Mission Board Minutes Summary

January 31st, 2019

Members Present: Blaine Rogers, Scott Warren and Tim Forman

Discussed both State Budget from Coop and our ACTS 1:8 deficit.  IM was able to settle each deficit Missionary account, so it is unnecessary to transfer our State Budget to our deficit ACTS 1:8 budget currently. The checking account ($100,000) and the APPLE Fund were reviewed. Discussed planning for next year’s budget and possible ways to suggest to the State to reuse APPLE Fund monies for ministry opportunities and other grants for struggling churches.

Briefly discussed role and responsibility for a Mission Director. What is the pathway for a Mission Director? What would the responsibilities be for the Mission Director?

Additional discussion included, what do we want to accomplish as a State (based upon Vision)? How will the Mission Board need to work and what kind of Board Training will be needed?

October Events: Cote d’Ivoire; Annual missionary retreat hosted by Connect Church (October 16-20). National Pastors from Cote d’Ivoire will be in and available to our State for speaking opportunities.

It was recommended that Scott Warren serve as the next chairman and Tim Forman as the Vice Chairman/Secretary. We will also need a vote for approval on that. (Which was given and made official by email vote on February 5th.)

February 22, 2019

Sadly, and reluctantly with regret, the Mission Board accepted the resignation of Jim Walker, Board Member. We are so grateful for Bro. Jim’s ministry and continue praying for his healing and transitions! (\*Bro. Jim suffered a heart attack and has resigned from Greenwood Church in addition to the Mission Board)

March 12, 2019

Members Present: Blaine Rogers, Scott Warren, Jared Higginbotham, Kevin Jewell.

Finalized a Preliminary State Office Budget. Also, finalized our 2020 Acts 1:8 Budget. Both preliminary budgets will be given to the Executive Committee for approval. Included in our “Dream Budget”:

* Launching a revitalization Plan (to be discussed with Chairmen of each of the boards)
* Offering Statewide Mission Trips (including Hanna Project and IM- Pastoral/student scholarships)
* Boot Camp Training Classes for Church leaders who need some assistance and training)
* Greater Awareness Communication (website/social media, etc.)
* Assessor Reimbursement (travel experiences for coaches and Healthy church trainers)
* Mission Board Training (education for board members concerning planting and health)
* Teaching Materials
* AR Pastor Bootcamp
* Annual Missionary presence at camp for awareness

We also discussed ideas concerning reallocating APPLE money: How much and to what?

* Church help with assessment
* Church plant with assessment
* Internships (youth/Students) {year1/year2/year3}
* Successful Healthy Church Grants
* Qualification for money and repayment
* Not to exceed how much per year? Per qualification?

The Constitution Change regarding the description for the Mission Board was voted upon.

Existing Arkansas Mission Board “Job Description”

Section 4. Mission Board: It shall be the duty of this board to promote an active missions’ program. It shall work in cooperation with the national home mission and foreign missions’ boards in the arranging of missionary conferences, of missionary itineraries, and shall assist in the raising of the state quota for the national missions’ program.

The board shall not participate in the organization of any church or mission in a town, city, or community where there is an organized Free Will Baptist Church without seeking the cooperation of said church. Neither shall this board assist in the organization of a group that is out of fellowship with an established church.

This board shall be entrusted to manage mission property owned by the State Association. It shall be the responsibility of this board to employ a State Missions Director.

Proposed Arkansas Mission Board “Job Description”

Section 4. Mission Board: It shall be the duty of this board to promote an active missions program. It shall work in cooperation with the North American Ministries ~~(national home mission)~~ and International Missions ~~(foreign missions boards~~) in the arranging of missionary conferences, of missionary itinerary awareness for Arkansas churches, and assisting in the funding of our State Mission Program. ~~(raising of the state quota for the national missions program.)~~

The board shall not participate in the organization of any church or mission in a (town, city, or) community where there is a~~(n)~~ Healthy ~~(organized)~~ Free Will Baptist Church without seeking the cooperation of said church. Neither shall this board assist in the organization of a group that is out of fellowship with an established church.

The Board shall assist each Arkansas Free Will Baptist Church requesting help to become healthier.

The board shall be responsible for recruiting church planting pastors, developing church planting strategies, and planting Free Will Baptist churches; both statewide and nationally.

This board shall be entrusted to manage mission property owned by the State Association. It shall be the responsibility of this board to employ a State Missions Director.

We also voted to accept Board Member Qualifications. This will help the nominating committee know what to look for in recommending Board Members. Our final discussion included ideas concerning what to do with residual monies in the State Mission Account (roughly150,000?) Deficit account? - Startup Internship Money ($2,5000 per intern, $5,000 second year, $? 3rd {need a good plan in place for teaching, administration, and expectations and church planters on board})

October 1, 2019

State Office, Conway

Board members present: Jared Higginbotham; Jeff Holland; Ron Parker; Bobby Shepherd; Scott Warren, Chairman. Jared Higginbotham opened with prayer

The Board reviewed ACTS 1:8 receipts from June through September, as well as the Mission Checking and Savings account balances. ACTS 1:8 giving is running short of budget, but all missionaries are sufficiently funded at this time. The Board discussed possible reasons for the lack of ACTS 1:8 giving, as well as possible solutions.

Keren Delgado was approved by IM, Inc. to serve a two-year term in Bulgaria shortly after the ACTS 1:8 budget was set last year. She will likely be included in the next ACTS 1:8 budget year. Jared Higginbotham moved the Mission Board fund her at $1,500 per month. Jeff Holland seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The Board took up the discussion on direction and focus from our July 30th meeting. Bobby Shepherd moved to adopt the Church Health Assessment we have adapted from the NAFWB ReKindle program (Danny Dwyer) and make it available to the state. We will ask David Taylor to assist in promotion and distribution. Jared Higginbotham seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Jared offered a motion the Board adopt as our working definition of a “healthy church” the document that was presented on the floor of the State Meeting last May. Jeff Holland seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The Board discussed the necessity of hiring a Director, and what responsibilities that position might entail. More discussion is required on the matter, and a job description needs to be drawn up.

Jeff Holland proposed the Board host a forum in February, at Camp Beaverfork, for District Association Moderators, as well as Pastors and other leaders. The purpose of the forum will be to lay out the work the Board is doing, give the churches in our state a picture of our direction, and receive feedback. The meeting will take place either Saturday, February 1st, or Saturday, February 8th, from 10am-noon. Lunch will be provided by the Mission Board, and the Board will meet immediately following the forum.

Motion to adjourn was approved. Bobby Shepherd closed with prayer.