

Nancy Brown
♦MINUTES♦

—OF THE—

FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING

—OF THE—

➤Big Fork United Baptist➤

••ASSOCIATION••

—HELD WITH—

BOARD CAMP CHURCH, POLK CO., ARK.,

COMMENCING SEPTEMBER 5, A. D. 1891.

J. E. LONG, MODERATOR.

JAMES M. HILTON, CLERK.

Nancy Brown

DALLAS, ARK.

POLK COUNTY COURIER PRINT.

1891.

MINUTES.

STATE OF ARKANSAS, }
COUNTY OF POLK, }

We, the Big Fork United Baptist Association, met with Board Camp church, in Polk county, Arkansas, Saturday before the first Sabbath in September, A. D. 1891, according to adjournment. The introductory sermon was preached by Eld. J. E. Long, from the 25th chapter and the 1st to 11th verses of Matthew, at 11 o'clock a. m., and Bro. A. A. Bates concluded. After a short intermission was given for refreshment the Association was called to order by the moderator, and after prayer by Eld. G. C. Starks the letters from the different churches that compose this body was called for, and the moderator appointed Bros. G. C. Starks and S. M. Kemp to read the letters, and the clerk of this body to enroll the names of the delegates of the different churches. Petitionary letters were called for and none received. The Association then proceeded to organize by electing Bro. J. E. Long moderator for the ensuing year, and James M. Hilton clerk. On motion the moderator-elect appointed the following committees: On preaching, Bros. James Standridge, Z. A. Hilton and N. A. Wilcox. [See appendix A.] On obituary, Bros. William Lawrence, A. A. Bates and James Wilcox. [See appendix B.] On finance, Bros. S. M. Kemp, J. C. Pullen and J. C. Dollar. [See appendix C.] On arrangements, Bros. J. H. Riddle, G. C. Starks, J. W. Guist, A. A. Bates and A. J. Strickland. [See appendix D.] On motion this body appointed Eld. G. C. Starks to preach a doctrinal sermon, on Sunday at 11 o'clock, from the 16th chapter and 18th verse of Matthew. On motion this Association adjourned until 9 o'clock Monday morning. Prayer by Eld. William Lawrence. Monday morning the Association met according to adjournment, and after prayer by the moderator the roll of delegates was called. On motion the reading of the minutes of Saturday was called for, which was read, amended, and adopted. On motion Bros. J. B. Dilbeck and W. B. Burkhardt was inserted as delegates from Big Fork church to fill the vacancy of Bros. J. W. Dilbeck and Anderson Lawrence, who went home on account

of sickness in their families; and Bro R. G. Brown from Liberty church to fill the place of Bro. J. L. Welter. On motion the rules of decorum and articles of faith of this body was read by the clerk. On motion the committee on finance was granted time to make out their report. The report was presented and received by the body. The report of the committee on obituary was called for which was read and adopted. The report of the committee on preaching was called for which was read and adopted. The report of the committee on arrangements was called for which was read and adopted by amending article 9, of the rules of decorum by striking out the words, shall rise to their feet, and insert the words, the moderator may take the vote any way he may think proper. On motion of this body that the clerk of this body take the money and have as many copies of the minutes printed as he thinks proper, and distribute the same to the several churches. On motion of the body, that Bro G. C. Starks write an essay on the duty of the churches to the support of the ministry, and present to the next meeting of this body. On motion, resolved, that we extend our thanks to the brethren and sisters and friends of this vicinity for their kind hospitality shown us during this session. On motion the minutes of this body was read and adopted.

APPENDIX.

A.—We, your committee on preaching beg leave to make, this, our report: That Eld. J. E. Long preach at the church house, Saturday night at early candle light, and Eld. A. A. Bates, his alternate, and Eld. J. E. Long to preach at 3 o'clock, on Sunday, and Eld. A. A. Bates at early candle light, Sunday night, and Eld. G. C. Starks to preach Monday at 11 o'clock, a. m. Z. A. HILTON, Chairman.

B.—We, your committee on obituary, beg leave to make this, our report: Brethren, we find from reading of the letters from the different churches to this body, that it pleased God to call from us our beloved brother, Abe Walker, who was a worthy deacon of Chrystal Hill church, and brother Thomas Singleton, who was a worthy member of the same church, and brother William Hiller, and sister Caroline Barker, who were both worthy members of Liberty church, and sister Sarah Edwards, who was a worthy member of Big Fork church. Brethren this reminds us that it is appointed unto man once to die, and after this the judgement. Brethren, pray for the bereaved relations and friends, that God will bless and save them.

JAMES K. WILCOX, Chairman.

C.—We, your committee on finance, beg leave to make this, our report: We find from the letters sent up, the amount of \$10.00.

Respectfully submitted,

S. M. KEMP, Chairman.

D.—We, your committee on arrangements, beg leave to make this, our report: The time and place of holding the next Association will be with Brushy Creek church, Montgomery county, Arkansas, Eld. A. A. Bates to preach the introductory sermon, and Bro. G. C. Starks to be his alternate. We invite other associations to correspond with us. Will we make any change in the Rules of Decorum? We will change Article 9 so as to read: "When any question is taken up, after allowing time for debate, the moderator take the vote in any way he may think best."

On motion, this Association adjourned to meet with Brushy Creek church, Montgomery county, Arkansas, on Saturday before the second Sabbath in September, 1892.

After prayer by G. C. Starks, the parting hymn was sung and the right hand of fellowship given.

J. E. LONG, Moderator.

JAMES M. HILTON, Clerk.

FORM OF LETTERS TO THE ASSOCIATION.

We, the United Baptist Church of Christ at _____, send greeting to the Big Fork Association, which is to convene with _____ church, commencing Saturday before the first Sabbath in September, 18—:

We send as delegates to represent us in your body our beloved Brothers (here give their names) _____, _____. (Here state the condition of the church). Our statistics are as follows:

Name of Church. Name of County. No. Baptized. No. Received by Letter. No. Restored. No. Dismissed by Letter. No. Excluded. No. Died. Total Number in Fellowship. Contributions. Sabbath meeting. Name of Postoffice. Name of Ordained ministers. Name of Licentiates.

Done by order of the Church, in Conference, this the ____ day of ____, 18—

_____, Moderator,

_____, Clerk.

CONSTITUTION

—OF—

BIG FORK ASSOCIATION OF UNITED BAPTISTS.

Article 1. This union of Churches shall be known and distinguished by the name and title of the Big Fork United Baptist Association.

Art. 2. This Association shall be composed of Delegates from churches in union. Each church shall be entitled to three delegates, who shall be required to furnish satisfactory evidence of their appointment by their churches before taking their seats.

Art. 3. The delegates, when convened, shall organize themselves into a deliberative body by the appointment of a Moderator and Clerk, who shall be chosen by ballot at each Annual Association, and continue in office until their successors are chosen.

Art. 4. This Association shall not interfere with the rights of the churches of which it is composed. It shall regard them as independent bodies in all matters of internal government, and shall only act as an advising council, assuming no authority except what is expressly delegated to it by the churches, or evidently implied by the very nature of compact. It, nevertheless, claims authority over its members and the delegates from the churches, and in justice and propriety must have power to withdraw from and disown all churches which depart from the principle of the compact by becoming heterodox in faith or disorderly in practice. It should, therefore, regard all churches united under this Constitution with a vigilant eye for good. Its business shall be to declare and promote the declarative glory of God, by extending the Kingdom of Grace on earth, through the medium of preaching the Gospel; to cultivate union and fellowship with all the churches of Christ, especially with those united under this Constitution.

Art. 5. Newly constituted churches, or churches dismissed from other Associations of the same faith and order, may be admitted into this union on their sending up three delegates to the annual meeting of this Association, with a petition for admission, and by their delegates agreeing to the abstract of principles herewith published.

Art. 6. The churches in this union shall transmit to every annual session of the Association a written communication, specifying

the names of their delegates, their number in full fellowship, number baptized, received or excommunicated, restored or dismissed since the last session, and all other information which the Church may deem important, which will be read and minuted accordingly.

Art. 7. The Association shall have a fund, supplied by contribution of the Churches, and all money thus contributed shall be transmitted from the Churches, and paid over through the Committee on Finance to the Treasurer, who shall be elected by ballot, and hold his office during the pleasure of the Association, and manage the funds agreeably. He shall return to the order of the Association, and present annually for insertion in the Minutes, a clear and succinct statement of all the receipts and expenditures.

Art. 8. This Association shall furnish the Churches the Minutes of every session.

Art. 9. This Association shall take cognizance of no query sent up from the Churches unless they have endeavored to solve the same and have failed; nor of any difficulty between churches unless they have pursued the dictations of the the 19th chapter of Matthew, and have not been able to settle them. Then this Association shall take such matters into consideration, and act upon them at its discretion.

Art. 10. It shall be the duty of the Clerk of this Association to keep a regular file of the printed Minutes of this body, and deliver over the same to his successor in office.

Art. 11. This Constitution may be altered or amended at regular meetings of the Association by the concurring voice of two-thirds of the members present; provided such alterations or amendments be approved by the churches of the Association.

Art. 12. There are to be no Sunday collections taken up in this Association, nor men appointed to preach what are known as missionary sermons, but to choose their own subjects.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. The Association shall be opened and closed by prayer.
2. The Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.
3. The Moderator shall be considered a judge of order, and shall have the right to call to order at any time.

4. A member not satisfied with his decisions may appeal to the Association on the same day, but not thereafter.

5. But one member shall speak at a time, who shall rise to his feet, address the Moderator, obtain permission, and then proceed to speak.

6. The Moderator, when addressed by a member for permission to speak, shall signify the same by naming the person, or otherwise.

7. No member shall be interrupted while speaking unless he departs from the subject or is guilty of personal reflection. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association, unless withdrawn by him that made it.

8. Every case taken up by this Association shall be decided or withdrawn before another is approved.

9. When any question is taken up, after allowing time for debate, the Moderator may take the voice of the Association on all subjects in any way he may think best.

10. Any member wishing to retire shall obtain permission of the Moderator.

11. No member shall speak more than twice on the same subject without permission of the Association, nor more than once until every member wishing to speak shall have spoken; nor shall any proposition be made to close the subject until the debate is carried through.

12. The appellation "Brother" shall be used in the Association by members in their address to each other.

13. The names of the members shall be called as often as the Association shall direct.

14. No member shall be tolerated in any practice which tends to interrupt public speech.

15. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speech as any member, provided he appoint another to fill his seat during that time, but shall not be entitled to vote unless the Association be evenly divided, when he may cast the deciding vote.

16. Any member violating these rules may be reprovved by the Moderator at his discretion, but only on the day the breach shall be committed.

ARTICLES OF CHRISTIAN FAITH.

Article 1. We believe in only one true and living God, and that there is a Trinity of persons in the Godhead—the Father, Son and Holy Ghost—and that these three are one.

Art. 2. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice.

Art. 3. We believe in the fall of Adam, and that the depravity of his fallen nature was entailed upon his posterity, and in the impotency of man to recover himself by his own free will or ability.

Art. 4. We believe in Election through sanctification of the spirit and belief of the truth.

Art. 5. We believe in the final resurrection of the Saints, and that they will never finally fall away and be lost.

Art. 6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God by the righteousness of Christ imputed unto them, and that it pleased God, by the foolishness of preaching, to save them that believed.

Art. 7. We believe that good works are fruits of faith, and follow after justification, and are evidences of our own gracious state.

Art. 8. We believe the visible Church of Christ is a congregation of faithful persons, baptized, who have gained Christian fellowship with each other, and give unto the Lord and one another, and have agreed to keep up a Godly discipline, agreeably to the rules of the Gospel.

Art. 9. We believe there will be a resurrection of the dead and a general judgment, and that the happiness of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be never ending.

Art. 10. We believe that Jesus Christ is the great Head of the Church and the only Law-Giver, and the discipline is with the body, and should be faithfully kept up for the glory of God and the prosperity of His people.

Art. 11. We believe that baptism by immersion is the apostolic mode, and true believers the only fit subjects thereof.

Art. 12. We believe that the Lord's Supper is an Ordinance of the Church, and should be continued until Christ's second coming.

••STATISTICAL••TABLE••FOR••1891••

CHURCH:	COUNTY.	POSTOFFICE	NAMES OF DELEGATES.	Rec'd by baptism	Received by letter..	Restored	Dismiss'd by letter..	Excluded	Died	Total in fellowship	Contributions	Days of meeting	Licentiates	Ordained ministers	PASTOR.	CLERK.
Antioch, Board Camp,	Scott Polk,	Blansett, Board Camp,	J. H. Reddill, J. W. Guist. S. M. Kemp, Z. A. Hilton, Jno. G. Ellisson.	1	1	2	1	2		36	1.50	1	1		J. E. Long.	C. C. Burton.
Big Fork,	Polk,	Egger,	Wm. Lawrence, J. W. Dillbeck, W. B. Burkhart.	4	2				1	19	1.00	4	2		A. A. Bates	J. M. Hilton.
Crystal Hill, Liberty,	Montgomery, Polk	Waters, Egger,	A. A. Bates, James D. Willhite. James K. Willcox, R. G. Brown, N. A. Willcox.		2			2	2	34	1.00	4	1	1	Wm Lawrence	J. W. <i>Dillbeck</i>
Union Grove, Sulphur Spring, Brushy Creek,	Scott, Montgomery, Montgomery,	Boles, Big Fork, Oden,	J. E. Long, J. F. Rutledge. W. M. Edwards, J. Standridge. G. C. Starks, J. C. Pullen.	2	1		5			16	2.00	4	1	1	A. A. Bates	A. A. Bates.
					4		6	1		39	.80	3			A. A. Bates	J. K. Willcox.
							3	2		23	1.15	2			S. B. Redwine	E. Beauchamp
										22	1.00	1	1		A. A. Bates	A. J. Osborne.
															G. C. Stark	J. C. Pullen.
Totals,				7	11	3	18	7	5	211	10.00		6	2		