

**Ellis Baptist Association
Leadership Team Minutes
May 11, 2020**

In Attendance (via Zoom): Richard Cody, Lauri Henderson, Jim Lawton, Bill White, Aaron Clayton, Demetrius McClendon, Bert Sigala and Darla Schembera

Regrets: Misael Rodriguez, Bobbie Dlabaj, Rupert Robbins and Brian Burgess.

Prayer requests were shared and Richard opened the meeting in prayer.

Lauri was assigned to be the Process Check evaluator.

The March and April meeting minutes were presented and approved.

MINISTRY REPORTS:

EBA Financials: Darla presented the financial reports for March and April 2020. Financials were approved as presented.

Reports & Financials - ECWJC, Disaster Relief and Honduras:

ECWJC - Lauri shared that classes finished up last week and that things went really well with having classes online. Participants are all in agreement that they would prefer not to have a virtual graduation and so they will be waiting to see when they can have an in person graduation ceremony and where that could take place. The Rose Award Luncheon has been rescheduled twice and is now scheduled to take place on August 7, 2020. Lauri presented two new members of the ECWJC Advisory Council, Paula Marney and Allison Estrada. The team approved their addition to the council.

Disaster Relief - Jim explained that Disaster Relief is doing well has been pretty slow at this time. The box unit was deployed to Onalaska, TX in response to recent tornadoes in that area. The main difference in this deployment was that all volunteers were asked to sign waivers regarding their possible exposure to COVID and the volunteers stayed at a local camp and were provided with social distancing in their accommodations. Two new volunteers that have never been on a call out before were among those that went and they shared that they were so amazed by the impact that can be made just by giving boxes out. TBM is currently working on establishing new procedures that would address the new concerns with COVID going forward.

Honduras - Darla shared that there are two new missionaries joining the 61 Isaiah team soon. Micah and Linsey Jimison will be heading down to Honduras for 1 year. Lindsey will be teaching at the Abundant Life school and Micah will be managing the Hunger Farm.

Church Planting - Aaron shared that the team is continuing their conversations with several possible church plants. One in particular they are discussing a possible plant in Ellis County. The person they are talking to currently resides near Hillsboro and has talked of planting there, but may be open to coming to Ellis County. He has already attended state assessment for church planters and has been given the green light to proceed. The Church Plant team will continue talking with him.

Church Revitalization - None.

Leadership Development - None.

Community Transformation - None.

New and Established Church Status

Watchcare - None

Church Plants - Brian Walker at Merge Point in Hillsboro is running for Judge and believes that if that happens he will be able to dedicate much more time to the church. Runoffs are expected to be next month. Talks continue with Damon Greer, the pastor of New Life in Midlothian.

Potential EBA Members - Canaan Missionary Baptist Church is still looking to come back into the association. At this time it has been hard to communicate with them in order to get the

application to them, but we will keep the lines of communication working.

UNFINISHED ACTIVITY:

Block Party Trailer -Richard shared that EBA is still working to gather information to complete policies for the two bounce houses.

Honduras Association - Process is ongoing.

Caring Well - Nothing new has been communicated from the NAMB or SBC regarding Caring Well. At this time EBA will continue with what they are doing and working with and moving forward with Cindi Williams

Vision and Strategy, planning - EBA has a tenant for the building at 3080 W Hwy 287 Bypass. The North Texas Behavioral Clinic will begin operations from that location as of June 1, 2020. EBA will work to complete moving all items out during the next two weeks in order to facilitate a smooth transfer. EBA will continue to operate in a mobile capacity and continue to meet the needs of the churches in Ellis County. The rent monies collected will be made available to churches as 0% interest emergency loans.

Women's Center - This is continuing to move forward and more information will be shared as it proceeds.

PPP Update - EBA was approved for the Payroll Protection Loan and is just waiting to complete the paperwork to have the funds deposited. Once that is complete they will begin the process of documenting the usage of those funds in order to complete the requirements for loan forgiveness.

NEW ACTIVITY:

Interim at FBC Red Oak - Richard shared the status of his interim at FBC Red Oak and requested an extension for two more months due to circumstances. Leadership Team approved and will revisit this at next meeting.

Approve Rupert Robbins as EBA Treasurer - EBA Leadership Team approved to assign Rupert Robbins as the new treasurer for EBA.

Honduras - Due to the extreme measures that have been taken due COVID in Honduras the radio station and hunger farm have suffered final coal loss. There are issues with being able to continue to pay the employees. Richard requested that EBA set aside, over the next quarter, \$5,000 to send to 61 Isaiah in order to ease this hardship. The Leadership Team approved this request.

Bank Resolutions - The attached resolution was presented by Darla and read to all via Zoom in order to update the check signers and address for the EBA account at Citizens National Bank of Texas. Resolution was approved by those in attendance and will be taken to the bank.

Annual Meeting - Richard shared that he is thinking about having a golf day for the upcoming Annual meeting this year. Part due to the annual Pastor and Minister golf day being cancelled due to COVID, but also as a way to perhaps encourage attendance and to assure that the information presented at the meeting is getting out to all of the pastors in the association. This will be discussed further at future meetings.

Our next meeting will be July 20, 2020 at 12:00 p.m., location to be determined.

Meeting was closed in prayer by Richard Cody.

Submitted by: Darla Schembera