

**Ellis Baptist Association
Leadership Team Minutes
January 9, 2023**

In Attendance: Richard Cody, Lauri Henderson, Alex Farr, Demetrius McClendon, Justin Dorough, John Thomas, Aaron Clayton, John E Martinez, Johanna Sigala, Raymond Gay and Darla Schembera

Regrets: Jim Lawton

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

Aaron was assigned to be the Process Check evaluator.

Richard shared with the new members the purpose of EBA and shared some demographics about Ellis County. He talked about the churches that are members of the association and what are the four main priorities of the association.

The December meeting minutes were presented and approved.

MINISTRY REPORTS:

EBA Financials: November and December financials were presented. There were questions and recommendations. Corrected reports will be presented for December financials at March meeting.

Reports & Financials - ECWJC, Disaster Relief and Honduras:

ECWJC - Lauri shared the financials and they were approved. She shared that they are looking good for the upcoming semester and they currently have 4 enrolled for day and 3 for night. The new session starts January 31, 2023. She shared with the new members a bit about what CWJC does and how they relate to EBA.

Disaster Relief - Richard shared with the new members what disaster relief is and what they do. He also explained how they relate to EBA and that they fall under us as a ministry partner.

Honduras - Darla shared about the work that is going on in Honduras and also about an upcoming Vision Trip that will be led by Richard on April 28 - May 2, 2023.

Church Revitalization - In April we are looking to participate in an Associational event, Church Re-Plant, partnering with NAMB and other associations from the DFW area. Event will be held April 17-18, 2023 and held at Mt. Lebanon. We will be reaching out to pastors.

Leadership Development - Demetrius explained that this will be an opportunity for leadership training for EBA Pastors, and they will be hosting events that will be presenting topics that are interesting and needed for Pastors. The first event will be on January 19, and there will be a noon session at 11:30 am at Park Meadows Baptist Church and an evening session at 6:30 pm at Triumphal Christian Fellowship. The speaker will be Bruce Prindle from FBC Midlothian. The Group (SS/LG) Conference for this year will be at Hillcrest Baptist Church on February 18, 2023. There will be breakout sessions for all of the different ministries and age-groups.

Gospel Centered Community Transformation - Block Party Trailer is available for churches to use for any outreach events they have going on. Love Your Neighbor is doing well and their thrift store is reaching the community.

Church Planting - Aaron shared that HOT Church (House of Transformation) will be coming under

EBA as a church plant. As such they will receive funds from EBA going forward. He requested the amount of \$16,500 to be given out as monthly support and as milestones are completed. Request was approved. Another potential church plant in Ferris is in just the conversation stages. This would be a multicultural type church. Remedy Church is bringing on a new resident in January and they will be looking to send him to plant in Collin County in 2024. Aaron requested funds in the amount of \$20,000 to be given as monthly support for this resident to be given as grants as he completes preparation to move forward as a church planter and meets milestones as laid out by the church planting team. Request was approved. The team is looking to help our EBA churches to send out church planters. They would then bring these candidates before the EBA team.

New and Established Church Status

Watch-care - Triumphal Christian Fellowship and El Bethel are under watch-care.

UNFINISHED ACTIVITY:

New treasurer - We are still seeking a new treasurer.

Annual Celebration - The team agreed that the Annual Meeting was successful. The setup and layout of the location worked well. There was good participation, but the team agreed that it could still be better. The team discussed how to make participation and attendance better for next year.

Future Team - Two new members were added to the team and the team is now complete. The first official session will be on January 11. The team will meet every three weeks going forward. Leadership Team approved the new members. The final team consists of the following persons: Brent McNeal, Demetrius McClendon, Chris Ransbottom, LaDonna Hagler, Bill White, Rick Cantu and Bryan Wooten.

NEW ACTIVITY:

Annual Meeting 2023 - The 2023 Annual Meeting will be held on October 22, 2023. Team discussed format for this meeting and ways that we can encourage more participation from our churches.

CMJC - The team previously agreed to have CMJC come under the umbrella of EBA and as such will have a representative on the Leadership Team going forward. Representative was not named at this time.

Missions and Ministry Grant - Richard asked the team if these funds could be used by churches that are wanting to go on the Vision Trip to Honduras. The team agreed that this was an appropriate use of the funds and approved. Churches must submit their request by March 1 and the amount will be up to \$700 per church.

Our next meeting will be March 20, 2023 at 12:00 p.m., location TBD.

Meeting was closed in prayer by Richard Cody.

Submitted by: Darla Schembera