

**Ellis Baptist Association  
Leadership Team Minutes  
July 26, 2021**

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

**Regrets:** Jim Lawton, Sheila Thompson and Rupert Robbins

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

Bert was assigned to be the Process Check evaluator.

The May and June meeting minutes were presented and approved with suggested corrections.

**MINISTRY REPORTS:**

**EBA Financials:** Darla presented the financial reports for May and June 2021. Financials were approved as presented with corrections requested for formatting.

**Reports & Financials - ECWJC, Disaster Relief and Honduras:**

**ECWJC -** Lauri shared that the Rose awards this year went well and brought in over \$10,000 for CWJC. New classes will start September 7 and will go through December 7. Classes will be half day and will meet on Tuesday - Thursday. Counseling for participants was dropped due to possible conflicts. North Texas Giving Day is coming up on September 24 and they are hoping for a good turn out for that. Lauri has talked with Sandy King with Lighthouse for Learning and they will be partnering on an evening class that will meet on Thursdays. The Lighthouse for Learning is required to charge for their classes, but they will donate those funds back to CWJC. Class offered in the evenings will be Google Workspace and will be open to men. There will also be a class on Thursday evening in conversational Spanish. Lauri presented the CWJC Financials and the 2022 Proposed Budget. Both were accepted by Leadership Team. Lauri gave an update on Kathrynne. They are looking to try to do afternoon classes in Ennis in the Fall. Classes could possibly be held at Friendship Baptist Church and be 1 day a week only to start.

**Disaster Relief -** There is an upcoming training in Cedar Hill. Darla will put out more information on that for everyone.

**Honduras -** At this time COVID is still very fluid in Honduras. Darla and Richard shared about their trip and some of the challenges being experienced by a couple of the churches there. Overall things are moving towards a "New Normal" as COVID restrictions are lifted and Shannon and the 61 Isaiah teams are able to get back into the villages. Continued conversations on the plans for the land at the Radio Station.

**Church Revitalization -** None.

**Leadership Development -** Sunday school Conference coming up on August 28 will be held at FBC Richardson.

**Gospel Centered Community Transformation -** The Block Party Trailer has gone out a couple of times and it seems to be working well. Waxahachie Bible Church used it for several events during a month long community outreach. They provided great feedback for us to make some possible improvements. Longbranch used the two bounce houses for their Mother's Day out program and

also gave us great feedback. Primera will be using the trailer in the coming week and we are looking forward to hear how that goes.

### **New and Established Church Status**

**Watchcare** - None

**Church Planting** - Aaron continues to contact potential plants.

### **UNFINISHED ACTIVITY:**

**Sardis Property** - August 2 will be the end of the inspection period and at that time the earnest money will no longer be refunded. Closing is expected on August 23 or before. A resolution was presented regarding those that can sign the closing documents. Richard was added as a person who can sign and also an alternate was named in the event that the remaining trustees could not be available for signing.

**Christians Rise Up** - The event is going to be held on October 10. The CRU team will be going forward with applying for their own 501(c)3 so should not need EBA assistance at this time.

**Annual Meeting** - Meeting will be held at Primera Baptist Church on October 24. Theme and logo are set. Meal will be served at 5:15 and meeting will begin at 6:00 pm. The team discussed the use of the disaster relief tent outside to provide more seating for the meal. This will be the case so long as it is not out for a disaster.

**Honduras Property** - Leadership Team approved 61 Isaiah to move forward with land proposal that was presented to the team in June.

**Investment Team** - Richard again suggested that a 3-5 person investment team be put together to handle the investment of the funds from the sale of the property. These would be persons that are knowledgeable in finance and could have at least one member from the Leadership Team. Ken Box will be unable to serve on the team, but will be available to help with guidelines. In the interim, the Leadership Team agreed to place the funds in a 7-month CEC at the Southern Baptist of Texas Foundation. At maturity, the funds would then be moved according to the decisions of the Investment Team.

### **NEW ACTIVITY:**

**Missions and Ministry Funds** - Two Grant requests were presented for approval. After discussion on revisions that should be made to the current guidelines, both requests were approved.

Leadership Team agreed that there needs to be a discussion at our next meeting to making the requirements for grant qualification be more needs based.

**Potential budget shortfall** - Richard shared with the team that the monthly giving from one of our largest supporters has changed and this could produce a potential shortfall in the EBA budget. Richard shared with the Team that he will continue to work and cultivate churches in the area of giving and look for new churches that could join EBA.

**Job Description for Communications Director** - A new job description was presented for Darla. The current job description for her position did not include many of the duties that she now has and likewise there were many outdated items. Leadership Team approved the new job description.

**Proposed 2022 Budget** - A draft of the Proposed 2022 Budget was presented to the team. There are a couple of items that are not complete due to waiting on quotes for insurance. Team approved what was presented with a change to the amounts for the Christmas bonuses for Richard and Darla. Changes will be made and updated proposed budget will be presented at the September meeting.

Our next meeting will be September 13, at 12:00 p.m., location TBD.

Meeting was closed in prayer by Richard Cody.

Submitted by: Darla Schembera