

**Ellis Baptist Association
Leadership Team Minutes
March 8, 2021**

In Attendance: Richard Cody, Lauri Henderson, Bill White, Bert Sigala, Sheila Thompson, Justin Dorough, Aaron Clayton, Demetrius McClendon, Brian Burgess, Jim Lawton and Darla Schembera

Regrets: Rupert Robbins

Prayer requests were shared and Richard opened the meeting in prayer. Sheila Thompson shared about Maypearl and the growth there and some of the key points of the area. The team discussed other issues relevant to the community like school districts and demographics.

Jim was assigned to be the Process Check evaluator.

The January meeting minutes were presented and approved.

MINISTRY REPORTS:

EBA Financials: Darla presented the financial reports for January and February 2021. Financials were approved as presented.

Reports & Financials - ECWJC, Disaster Relief and Honduras:

ECWJC - Lauri shared that class started after having to delay twice due to circumstances. There are three participants. The Rose Awards luncheon will take place on May 21 at the Civic Center in Waxahachie. Richard and Lauri are preparing a multi-week program that will help admin assistants learn more about social media and online presence. They are partnering with Brandi Jones from WMU. Darla shared about the Ministry Assistants luncheon coming up on April 8 that will be an introduction and kick off for the classes.

ECDR - Jim shared that Disaster Relief is in desperate need for volunteers and leadership. Many injuries have happened among the leaders, so please lift them up in prayer. Financials look good. The team talked about how to better get the word out about volunteer needs out to the churches.

Honduras - Richard shared about the work in Honduras and the challenges that are associated with providing assistance.

Church Revitalization - None.

Leadership Development - Sunday school training will be in Rockwall in August and may be via Zoom. Pastor's Lunch will be held in March at Longbranch and it will be followed by a time of prayer at the new site for One Church.

Community Transformation - Love thy neighbor is going country wide. They place scriptures in businesses and yard signs are available. They are hosting appreciation events for under appreciated workers in the community.

New and Established Church Status

Watchcare - None

Church Plants - Tony Canady may be planting in Waxahachie. They are talking through the next steps. Crosstown Fellowship in Hillsboro is still in the process. They have had many set backs, but Aaron is walking through this with them.

New Pastors - Richard shared about two new pastors to the Association. Brent McNeal will be the new pastor at Longbranch and will be here in May. Chad McConnell is the new pastor at Calvary.
Potential EBA Members - Richard shared about a Korean church in the county and how EBA might connect with them. Canaan Missionary Baptist Church in Midlothian may still turn in their application, we are waiting.

UNFINISHED ACTIVITY:

North Texas Behavioral Clinic - Richard shared a letter from Becky expressing some options. He recommended that the letter be tabled until after the sub team can meet and make a recommendation to the Leadership Team.

Property Sub Team - Bill White shared the latest update from the team. Richard shared some additional information on comps in the area to include ranges of price/square foot.

NEW ACTIVITY:

Review Grant Application - Grant application was approved and Darla will disperse funds as per Leadership Team discussion.

Team approved to have next Annual Meeting at Primera.

Our next meeting will be a special called meeting to discuss property options on April 6, 2021 at 1:30 p.m. at Richard's home. Next regular Leadership Team Meeting will be held on May 10, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. at Central in Italy.

Meeting was closed in prayer by Richard Cody.

Submitted by: Darla Schembera