

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE 164th ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
BEULAH BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, INC.
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2017
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, UNION CITY, TENNESSEE**

1. A warm welcome and prayer was offered by the pastor of the host church, Cecil Sewell, as he opened the **Annual Meeting Session**.
2. Eric Walsh, filled in for Director of Music, led the **congregation** was in singing “**To God Be The Glory**”.
3. The one hundred sixty-fourth Annual meeting of Beulah Baptist Association, Inc. was **called to order** by Cecil Sewell, Moderator, recommending the seating of all the messengers presently registered and includes those who will register later to conduct the business of the one hundred sixty-fourth Annual Meeting at First Baptist Church, Union City, Tennessee, October 21, 2017. Recommendation approved by common consent. A total of 68 were present with 59 being messengers and 18 churches represented.
4. Charlotte Long, **Program Committee Chairman**, made a motion on behalf of the committee to adopt the Annual Meeting Program as printed along with any changes the moderator deems necessary. Motion was approved.
5. Herman DeBoard, **Family Ministry Director**, presented his report. Herman, referring to his report on page 35 asked that we continue to remember his family in prayer as his son-in-law recovers from a surgery and a diagnosis of a brain tumor. He also thanked everyone for prayers that has and will make his road to recovery not quite as difficult as without the power of prayer.

Roger McPeak, Pastor of Beulah Land Cowboy Church, presented current plans and future plans for Hope Outreach. Roger informed everyone how churches along with individuals can partner with this ministry. He had letters available with detailing ways to be a part of Hope Outreach.

Jack Long, **Director of Missions**, opened with a greetings from Randy Davis, Executive Director of the Tennessee Baptist Association brought to us through a video presentation

6. Eric Walsh, **Prayer Director**, read from the **Memorial Page** names of members from each church that have passed away in the last calendar year, and then prayed thanking God for these faithful servants and for their families.

7. Cecil Sewell, Moderator, brought to the floor to begin the **Business Session** and gave the **Executive Board Report**. The board met on three occasions and those minutes are listed on pages 23-26. Cecil moved that the July minutes (pages 27-28) be approved as read, stating that all other minutes had been previously approved in consecutive Executive Board Meetings. The motion was made by Darrell Morgan second by Eric Walsh and was approved unanimously.
8. Michael Julian, **Resolutions Chairman**, presented the resolutions as read on page 22.

RESOLUTIONS

On Appreciation:

Whereas, The pastor and members of First Baptist have opened their doors and extended their hospitality to the messengers of the 164th Annual Meeting of Beulah Baptist Association;

Whereas, The members of said churches have volunteered their time to serve as greeters and ushers for the meetings and have set up, decorated, prepared our refreshments for time of fellowship.

Whereas, Dr. Jack Long, our Director of Missions; Mrs. Cathy VanHooser, who serves as our Associational Secretary and Clerk; Dr. Herman DeBoard, our Associational Counselor; Dr. Cecil Sewell, our Moderator and all associational committee members and council members have performed numerous acts of service and preparation for this annual meeting;

Therefore, be it resolved, That the messengers to Beulah Baptist Association, meeting at First Baptist, October 21, 2017 do hereby express our deepest and most sincere appreciation to each volunteer and paid servant of the churches and association, knowing that each has rendered his or her service as unto the Lord and not unto men.

Resolutions Committee

Mel Poe
Michael Julian
Scott Fields

Cecil Sewell, Moderator asked for a motion and a second for the Resolutions to be approved as written. The motion passed unanimously.

9. Darrell Morgan, Pastor at New Salem, gave a report on the Obion County Backpack program. Beulah has a designated account for Backpack programs and Darrell and his church has vision that the Obion County Schools will be taking care for the 2017-18 school year through donations from our Beulah Churches and Community Businesses.
10. Randy Pool, Coordinator for the Mississippi River Ministry, thanked the Beulah Association for putting the MRM ministry in their budget to help support him. He stated

the MRM will be celebrating the 25yrs of ministry y and he had the privilege of being a partner in that for 17years.

11. Eric Walsh led the Congregation in singing “**At Calvary along with Glorify Thy Name**”.
12. Cecil Sewell brought the **Moderator’s Message**. Preaching from passages John 15:16. Dr. Sewell emphasized that every Christian is called to missions and that we are chosen to do so and that is the Lords mandate to us. Dr. Sewell said we are not to be a spectator religion but to proclaim the Saving Message of Jesus Christ. He compared spectators in a football game to those in the church, who are the ones who are cold and are ones who are critical. He stated that so many on the outside find fault in Christians that are not living what they preach and the serve the Best when we live what we preach, that we need to reach all sinners all walks of life. He challenged us to live, love and serve like Jesus and to make this next year one to tell others about Jesus.
13. Cecil Sewell closed in prayer, giving instructions for the **Morning Break, Refreshments and Mission Fair**.
14. Truitt Cockrell, Assistant Moderator, thanked Cecil Sewell and the First Baptist Hospitality Committee for the refreshments, and then called Eric to open the Second Session with song.
15. The Business Session continued as Eric Walsh, opened and led the **Congregation** in singing “**I Stand Amazed in the Presence**”.
16. Truitt Cockrell, Assistant Moderator, asked for a motion to amend the program to add **Old and New Business**. The motion was made by Cecil Sewell and a second by Justin Heins, the motion passed.
17. Truitt Cockrell asked for **Old Business**. Phillip Senn asked for a motion for the Credential Committee to deny fellowship that are not participating in the Association or contributing financially. The floor was opened for discussion. Randy Potts asked if Jack has been invited to these particular churches or do they ask anything of the association. Jack Long replied that only two have not. Randy Potts asked if they’ve been contacted and that we should give them a last warning and opportunity to participate before removing those churches from the Association’s roll. Justin Heins, Pastor of Second Baptist asked for Phillip to point out where in the bi-laws these requirements are listed. Justin asked Phillip to also clarify if he was asking for the churches to be removed completely or only for their messengers to not be seated (present) in the Annual Meetings. Phillip referred to page 15, Article 4, and clarified that his motion would be they’d be removed. Cecil Sewell also added that they should be notified. Justin Heins spoke against this proposal along with John Troutman whom both serve on the Credential Committee. Justin noted that at any time during their term of serving on this committee they have not been made aware of this previous motion and stated that the committee would take this concern to the churches not participating. After final discussion the motion was removed from the floor.

18. Truitt Cockrell, Assistant Moderator, called for any **New Business**, there was none.
19. Sam Stephens, **Nominating Committee Chairman**, made reference to the new members that were added to each committee and the council that was nominated after the Committee on Committee and the Nominating Committee's had met. Adding that the two Committees, Nominating and Committee on Committee, will be combined in the future, these two have met together for the last several years. This recommendation to accept the new nominees came from a committee and did not require a motion, this recommendation was passed unanimously.
20. Jim Towater, **Personnel Chairman**, presented their committee's recommendation for a 3% salary increase for Jack Long, and Cathy VanHooser along with Herman DeBoard's Stipend. The committee also recommended that Herman DeBoard's Christmas Bonus be raised to \$300 along with reimbursing Herman \$125 for an oversight of not increasing his Christmas Bonus in 2016. This recommendation coming from a committee and previously approved by the Finance Committee did not require a motion, and passed unanimously.
21. Richard Ams, Assistant Treasurer, presented the **Treasure's Report**, the Income, Expense and the Financial Recap. The Treasure's Reports reflect that Beulah Baptist Association began Oct 1, 2016 with a balance of \$17,514.03 in regular checking. The net income for the fiscal year October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2017 is \$246,570.20 and the total expenses are \$229,059.17. Leaving a balance as of September 30, 2017 in the regular checking \$10,982.65 with \$17,389.42 of that balance being designated funds. The following balances of the other accounts are also as of September 30, 2017; Savings Account, \$4,122.21 and Petty Cash \$0, which was transferred to regular checking due to lack of use.

Richard presented the reports for adoption, not requiring a motion or second.

Truitt Cockrell, Assistant Moderator, called for any discussion, there was none. The Treasurer Reports and Audit was unanimously approved as written. Richard Ams also made a motion that the 2017-2018 Budget be voted on and approved as written. This too passed unanimously without any discussion.

22. Charlotte Long, **Program Committee Chairman**, read the recommendation from the committee to hold the next Annual Meeting for Beulah Baptist Association on Saturday, October 20, 2018 at Pleasant Hill Baptist Church in Rives, TN with the theme "Harvest Time/ God's Work, Our Work". Truitt Cockrell asked for a vote on this recommendation and it passed unanimously.
23. Jack Long, Director of Missions, thanked Sam Stephens and Maurice Carroll for taking all the supplies that were donated to the association to Lumberton, TX. Jack also noted that if anyone would like the trailer for the new movie "Let There Be Light" to see Herman DeBoard and he would get that to them.

Jack recognized the new staff in the association churches.

- Alex Darnell- Worship Leader/ Calvary
- Matthew Crosson– Minister of Music/Crosswind
- Harvel Baker- Pastor/ Cypress Creek
- Terry Richey-Youth Minister/Cypress Creek
- Eric Walsh-Pastor/Obion, FBC
- Stephen Penick-Youth Minister/ Pleasant Hill, Martin
- Aaron Bargery-Pastor/Samburg
- Ben Worley-Minister of Youth and Music/Sunswept
- Amber Waddell-Children’s Director/Union City, FBC

Jack introduced Steve Holt from the TBMB that will deliver the Annual Message.

24. Eric Walsh led the **congregation** in worship singing “**Because He Lives**”.

25. **Special Music** was brought by instrumentalist Betty Keathley playing from memory on the piano her oldest son’s favorite hymn, “**Great Is Thy Faithfulness**”. Betty ended with a praise report thanking everyone for all the prayers for her daughter that has remarkably recovered from an automobile accident, along with fighting cancer. Betty said Bridgette has a long way to go but because of prayer is much further along than anyone expected.

26. The **Annual Message** was given by Dr. Steve Holt from the TMBC. First Steve presented Jack Long, D.O.M. of the Beulah Association with a plaque honoring Beulah’s giving of over \$30,000 to the Golden Offering and stating that 10% of that is given back to Beulah for church plants and revitalization.

Steve Holt spoke about Beulah’s theme this year: “God’s Passion, Our Mission”, quoting scriptures from Jeremiah 31, 2 Peter 3:9 and Luke 12:32. Steve reiterated God’s Glory by describing his creation of the universe and of man. Speaking that we are drawn to God’s Glory but Steve believes that man is the centerpiece of God’s creation because we have a special purpose in His plan. Even though we’re drawn to His Glory we can see His ultimate passion is for His people. That God sacrificed His Glory to be willing to go to cross to give us eternal life and abundant life here on earth. Knowing God’s Passion we all should know Our Mission. Our mission that the God of the Universe loves us so much that He wants to make disciples and tell others about His love and the cross is proof of how far God will go to prove His love for us.

27. Truitt Cockrell closed the 164th Annual Meeting thanking Steve for a powerful message and then prayed.

Respectively Submitted,
Cathy VanHooser
Beulah Baptist Association Clerk