

Constitution of the Pecos Valley Baptist Association

ARTICLE I – NAME

Then name of the Association shall be the Pecos Valley Baptist Association. (PVBA)

ARTICLE II – PURPOSE

The purpose of the PVBA shall be to be awoken and stimulate among the Churches involvement in Evangelism, Christian Development, Benevolent work, and to cultivate fellowship and cooperation among the Churches. Convinced that local Churches are first in the advancement of the Kingdom of God, the PVBA is to assist the Churches in reaching their objectives and goals.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

Churches wishing to cooperate with and have messengers seated at the Annual Meeting and have voting members on the Executive Board shall observe the following:

SECTION 1: The Association shall be the medium through which cooperating and participating Southern Baptist Churches of similar faith and practice, may work together harmoniously for God’s Kingdom, expressing themselves through duly elected messengers at all meetings under the leadership of properly elected or appointed Associational officers.

SECTION 2: The Association accepts The Baptist Faith and Message as the guide for determining what is similar and practice of cooperating and participating Southern Baptist Churches.

SECTION 3: The Association shall not have ecclesiastical authority over any cooperating and participating church or its messengers.

SECTION 4: The Association, as an autonomous body, may exclude any church not meeting the requirements of “similar faith and practice” as referred to in Article III, Section 2.

SECTION 5: It shall be the duty of all churches of the Association to financially support and statistically report annually to the Association and to attend at least one Executive Board meeting in an Associational year. Churches failing to do any of these for a period of one year, it shall be the responsibility of the Moderator, in consultation with the Director of Missions, to bring said church’s inactivity to the attention of the Executive Board. The Executive Board is responsible in determining a course of action between the church and the Association.

SECTION 6: Baptist churches of similar faith and practice may join the PVBA by submitting a Petitionary Letter to the Director of Missions at least thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Meeting. A Task Force would be appointed by the Moderator to evaluate the church and present a recommendation for membership at the Annual Meeting.

SECTION 7: A Baptist church organized as a mission of a participating Associational Baptist church may be admitted to the Association between Annual Meetings by submitting a Petitionary Letter to the Director of Missions, who in turn would present the request to the Executive Board for its consideration.

ARTICLE IV – CHURCH RELATIONS

SECTION 1: Upon approval of the Executive Board, Baptist churches and non-Baptist churches that wish to be a part of the PVBA activities/missions will be allowed to relate to the Association, but as a non-voting friend of the Association.

ARTICLE V – MESSENGERS

SECTION 1: The messengers to the Annual Meeting of this Association shall be composed of messengers duly elected by the church body of a member church.

SECTION 2: Each church is entitled to send up to three (3) elected messengers along with the duly elected Executive Board members.

ARTICLE VI – EXECUTIVE BOARD

SECTION 1: At the Annual Meeting of the Association, the Executive Board consisting of the officers of the Association, Pastors of the Churches, and one additional member from each Church shall be elected.

SECTION 2: In the absence of the regularly elected Board member, any member designated by the excused board member shall serve as his or her alternate upon recognition by the Moderator of the Executive Board.

SECTION 3: It shall be the duty of said Board to transact such business as shall be committed to it by the Association between Annual Meetings and to report in full at each succeeding meeting of the Association of the work done.

SECTION 4: The Executive Board shall meet as scheduled by the Executive Board.

SECTION 5: A quorum would represent those who are present and voting.

ARTICLE VII – MEETINGS

The Association shall meet annually, at such time and in such place, as it may be determined.

ARTICLE VIII – ORGANIZATION

SECTION 1: The Association shall be comprised of councils, teams and task forces as deemed necessary by the Executive Board.

SECTION 2: Task forces will be selected for a specific purpose and are temporary. These task forces may be appointed by the moderator or by the Nominating Team and confirmed by the Executive Board.

SECTION 3: The Nominating Team as elected by the Executive Board shall nominate the officers, teams, committees, etc., of the Association and shall be voted on by messengers at the Annual Meeting. In the event a permanent replacement is needed to any and all officers, teams, committees, etc., the Nominating Team will make a recommendation to the Executive Board for approval of a replacement to finish out the term left vacant.

SECTION 4: The Executive Board shall employ a Director of Missions (DOM), chosen by the Executive Board to work in consultation with the Board to fulfill the purpose of the Association as stated in Article II. The Duties and Provisions for the DOM shall be as follows, but not limited to:

1. Seek to develop an overall appreciation for missions at all levels (local, association, state, home and foreign)
2. Work with the Moderator.
3. Be a resource person to the leadership of the association.
4. Become acquainted with each church, pastor of each cooperating church.
5. Provide leadership in the promotion of church program upon request.
6. Be a liaison between the local church/association with state conventions.
7. Have two weeks paid vacation.
8. Have provision made for convention expense, office expense and travel expense to be used at his discretion.

SECTION 5: The Executive Board shall employ an Associational Treasurer. The Treasurer shall keep a record of all monies received and from whom, and all monies disbursed, in accordance with the adopted budget or the specific instructions of the Executive Board, making financial report at each Executive Board Meeting, and a yearly financial report at the Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE IX – ADMENDMENTS

The Constitution of the Association may be amended at the Annual Meeting. The proposed amendment must be presented to the Executive Board for consideration prior to the Annual Meeting. The Moderator shall present the amendment to the Annual Meeting. Constitutional Amendments shall require a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the messengers present.

ARTICLE X – PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

Robert's Rule of Order shall be the guide for all business sessions.

BY LAWS for PECOS VALLEY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

1. There shall be an annual review of the Association Financial Records by an independent source. The Executive Board will establish the date the review will take place and acquire the independence source.
2. Requests for disbursement of funds must come from committee/team/task force heads and be approved by the Moderator or Vice-Moderator before disbursement in made.
3. The Moderator and DOM are allowed to serve on committees/teams/tasks forces, etc., and be a voting member as approved by the Executive Board.