

**Ellis Baptist Association
Leadership Team Minutes
March 21, 2022**

In Attendance: Richard Cody, Lauri Henderson, Justin Dorough, Jim Lawton, John Thomas, Bert Sigala, Aaron Clayton, Rupert Robbins, Sheila Thompson, Alex Farr and Darla Schembera

Regrets: Demetrius McClendon and Bill White.

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

Sheila was assigned to be the Process Check evaluator.

The January meeting minutes were presented and approved with corrections.

MINISTRY REPORTS:

EBA Financials: Darla presented the financial reports for January and February 2022. Financials were approved as presented. Rupert and Darla will meet to address the irregularities and will present a correct March statement.

Reports & Financials - ECWJC, Disaster Relief and Honduras:

ECWJC - Lauri shared the financials for January and February. Rebecca Royse is being presented as a new advisory team member. She is a mentor and is helping to oversee the Rose Award auction. She will be a great addition to the team. On May 12th is the annual fundraiser, the Rose Award. The tickets go on sale April 1st and the event will be held at Firefly Gardens. Award recipients are Amy Trull and Christen Rudd for Business, Kim Holman and Emily Oliver for Ministry, Pastor wife is Sheila Zimmerman, Volunteer of the Year is Joy Walker's Class from Ellis County Cowboy Church, Alumni of the Year is Brenda Caughen and Partner of the Year is FBC Maypearl. Catering prices have gone up and so the amount raised may be less this year, but we have several sponsors at this time that will help to counter that expense.

Disaster Relief - Jim shared the Disaster Relief is alive and well. West Texas was on call for any damage from the fires, but was not needed. The shower trailer is ready to go. TBM has partnered with local churches working in Poland to provide logistical support in the warehouses as they minister to refugees. There are always projects to do. We would like to see if the churches could do a tape drive to have donations of tape or money for tape and packing paper. Jim shared a testimony and emphasized the Gospel impact that Disaster Relief has through Messages of Hope.

Honduras - Darla shared about the radio station changing its name and that the process is moving along nicely. Talked about the vision trip and shared several stories about what God is doing there in Honduras, to include a story about Don Trini, the pastor of the church in San Pedrito.

Church Revitalization - None.

Leadership Development - The new Leadership Development Team have now met twice and will meet again. They are in the early processes of some leadership training that will take place. There is a worship conference coming up at FBC Burluson. Also, the Small Group and SS Leadership Training conference will be in August. The location is TBD and should be determined at this week's meeting.

Gospel Centered Community Transformation - Richard shared about the National Day of Prayer.

We will be providing information on the activities in each community and put that on our website and Social Media. Love Your Neighbor has a thrift store that is funding their activities and there are multiple churches that are participating in this movement of encouraging our community to love on those in the community that are not always recognized. They have expanded to the county and have completed activities in Italy and Ennis and Avalon is in the near future. Christians Rise Up in Prayer will look to have its next event in October, but waiting to see what that will look like in the future.

New and Established Church Status

Watchcare - None

Church Planting - There is a pastor looking to plant on the east side of Waxahachie.

Established Churches - Mt. Horeb joining has been put on hold for a while. El Bethel we are still having conversations and they have not applied yet. Greater New Mt Zion, we are also just waiting to see where that goes. TCAL has been having conversations with Richard and they are interested in being a part of the association.

UNFINISHED ACTIVITY:

Investment Team - On hold until we decide what to do about the office. Discussion was had to see what are the next steps that we need to do for the building.

NEW ACTIVITY:

Future needs of EBA - Richard shared about the possible needs of EBA for the future, and how EBA may want to be in a building with CWJC and be closer to downtown Waxahachie.

Ministry Assistant Luncheon - Luncheon will be held on August 25th and looking at the English Merchant Parlor as the possible venue. More details to follow.

Recommendation from the Membership Team - The Leadership Team approved the recommendation from the Membership Team to bring Triumphal Christian Fellowship under watchcare, with the potential of being presented at the Annual Meeting as candidates for full membership.

New trustee - Team was asked to bring recommendations for new trustee for the EBA.

Prayer team leader - Richard is looking to have a prayer team leader that could lead out in connecting our churches and leaders to pray for one another.

Our next meeting will be May 9, 2022 at 12:00 p.m., location at Jim Lawton's house

Meeting was closed in prayer by Richard Cody.

Submitted by: Darla Schembera