Committee~~ **Executive Board** shall nominate the trustees.

BBA Business Guidelines

1. Robert's Rules of Order, the latest, revised edition shall govern the body.
- ~~2. Program Directors shall make an annual written report and these reports shall be compiled into a Book of Reports to be distributed to the messengers at the Annual Meeting.~~
- 2. 3.** Resolutions from the messengers to the Annual Meeting must be submitted to the ~~Resolutions Committee without discussions during the first session of the Annual Meeting. Resolutions from this committee will be presented for approval in the second session~~ **Executive Board prior to the first session of the Annual Meeting. Information concerning how to present resolutions to the Annual meeting will be communicated to associational churches prior to the Annual meeting.**
- ~~4. The auxiliaries of the Association are the Blanco Baptist Women, the Blanco Baptist Men and Companerismo (Hispanic Fellowship). All officers of the auxiliary organizations shall be approved by the Association at the Annual Meeting.~~
- 3.5.** These By-Laws may be amended at any regular session of the annual meeting of the Association by a three-fourth majority of the messengers present and voting.