

**Morgan Baptist Association  
Executive Committee  
Minutes  
Quarterly Meeting July 27, 2020**

The Morgan Baptist Association Executive Committee convened in a scheduled meeting on Monday, July 27, 2020, at 6:30 p.m. in Hacker Hall of the Morgan Baptist Association, Hartselle, Alabama. The following were present: Alison Blackwood, Chris Martin, Walter Blackman, Luther Wakefield, Spencer Bell, Justin McAlpin, Marilyn Radford, Jimmy Meek, Randy Ashley, Joe Edmondson, Fran Edmondson, Stephen Cannon, Virginia Alexander, Greg Compton, and Geoff Halbrooks.

Moderator, Chris Martin, called the meeting to order, stated that a quorum was not present, and declaring that reports would be given, but no business requiring official action of the committee would be considered.

Jimmy Meeks, Pastor of Parkview Baptist Church, opened in prayer. He presented a devotional based on the first 14 chapters of the Book of Acts; the central theme was "It Costs to Follow Jesus." He closed the devotional time in prayer.

Minutes from the January 27, 2020, and the cancellation of the April 27, 2020, meeting were included in the packet for review; the minutes were approved as written.

Wally Blackman addressed the financial reports. The Statement of Financial Position as of June 30, 2020, included Total Assets and Total Liabilities & Equity balance of \$154,419.11. The Statement of Financial Income and Expense January – June 2020, included Total Income of \$54,444.96; Total Expenses of \$39,141.75; and Net Income of \$15,303.21. Statement of Financial Income and Expense, June 2020 included Total Income of \$11,660.48; Total Expenses of \$5,528.79; and Net Income of \$6,131.69. Statement of Financial Position as of June 20, 2020 included Total Assets and Total Liabilities & Equity of \$50,108.76. Statement of Financial Income and Expenses June 2020 included Total Receipts of \$18,721.17; Total Expenses of \$18,830.76; and Net Income of -\$109.59. Statement of Financial Income and Expenses January – June 2020 included Total Income of \$97,616.33; Total Expenses of \$101,877.82; and Net Income of -\$4,261.49. Also presented was a listing of Church Contributions/Donations June 2020. Churches contributed \$17,913.89 during the month of June; contributions January – June 2020 were \$92,648.01. Expenses have been reduced over the last few months due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic; church contributions could also be down because of the same reason. Some churches contributions are up to 10 percent of their undesignated gifts and some give a fixed amount.

Ken Blackwood asked Mr. Blackman to explain the Cares Act, the Coronavirus Relief Fund. He explained that the Treasurer filed a request, received the grant, and funds have been expended in the proper ways as outlined in the grant specifications. Wally Blackman moved that all financial reports be adopted as presented; **MOTION CARRIED.**

Randy Ashley stated that there was nothing to report from the Personnel Committee.

Ken Blackwood gave a report from the Credentials Committee. There have been requests from a couple of entities requesting membership in the Association. The Committee is waiting to receive the written requests from those entities; Committee will review and move forward. If approved by the Committee, it will be recommended at the Annual Meeting that these entities be placed under Watch Care for a year. All entities who are members of the Association must abide by The Baptist Faith and Message and agree to partner with the Morgan Baptist Association.

Steve Cannon reported for the Missions Team. He stated that it had been a slow year because of the pandemic. There has been a generous gift given by an anonymous donor; there was another gift from one church to another to help during this unprecedented time. They are working with a Hispanic church to hopefully set up a ministry in Decatur. Mr. Blackman stated this his church had gone on a mission trip to build a church.

Virginia Alexander reported on the ministries under Project Care. Things have been different because of the pandemic. They have had drive through food distribution assisted by Bro. Ken and Belinda Ealey. A Bible has been included in each food bag given out. The Caring Place is open and running with about half staff; the Store is not open. Can drives have been cancelled; however, the government is putting boxes together from the farmers overages. They are getting 55 boxes when available. Chris Martin mentioned that Pleasant Hill is getting 15 boxes as well. Raceway Ministries was cancelled; they are still in contact with people through Facebook. Willie Alexander, Director of Baptist Campus Ministries, has retired. He had not been able to go to campuses due to their being closed. COVID-19 did not stop Disaster Relief. Chainsaw teams worked in Town Creek and Hartselle. DR also had a surplus of masks and gloves; some were donated to the Decatur Hospitals to help them during this time. DR Food Team prepared hot dogs for all the workers in the Hartselle Serve Day. West Hartselle worked and cleaned out the flower beds at the Association. Debbie Pirkle has retired from her position as Children's Minister at Central Park. However, Ms. Alexander was pleased to announce that she will continue her work with English and More. No vote was needed on the above reports.

Ken Blackwood announced that Neil Hunter, Counselor, is retiring next month. He expressed his thanks to West Hartselle for the work done at the Association during the Hartselle Serve Day. He also asked prayer for their pastor who has asthmatic symptoms; he has been tested a couple of times and the results were negative. He stated that he and Belinda have been working with Virginia. He also stated that the office was open normal business hours, Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. Thanks were expressed to all in attendance tonight. He wanted to remind everyone that they are in the office and working. He stated that those watching online could come by the office and pick up a packet. Ken stated that he had not been to the churches during this time because of the threat of cross contamination. Know that he is praying for the churches as well as each of the pastors. He has been watching the online services from the churches.

It was noted that the Executive has not met since January; the Leadership Team has been meeting. Ken feels the need and responsibility for being accountable. He asked prayer for the Leadership Team.

Pray for the Nominating Committee; Geoff Halbrooks is present. They have ministry positions that need to be filled. Pray specifically that God might show you a ministry you could do for the Association.

Pray for the Annual Meeting. The Planning Committee has met once already. Some Associations have decided to cancel their meetings. It was decided that we would not have a meal if we have a meeting. It was discussed having one session, beginning later in the evening. There would be an abbreviated business meeting, short video presentations, and the worship time. Ken has invited the Hispanic Church Planter to speak (in person) for five minutes. The host church has verified the use of their facilities.

The Retreat has been cancelled; the deposit can be used for a future meeting.

The Ministry Training Institute will begin in August. Matt Haines will be the instructor. The class will meet in Hacker Hall; this session is on the Baptist Faith and Message. These sessions are part of a Diploma Program through Samford University.

Thanks to Luther Wakefield for streaming tonight's meeting. It will be available on Facebook for viewing.

Chris Martin called attention to the updated Pulpit Supply list included in the packet. There can not be a vote to approve with the lack of a quorum.

Prayer Requests:

- Those items mentioned earlier in the minutes.
- Beth Compton, Greg's wife
- Larry Thrasher, member of the PEN group
- Larry Ealey, Belinda's husband

Chris Martin closed the meeting in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marilyn Radford, Recording