

Minutes of the 57th Annual Session of the NC Association of Free Will Baptists

Continue – 2 Timothy 3:14

Embassy Suites Hotel; Greensboro, NC, June 3-4, 2019

Gene Williams, Moderator; Josh Baer, Clerk

MONDAY MORNING SESSION – June 3, 2019 9:30 AM

The morning session was opened with congregational singing led by Kevin Justice. Reuben Cason gave a welcome and led in prayer. The meeting was called to order by Moderator Gene Williams. The standing delegates were recognized and the body voted to seat the delegates sent by churches and associations.

M/S/C to seat the delegates.

Visitors were recognized from several state and national ministries.

The following committees were appointed by the Moderator:

Credentials Committee

Danny Baer, Chairman
Steve Cayton
Bruce Kimbrell

Obituary Committee

Cliff Donoho, Chairman
Roger Peaden
Chuck Overcash

Resolutions Committee

Gerald Fowler, Chairman
Chris Harris
Ben Crabtree

Kevin Justice led the congregational singing. The *Rejoice* ensemble from Welch College provided the special music. Richard Cole introduced Jeff Silver, who preached from Matthew 13:24-30 on “Grow Where You Are.” Gene Williams closed with prayer.

The 11:00 AM opened with Kevin Justice leading the congregational singing. A special greeting was brought by NC Supreme Court Justice Paul Newby. Nate Ange led a special time of prayer for Justice Newby. Special music was provided by the *Sounds of Praise* ensemble from Southeastern FWB College. Danny Baer introduced Josh Baer, who preached from Revelation 2:1-7 about “Staying On Mission.” Gene Williams closed with announcements and prayer.

MONDAY AFTERNOON BUSINESS SESSION – June 3, 2015 2:00 PM

Gene Williams opened with Scripture and prayer. The afternoon business session was called to order.

The Nominating Committee was appointed ahead of time by the Executive Committee:

Alan Sailors (Chairman), Sherman Branch, Tommy Bulla, Blake Coghill, Kraig Spivey

A partial report from the **Credentials Committee** was given by Danny Baer, Chairman. All 8 associations have paid. 156 churches have reported. 219 registered attendees.

This partial report was accepted as information.

The **Executive Board** report was given by the Clerk, Josh Baer. He referred to the minutes of State Meeting and the Executive Board meetings as reported in the Digest (pp. 12-20).

M/S/C to accept the report.

The **Executive Board** proposed the State Association *give \$10,000 (from the 2018 CELF interest) to scholarship funds: \$5,000 to the Leah Waddell Scholarship (Welch), and \$5,000 to SFWBC in memory of Dolly Stox for NC students.*

M/S/C to pass this motion.

Reuben Cason, Promotional Director gave his report (Report on pp. 22-33).

1. National Dues are going up to \$175 in 2020, and up to \$200 in 2025.
2. Proposed budget on p. 32 of \$97,650.00.

M/S/C to accept the report and adopt the Promotional Office budget.

Treasurer **Scott Coghill** gave the Treasurer's Report (Report on pp. 21-22).

1. *Question of clarification about where the \$40,000 each for a Reserve Fund and the National Expense Fund came from, that the Executive Committee set aside. It came from the Promotional Office's checking account excess funds.*

M/S/C to accept the report.

The **NC Mission Board** report was given by the Board Chairman David Robinson (Report on pp. 34-40).

1. Financial reports for the Mission Board were given by Board Treasurer Jimmy Mercer.
2. *Question about designated money. All designated monies are honored. Note: The money being saved by the reduction in support for each mission work is going into a separate account and will be distributed to that church at the end of the process. All money given for a particular work will go to that work.*

M/S/C to accept the report and adopt the budget.

The **Youth Board** report was given by Derek Cominskie (Report on pp. 42-46). Our youth are active in their local churches, in regional meetings, and in our denomination through competition, Truth & Peace, and ETeam.

M/S/C to accept the report.

The **North Carolina Women Active for Christ** report was given by Carolyn Riddick (Report on p. 41). Our women continue to be active in raising funds for missions and our colleges.

M/S/C to accept the report.

We received greetings from *WNAC* – Elizabeth Hodges, Executive Director.

The **Leah Waddell Scholarship** report was given by Betty Hill (Report on p. 47-48). This past year, eight students from NC were each given \$1,000 scholarships.

M/S/C to accept the report.

Johnny Hudson brought a resolution:

Because of the recent natural disasters that have become more frequent and destructive in recent years, this motion is to ask our promotional director and the executive board to formulate a plan to include all of our Associations across our state to be informed of the disaster and the best way they can respond with workers, supplies, and prayers to help our Free Will Baptist Churches as well as many other people that have been devastated and need our assistance.

M/S/C to pass this motion.

Jimmy Mercer brought a special word of thanks for all the help given to his church during the response to the Hurricane.

We received greetings from the following ministries:

- *NAFWB Executive Office*, Keith Burden, Executive Secretary
- *FWB International Missions*, Clint Morgan, General Director
- *FWB Missions in India*, Dr. Don Hanna
- *FWB North American Ministries*, Jeff Jones, Board Chairman
- *Welch College*, Dr. Matt Pinson, President
- *FWB Family Ministries*, Jim McComas, CEO

M/S/C to recess at 4:15 PM.

MONDAY EVENING SERVICE – June 3, 2019 7:00 PM

Pre-service (6:30 pm) music was provided by the combined groups from Welch College and Southeastern FWB College. Matt Berry and the music team from New Life FWB Church led the music. Sam Harris led a Convention Choir in providing special music. The offering was received to benefit the NC Home Missions New Work Fund (received \$722). Joe Ange introduced Henry Horne, who preached from 2 Timothy 2:8-13 on “Motivations to Continue.” Following an altar service, Luke Johnson brought an update on his son, Landen. We closed the meeting with a special time of prayer for Landen.

TUESDAY MORNING SESSION – June 4, 2019 8:30 AM

Dr. Neil Gilliland from International Missions led a seminar on “How to Communicate across Generational Lines.”

North Carolina Home Missions Presentation

Zachary Bell led the congregational singing. Chuck Overcash led in prayer for the Home Missions Offering, which will be distributed to the two NC mission works (received \$481). The *Sounds of Praise* Ensemble from Southeastern FWB College provided special music. Cliff Donoho introduced Dale McCoy, who gave a report on the revitalization work at Glad Tidings FWB Church in Asheboro. Rex Evans was not able to attend because of health issues, so Jimmy Mercer brought a report from Rex about the Freedom FWB Church work in Roanoke Rapids. David Robinson concluded the time in prayer for our NC missionaries, and for all missionaries present at our meeting.

TUESDAY MORNING BUSINESS SESSION – June 4, 2019 10:00 AM

Moderator Gene Williams called the meeting to order.

We received greetings from the following Free Will Baptist ministries:

- *Randall House Publications* – Tim Owen, Representative
- *FWB Board of Retirement* – Danny Baer, Board Chairman
- *FWB Foundation* – David Brown, General Director
- *Southeastern Free Will Baptist College* – Nate Ange, President
- *Faith Missions in India* – Hemant Patel, Missionary
- *Harvest Child Care Ministries* in Virginia – Carl Miller, NC Field Rep.
- *FWB Rekindle Church Revitalization Ministry* – Danny Dwyer, Director

After a brief recess, Gene Williams recognized the remaining missionaries and ministries that were in attendance.

The **Credentials Committee Report** was presented by Danny Baer, Chairman.
156 churches reported from 8 district associations.

Registration:

Ordained Ministers	88
Delegates	8
Associates	15
Missionaries	4
Visitors	94
Total Registered	209

M/S/C to accept the report.

The **Obituary Committee Report** was given by Cliff Donoho, Chairman.

The following ministers went home to be with the Lord this past year in our churches:

<u>NAME:</u>	<u>CHURCH:</u>	<u>ASSOCIATION:</u>
Rev. Clayton Burch	Goshen, Mt. Holly	Southern Piedmont
Rev. Earl Bittle	Highland Drive, Lincolnton	Southern Piedmont
Rev. Harold Holcombe	West Fifth Ave., Gastonia	Foothills

Following a moment of silence, Cliff Donoho led in prayer.

M/S/C to accept the report.

The **Resolution Committee Report** was given by Gerald Fowler, Chairman.

*Concerning the 57th Annual Meeting of the North Carolina Association of Free Will Baptists
Meeting at Embassy Suites Greensboro, NC, June 3-4, 2019*

Whereas 57th meeting has been especially blessed by the Presence of the LORD,

Whereas such meetings do not happen without much prayer and planning,

*Whereas the accommodations and staff of Embay Suites have been very accommodating; now
therefore*

*Resolve, we give the Executive Committee, Promotional Director, Moderator, and speakers a rising
vote of appreciation; and be it further*

*Resolved, that we as individuals thank the staff of Embassy Suites and our clerk send them a letter
expressing our appreciation.*

M/S/C to receive report and pass the resolution.

A **resolution** was presented by the Piedmont Association of FWB.

Whereas, we believe that all human life has been endowed, by our Creator, with essential value; and,

Whereas, we believe all human beings are made in the image and likeness of God, and

Whereas, since Roe v. Wade was made law in 1973 some 62,655,483 abortions have taken place in America, and

Whereas the States of New York and Virginia have introduced legislation that would allow abortions up to the 40th week of pregnancy (with the legislation in Virginia allowing for the abortion of a child, after birth (murder), and

Whereas, the taking of innocent human life is disdained and condemned in God's Holy Word,

Therefore, be it resolved that the NC Association of FWB's stand firmly against abortion, at any period of pregnancy

Be it further resolved that, as an Association of FWB's, we encourage our Pastors to both teach and preach that abortion is nothing short of murder and is therefore to be condemned from the pulpits of this Association

Be it further resolved that we encourage our Youth Leaders and teachers to address this issue in their classes and youth groups.

We are asked to send this resolution on to the National Association of FWB.

M/S/C to adopt this resolution.

The **Nominating Committee** report was given by Alan Sailors, Chairman.

Executive Board

Asst. Moderator: Danny Gasperson (2020) 1st term replaced by Josh Baer (2020) unexpired term

Clerk: Josh Baer (2020) 1st term replaced by Jeff Silver (2020) unexpired term

Member at Large: Pat Hall (2019) unexpired term replaced by Pat Hall (2022) 1st term

NC State Mission Board

Jimmy Mercer (2019) 1st term replaced by Jimmy Mercer (2024) 2nd term

Youth Relations Board

Jake Manning (2019) 1st term replaced by Jake Manning (2024) 2nd term

Darren Walker (2023) 3rd term replaced by Adam Laster (2023) unexpired term

M/S/C to elect by acclamation.

Gene Williams led a special time of prayer for outgoing NAFWB Executive Secretary Keith Burden and for the nominee to replace him, Dr. Eddie Moody.

TUESDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE – June 4, 2019 11:15 AM

Zachary Bell opened the service by leading congregational singing. The *Rejoice* Ensemble from Welch College provided special music. Darin Gibbs introduced Chris Truett, who preached from 1 Kings 19:1-18 on "Running on Empty." Scott Coghill closed the service in prayer.

Moderator Gene Williams gave closing remarks and adjourned the State Meeting. Outgoing Assistant Moderator Danny Gasperson closed in prayer.