

CURRENT ADOPTION, OCTOBER 2020

KANSAS-NEBRASKA CONVENTION OF SOUTHERN BAPTISTS CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I - Name

This body shall be known as The Kansas-Nebraska Convention of Southern Baptists.

ARTICLE II – Membership

Section 1: This Convention shall consist of messengers elected by cooperating Southern Baptist churches who contribute financially to the work of this Convention.

Section 2: Each church shall be entitled to three (3) messengers from a resident membership of up to fifty (50), and one (1) messenger for each additional fifty resident members or fraction thereof recorded on the most current Annual Church Profile (ACP). No church shall have more than twelve (12) messengers. The representatives of a mission are included with the resident membership of the sponsoring church.

In the event a church does not have an ACP on file for at least three (3) years, it shall be entitled to three (3) messengers.

Section 3: A church asking for affiliation with this Convention shall present evidence to the Credentials Committee no later than August 1 of being in harmony with the doctrinal principles generally held by Southern Baptists as printed in any "Baptist Faith and Message".

Section 4: Each church shall demonstrate its desire to cooperate with this Convention in spirit and in practice by supporting financially the program of the Convention.

Section 5: The Convention shall recognize the right of any cooperating church to withdraw from its affiliation with this Convention.

Section 6: This Convention shall retain the right to exercise moral and spiritual persuasion to encourage a church to remain in cooperation with this Convention.

Section 7: This Convention will not affiliate with the National Council of Churches, the World Council of Churches, or any other federating or unionizing body.

ARTICLE III - Purpose

Section 1: This Convention shall furnish a means by which the cooperating churches in their sovereign capacity can work together in promoting all enterprises which they collectively deem necessary and helpful in carrying out Christ's great commission to make disciples of all peoples.

Section 2: This Convention shall have no ecclesiastical authority whatever nor shall it assume to write creeds or exercise control over the cooperating churches.

ARTICLE IV - Officers

Section 1: The officers of this Convention shall be a President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Assistant Recording Secretary, Historical Secretary, and Parliamentarian.

Section 2: The Parliamentarian shall be appointed by the newly elected or re-elected President at the first (1st) Executive Committee Meeting subject to the approval of the Board.

Section 3: Should the President vacate the office for any reason, the Vice-President shall assume the vacated office. If the Vice-President's office is vacated for any reason, the Recording Secretary shall assume the vacated office. If the Recording Secretary's office is vacated for any reason, the Assistant Recording Secretary shall assume that office. All other vacated offices shall be filled by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Mission Board as they deem necessary.

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ARTICLE V - Boards, Commissions, Institutions, Subsidiaries

Section 1: This Convention shall have the authority to elect such boards, commissions, standing committees, and any other electees as shall be deemed necessary for handling the business of the Convention.

Section 2: All boards, commissions, institutions, standing committees, subsidiaries, and electees shall make an annual report to this Convention of all transactions covering work committed to them for this Convention.

Section 3: This Convention shall always retain authority to approve, alter or reject any transaction made by any of the above.

ARTICLE VI - KNCSB MISSION BOARD

Section 1: (a) This Convention shall elect a Mission Board consisting of one (1) member from each Association. A second (2nd) member shall be added when the Association's resident membership reaches 1000 and a third (3rd) when the resident membership reaches 3,000.

Four (4) additional members-at-large shall be elected. These shall be representative of language, ethnic, and sparsely populated geographic areas within our Convention.

(b) The President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, and Assistant Recording Secretary of the Convention shall hold the same positions on the Mission Board. The immediate Past President shall also be a member of the Mission Board in an ex-officio capacity provided at least one full term as President has been served. The Historical Secretary will also serve in an ex-officio capacity. One fourth (1/4) of the members shall retire annually and shall only be eligible to succeed themselves if they served less than one-half (1/2) of an expired term, and one fourth (1/4) of the members shall be elected by the Convention in the annual session to a term of four (4) years. At least one-fourth (1/4) of the members elected annually shall be men and women other than ministerial staff. Each member of the Mission Board must be an active resident member of a church cooperating with the Kansas-Nebraska Convention of Southern Baptists. Membership on the Mission Board shall terminate automatically when a member moves from the Association from which elected unless they are serving in an at-large position. The vacancy created will then be filled by the Mission Board with a person from the same association, language, ethnic or sparsely populated geographic areas.

Section 2: Salaried employees of the Convention shall not be members of the Mission Board.

Section 3: The Board shall determine the times and places of its meetings, fill vacancies occurring during the year, adopt all necessary regulations for the conduct of its business, make appointments as it may deem wise, and report in writing to the Convention at the regular Annual meeting.

Section 4: The KNCSB Mission Board shall employ such personnel as is required to do the work of the Convention.

Section 5: The Mission Board shall have the authority to act for the Convention during the interim of the sessions of the Convention and in all matters that may arise affecting the interests fostered by the Convention, provided that this shall not be interpreted as authorizing the Mission Board to reverse any action of the Convention nor to do anything contrary to the Constitution and principles of this Convention.

Section 6: The President, Recording Secretary, and the Executive Director-Treasurer shall be the trustees of the Convention and of the Mission Board.

Section 7: This Convention shall elect an Executive Committee comprised of nine members from the Mission Board in addition to the President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary and Assistant

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Recording Secretary, Parliamentarian and Historical Secretary. This Committee will serve as the Committee on Personnel, Budget, and Finance.

ARTICLE VII - Woman's Missionary Union

Section 1: The Woman's Missionary Union shall be a department of the Convention.

Section 2: The Woman's Missionary Union shall write its own by-laws, outline its own programs and elect its own officers and leadership groups subject to the approval of the Convention. All action is to be in harmony with the general program of this Convention.

ARTICLE VIII - Meetings

Section 1: This Convention shall meet annually and at such time as may be designated by the Convention in annual session.

Section 2: In case of interruption of the regular meeting of the body or failure through unforeseen events to hold the regular meetings of the Convention at the time and place appointed, the KNCSB Mission Board shall have the authority to determine the time and place of the next Annual meeting or to call a meeting of the Convention at such time and place as it may determine.

Section 3: In case of extreme emergency, the President and the Executive Committee of the Mission Board may call a special session of the Convention at the time and place they may designate.

ARTICLE IX - Amendments

Section 1: This Constitution may be amended at any regular meeting of the Convention by two-thirds (2/3) majority of the messengers voting provided that notice of such amendment shall have been given in writing and approved by the Executive Committee in its fall meeting. The Amendment, once approved, will be published in The Digest preceding the Annual Meeting.

(Due to changes in the Annual Meeting due to Covid 19 –changes were presented at the October 2020 Mission Board Meeting and approved.)

(Constitution changes were presented at the March 2020 Mission Board Meeting. Due to changes in the Annual Meeting due to Covid 19, they were presented at the October 2020 Mission Board Meeting and approved.)

Approved 10-2020

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KANSAS-NEBRASKA CONVENTION OF SOUTHERN BAPTISTS BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I - Constituency

Section 1: The Kansas-Nebraska Convention of Southern Baptists shall be made up of messengers from churches that have been granted affiliation with this Convention.

ARTICLE II - Officers

Section 1: The officers of the Convention, except the Parliamentarian, shall be nominated from the floor and elected by ballot, except where there is only one nominee. In such cases, the election may be by acclamation of the body, or the vote of the body may be cast by the Secretary. The officers shall be elected by a majority of the votes cast; the two receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared the nominees, and a second ballot shall be taken. The Parliamentarian shall be appointed by the newly elected or re-elected President at the first Executive Committee meeting, subject to approval by the Board.

Section 2: The officers of the Convention, except the President, may be eligible to serve indefinitely. The President shall be eligible to serve only two terms in succession.

ARTICLE III - Committees, Boards, and Electees

Section 1: The President shall appoint three (3) members to the Committee on Committees at the first session of the Convention. This Committee shall during the second session of the Convention nominate members to the following committees to report to the meeting of the Convention:

(a) Three (3) members on Time, Place, and Preacher Committee. They are to serve a three (3) year term with one-third (1/3) of the committee members rotating off each year. This Committee shall recommend the preacher and alternate preacher to give the sermon for the next Annual meeting of the Convention. It shall also recommend the time and place of the Annual meeting three (3) years in advance.

(b) Three (3) members on Resolutions Committee. They are to serve a three (3) year term with one-third (1/3) of the committee members rotating off each year.

Section 2: By the final session of the Convention, the Committee on Committees shall appoint members to the following committees. These Committees are to report at the next Annual meeting of the Convention:

(a) Six (6) members on the Order of Business Committee to finalize plans for the next Annual meeting and to make preliminary plans for the subsequent Annual meeting. They are to serve a three (3) year term with one third (1/3) of the committee members rotating off each year.

(b) Three (3) members on Credentials Committee. They are to serve a three (3) year term with one-third (1/3) of the committee members rotating off each year.

Section 3: (a) The President shall appoint a Nominating Committee consisting of one person from each Association. This Committee shall be appointed at or before the second regular meeting of the Board following the Annual Convention. This Committee shall bring nominations to the Annual Convention for members to serve on the KNCSB Mission Board, and shall present to the Convention for approval the names of directors or trustees connected with any institution sponsored by this Convention.

(b) The Nominating Committee shall bring its recommendations to the Annual Meeting of the Convention before the close of the last session. In accordance with Article VI, Section 7 of the Convention Constitution. The nominees shall be approved or rejected by the Convention immediately following their nomination. If any rejection is made, the vacancy or vacancies caused thereby may be filled by recommendation from the floor to the Nominating Committee.

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Section 4: (a) The Convention President who is also Chairman of the Mission Board shall be Chairman of the Executive Committee.

(b) The Executive Committee shall be authorized to transact business for the Mission Board between regular meetings of the Mission Board provided that they shall not reverse any decisions of the Mission Board of the Convention.

(c) The Executive Committee shall be the committee for Budget, Finance, and Personnel for the Mission Board. The Executive Committee shall review and adopt the annual report from the independent auditors. The report of the independent auditors shall be presented to the Mission Board.

(d) Filling an unexpired term on the Mission Board shall not be counted against one when he is being elected again to the Mission Board, provided they have served less than one-half (1/2) of a term.

Section 5: Any person who is an employee of the Convention or a North American Mission Board appointed missionary shall be ineligible to serve on Convention Boards and Agencies. Spouses of Convention employees shall likewise be ineligible for election to such Boards, unless elected as an officer of the Convention.

ARTICLE IV

Section 1: In order for an institution to be considered an institution of The Kansas-Nebraska Convention of Southern Baptists and to share in the financial support contributed to and administered by the general Convention, such institution must comply with the following requirements:

(a) Its President or Chief Executive Officer and all of the members of its Board shall be members of Southern Baptist churches cooperating with the Convention.

(b) It shall not be conducted for private or corporate gains, but all funds received shall be disbursed at the direction of the Convention.

(c) If it is an educational institution, all of its teachers shall be members of Southern Baptist churches cooperating with the Convention.

(d) If it be a benevolent institution, it shall engage principally in the care of the sick, and/or orphans, and/or the aged, or other needy persons, and shall do as much gratuitous and charity work as possible.

(e) Each and every such institution shall be officially received, or set up, by the Annual Convention; however, such may be temporarily received by the Mission Board during the interim.

Section 2: The property of each educational and benevolent institution must be safeguarded to the best interests of Baptists in a manner satisfactory to the Convention. Each of these institutions shall submit its books and works to the inspection of the Mission Board or anyone authorized by the Convention whenever requested; and, the financial exhibit of each report shall be audited in a manner acceptable to the Convention.

ARTICLE V

Section 1: Any question that may arise that is not provided for in the Constitution or By-Laws shall be decided in accordance with Parliamentary Law by Robert's Rules of Order, Revised.

ARTICLE VI

Section 1: The By-Laws herein adopted shall conform to the Constitution of The Kansas-Nebraska Convention of Southern Baptists which has been adopted; and, in case of conflict between the Constitution and By-Laws, the provisions of the Constitution shall prevail.

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ARTICLE VII

Section 1: These By-Laws may be amended and others adopted at any Annual meeting by a majority vote of the messengers voting provided that no amendment shall be offered or voted on the last day of the session unless such amendment shall have been given in writing and read on a previous day of said Annual meeting.

(By-Law changes were presented at the March 2020 Mission Board Meeting.
Due to changes in the Annual Meeting due to Covid 19, they were presented at the October 2020 Mission Board Meeting and approved.)

Approved 10-2020

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KANSAS-NEBRASKA CONVENTION OF SOUTHERN BAPTISTS MISSION BOARD BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I – Government Instrument

Article VI of the Constitution and Article III, Section 4, of the By-Laws of the Kansas-Nebraska Convention of Southern Baptists is hereby made the governing instrument of the Mission Board.

ARTICLE II – Meetings

Section 1: Unless otherwise ordered, the Mission Board shall have regular meetings on dates selected by the Mission Board.

Section 2: In case of emergency, special meetings of the Mission Board may be called by the Executive Committee any time and place it may choose to consider a matter beyond the Executive Committee's authority or propriety. A special meeting may also be called by the President and the Executive Director-Treasurer.

Section 3: A majority of the elected members of the Mission Board being present shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. In the event of a called meeting, two-thirds (2/3) of the elected members being present shall constitute a quorum. The Recording Secretary shall keep a record of attendance at all Board meetings. Members who are absent from two (2) meetings without providing an acceptable reason to the Executive Committee through the recording secretary shall be considered to have resigned, and the unexpired term shall be filled upon election by the Mission Board.

ARTICLE III – Cooperation

Section 1: Whereas The Kansas-Nebraska Convention of Southern Baptists is cooperating with the Southern Baptist Convention, the program directed by this Mission Board and its employees shall be in accord with the general plan of work as promoted by the agencies of the Southern Baptist Convention unless otherwise ordered by The Kansas-Nebraska Convention of Southern Baptists.

Section 2: The Mission Board recognizes the necessity for cooperation with the local Associations of the state, and the Executive Boards of these Associations are the proper mediums through which such cooperation should be carried out.

ARTICLE IV – Executive Committee

Section 1: An Executive Committee shall be comprised of nine (9) members in addition to the Convention officers. The elected members shall serve terms of three (3) years with three (3) members being elected annually as provided in Article VI, Section 7, of the Convention Constitution.

Section 2: This Committee shall be charged with the business of the Board during the interim of its regular meetings and shall perform such other duties as the Board may designate. The Executive Committee shall also work with the Executive Director-Treasurer as a nominating committee for the selection of all paid employees except support staff which shall be employed by the Executive Director-Treasurer. The Executive Committee may give approval on behalf of this Board in the employment of field missionaries providing approval has previously been received from the church and/or the governing body of the cooperating Association.

Section 3: The Executive Committee shall in consultation with the Executive Director-Treasurer prepare a proposed budget for the ensuing year. The total itemized proposed budget shall be published as a matter of information in an official publication at least three weeks prior to the Convention.

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Section 4: The Executive Committee will serve the Mission Board as the Search Committee when seeking an Executive Director-Treasurer. Their nominee may be presented at a regular or called Mission Board meeting and must receive a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote in order for the Executive Director-Treasurer to be elected.

ARTICLE V – Workers

Section 1: For the purpose of carrying out the plans of the Convention, the Mission Board shall employ the Executive Director-Treasurer whose duty it shall be to superintend the entire work of the Board in all of its departments and to have general charge of the educational, missionary, and benevolent interests of the Convention in the area which it serves.

Section 2: This Mission Board shall employ such Convention Personnel, as it deems necessary for the promotion of the work and interests of the Convention. It shall be the duty of these workers to serve under the direction of and in cooperation with the Executive Director-Treasurer and to aid him in keeping the interests and institutions both of the State Convention and the Southern Baptist Convention before the churches and Associations.

ARTICLE VI – Amendments

These By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the Mission Board members present and voting. The action of the Mission Board may be taken in any regular meeting provided that such proposed amendment (s) be read to the Mission Board in its preceding meeting and a copy filed with the Recording Secretary. The said amendment (s) shall be printed in an official publication prior to the convening of the Convention.

(Mission Board By-Law changes were presented and voted on at the March 2020 Mission Board Meeting.)

Approved 10-2020