

FEBRUARY STATED PRESBYTERY
MEETING MINUTES
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2009

MINUTES OF FALL STATED MEETING—Saturday, February 21, 2009
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NORTH ALABAMA PRESBYTERY
Synod of Living Waters
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

FEBRUARY STATED MEETING
Minutes
First Presbyterian Church in Athens
Saturday, February 21, 2009

CALL TO ORDER

Moderator Elder Billy Bell convened the Presbytery with prayer on Saturday, February 21, 2009 at 9:00 am.

INTRODUCTION OF FIRST TIME COMMISSIONERS

Elders attending Presbytery as commissioners for the first time were introduced: Von Lee, Westminster, Florence; Barbara Rex, Grace Madison; Charline McGee, FPC Guntersville; Aylett Dickman, FPC Decatur; Kerry Fohner, St. Andrew, Decatur; Steve Turner, Copeland Athens; Mary Snyder, FPC Albertville; Carolyn Morrow, FPC Cullman, Regina Greene, FPC Athens; Sherry Conn, Westminster, Decatur

Gene Joiner, MCCC Executive Director, was given privilege of the floor.

WELCOME BY THE HOST FACILITY

Rev. David Palmer, Stated Supply at First Presbyterian Church, Athens offered a warm welcome to Presbytery.

ENROLLMENT

Roll of Churches and Pastors

| CHURCH | MINISTER | ELDER |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Albertville, First | Ed Hamlett, SS Lyndall Hamlett, PA | Mary Snyder * |
| Athens, First | David Palmer, SS Jaina Anderson | Regina Greene* (not present) |
| Athens, Copeland | Tom Lewis | Steve Turner* |
| Athens, Nebo | VACANT | Kenneth Sharp |
| Belgreen, Mountain Home | Philip Faris | Terry Dempsey |
| Cullman, First | Terry Tingle | Carolyn Morrow* |
| Decatur, First | V. Don Haas | Genie Foster Aylett Dickman* |
| Decatur, St. Andrew | Steve Arndt | Alan Chapman Kerry Fohner* |
| Decatur, Westminster | David Rollins | Sherry Conn* Melissa Sittason |
| Elkmont, Beulah | VACANT | (not present) |

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| Florence, First | Richard Gillespie | Martha Anne Hardiman Keith Fraser |
| Florence, Westminster | John McKell | Von Lee* Doris Iseli |
| Fort Payne, First | Jerry Davis (excused) | Shannon Smith (not present) |
| Gadsden, Trinity | Les Anderson, CLP | Helen Bilbro |
| Guntersville, First | Scott Jeffreys | Rudy Adler Charline McGee* |
| Hartselle, First | John Brock, SS | Judy Glenn |
| Huntsville, Covenant | Hal Oakley Robert Seitz (not present) Leigh A. Looyenga (excused) Mark Looyenga | Alice Searcy Art Woodling Roland Walker |
| Huntsville, Faith | Steve Stager (not present) Kerry Campbell | Cecil Stokes Jim Krenn |
| Huntsville, Fellowship | John Herndon III | Sarah Ford (excused) |
| Huntsville, First | Darryl Goldman Luke Ponder (excused) | John Newton Frances Kyser Otis Vaughn |
| Huntsville, Hope | Sam Hobson (excused) | Charlotte Hudson |
| Huntsville, Korean | Ji Feong Cheong | Ki Chon Choi |
| Huntsville, Trinity | Robert Lawton, CLP (excused) | (not present) |
| Madison, Grace | Robin Palmer | Barbara Rex* Rebecca Harbor Jones |
| Mount Hope, Rock Springs- Mitchell Memorial | Philip Faris | Jimmy Smith |
| New Market, New Market | Brad Hall, SS | (not present) |
| Muscle Shoals, Old Brick | Carl Malm, TS (not present) | Patricia Holt (excused) |
| Owens Crossroads, Big Cove | Rosemary McMahan, CLP (excused) Houston Hodges, PA | Tennent Lee |
| Sheffield, First | Van Edington | Richard Deal Braxton Ashe |
| Toney, Madison Crossroads | Jim Matthews (TS) (excused) | William McClure |
| Valleyhead, Winston Memorial | VACANT | (not present) |
| Waterloo, Williams Chapel | VACANT | (not present) |

*First time Commissioners

Roll of At Large/Retired Clergy

William Allen (not present); Edward (Skip) Babcock (not present); John W. Bolton (not present); John Bush; Carol Byrd (not present); Robert Dobbins (not present); Wallace Faris; Joseph Gamble (not present); Edward Gartrell (not present); Robert Grigsby; Chris Hauer (not present); Houston Hodges; Washio Ishii (excused); Eui Kyum Jang (excused); John Johnston (not present); Donald Kaller (not present); Luther Kramer (excused); Robert McGehee; Roy Miller (not present); James Nash; Sam Pope; James Pruden (not present); Amanda Ragland (excused); Jack Ragland (excused); Paul David Reynolds (not present); Libby Rollins; Irving G Rudolph; John Sadler (not present); William Shouse (not present); Mel Strain; James Thompson; Charles Van Devender (excused); Charles Walden (not present)

Roll of North Alabama Presbytery Staff

| Position | Name |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| NAP Executive Presbyter | Rev. Warner Durnell |
| Stated Clerk | Richard Borie |
| Outgoing Moderator | Billy Bell |
| Incoming Moderator | Rev. Jaina Anderson |
| Incoming Vice-Moderator | Lee Matthews |
| Office Manager/Recording Clerk | Linda Griffis |
| MCCC Executive Director | Gene Joiner |
| Comptroller | David Nebrig |

Roll of Visitors

Anita Raby, Copeland, Athens; Lynda Medlock, FPC Cullman; Mike Bilbro, Trinity Gadsden; Kathy Akers, FPC Cullman; Danny Scott, Williams Chapel; Hugh Comfort, Covenant Huntsville; Dexter Smith, FPC Ft Payne; Philip Franklin, Faith Huntsville; Serena Neely, FPC Huntsville; Belva Gillespie, FPC Florence; Harriet Bibb, FPC Huntsville; Mia Nickoloff, Korean Huntsville; Bill Nickoloff; Korean Huntsville; Newell Witherspoon, Covenant Huntsville; Mary Witherspoon, Covenant Huntsville; Insuk Whitley, Korean Huntsville; Nancy Hamilton, Faith Huntsville; Shin Young Ran, Korean Huntsville; Mamie Jones, FPC Huntsville; Sara Bush, Westminster Decatur; Patrick Smith, FPC Sheffield; Ann Elgin; Hope Huntsville

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

The outgoing Moderator, Elder Billy Bell presented Rev. Jaina Anderson to be installed as Moderator and Elder Lee Matthews to be installed as Vice Moderator. Elder Bell posed the installation questions to the officers elect and the presbytery, respectively, which were answered in the affirmative. After closing with prayer and declaring the new Moderator and Vice Moderator duly elected and installed, Elder Billy Bell presented the gavel to Moderator Rev. Jaina Anderson. He also presented Rev. Anderson with the ceremonial necktie first given to the moderator in 2006 by the Egoli Presbytery of South Africa.

Stated Clerk, Dick Borie, then presented Elder Bell with a gift of thanks from the presbytery for his service as Moderator in 2008.

STATED CLERK'S REPORT – Part 1

Declaration of Quorum and Appointments:

Stated Clerk Dick Borie declared a quorum present. The Stated Clerk made the following appointments on behalf of the Moderator:

| | |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Temporary Clerks: | Otis Vaughn and Sarah Ford |
| Leaves of Absence: | Linda Griffis |
| Thanks: | Rev. Ed Hamlett |
| Bills and Overtures: | Rev. Tom Lewis and Elder Keith Fraser |

Adoption of Docket

The docket was **approved with changes** (*Appendix A*)

The following motion was made by Executive Presbyter, Warner Durnell:

That today's voting on the Proposed Book of Order Amendments be made by written ballot. The motion was seconded and **adopted**.

Approval of Minutes

The Stated Clerk informed the presbytery that the minutes of the Fall Stated Meeting on October 20-21, 2008 have been reviewed and posted on the website.

On motion, the minutes for October 20-21, 2008 were **approved** as presented.

Communications or Referrals – Session Minutes Review Committee Report

Stated Clerk, Dick Borie, on behalf of Stu Strong, Moderator for the Session Minutes Review Committee, submitted the following report:

A total of twenty-one church's minutes (two of them at two meetings – First Sheffield and Trinity Huntsville) were reviewed at the three Presbytery Meetings during 2008. The details are as follows:

February 2008:

- First Albertville for the period January 15, 2007 through Dec. 17, 2007
- First Cullman for the period June 12, 2005 through December 9, 2007
- First Guntersville for the period May 1, 2005 through December 30, 2007
- First Huntsville for the period December 12, 2006 through Nov. 13, 2007
- First Sheffield for the period June 20, 2000 through December 24, 2006
- Madison Crossroads for the period January 14, 2007 through Jan. 11, 2008
- Old Brick for the period April 11, 2007 through November 28, 2007
- Trinity Huntsville for the period January 22, 2007 through Dec. 17, 2007
- Westminster Decatur for the period Feb. 28, 2006 through May 20, 2007
- Westminster Florence for the period Jan. 14, 2007 through Dec. 17, 2007
- Williams Chapel for the period January 14, 2007 through Dec. 9, 2007

July 2008:

- Grace for the period January 8, 2006 through December 16, 2007
- Hope for the period January 14, 2007 through December 9, 2007

Faith for the period May 20, 2007 through May 11, 2008
First Athens for the period April 10, 2007 through May 4, 2008
First Decatur for the period January 28, 2007 through May 20, 2008
First Fort Payne for the period May 9, 2007 through May 14, 2008
First Hartselle for the period January 10, 2007 through June 11, 2008

October 2008:

Big Cove for the period December 11, 2003 through November 28, 2006
Fellowship for the period October 7, 2007 through September 11, 2008
First Florence for the period January 7, 2007 through October 21, 2008
First Sheffield for the period January 23, 2007 through December 18, 2007
Trinity Huntsville for the period October 9, 2007 through October 5, 2008

Over the last three years, this committee has essentially eliminated the five- year backlog of unread minutes. There are still a few churches that need to be brought up-to-date, but the majority of the churches are up-to-date.

COORDINATING TEAM REPORT

Past Moderator Billy Bell presented the second reading of proposed amendments to the Manual of Administrative Operations and moved their adoption.

PROPOSED MANUAL AMENDMENTS FOR SECOND READING

A. Amend paragraph 2.5101 (with text to be added shown in italic and text to be deleted shown in strikethrough) - ADOPTED

The voting membership of Presbytery consists of its minister members, elder commissioners from its churches, ~~and~~ any elder elected Presbytery Moderator, Vice Moderator or Stated Clerk, *all elder members of the Coordinating Team, and all Commissioned Lay Pastors, if he or she* providing that any such elder has not been commissioned by his or her session.

Rationale. Elders serving as Moderator, Vice Moderator, or Stated Clerk, are presently given the privilege of voice and vote in meetings of Presbytery. Members of the Coordinating Team, as Moderators of key standing committees, make presentations at many—if not all—stated meetings and have a vital interest in the business transacted. Commissioned Lay Pastors attend Presbytery meetings in many respects in a quasi ministerial capacity. The Book of Order permits a Presbytery to enroll as a member a chairperson of a standing committee or a member of the council of presbytery (G-11.0101c) and to authorize Commissioned Lay Pastors to have a voice and vote in meetings of the presbytery (G-14.0562). All elders so enrolled will be counted as elder commissioners for the purposed of calculating minister/elder parity.

B. Amend paragraph 3.1551 (substituting the proposed text for the present text) – ADOPTED

Present Text. The Session Minutes Review Committee of North Alabama Presbytery shall consist of nine (9) persons, three (3) ministers (one in each class) and six (6) elders, with at least two (2) of the nine (9) persons presently serving on the COM. Seven (7) persons shall be elected by Presbytery by nominations presented by the Presbytery's Nomination Committee. Two of the persons shall be appointed by the COM Moderator. The Committee shall be in three (3) classes of three (3) years each and may serve up to two (2) consecutive three (3) year terms.

Proposed Text. The Session Minutes Review Committee shall consist of nine persons in three classes, with one minister and two elders in each class. A member shall be elected to a full term of three years or a partial term to fill an unexpired term. No member may serve more than two consecutive terms (full or partial).

Rationale. When the SMRC was formed in 2005, its membership included two persons appointed from the Committee on Ministry. However, COM members already have a heavy load and few have been willing to take on an additional responsibility for session minutes review. Furthermore, the present text does not clearly state how the two COM appointees are to be integrated into the SMRC class structure. The proposed amendment replaces the COM appointees with SMRC members elected at-large and also clarifies some language in the present text.

C. Amend paragraph 3.1554 (with text to be added shown in italic and text to be deleted shown in strikethrough) - ADOPTED

~~The Stated Clerk of North Alabama Presbytery~~ *Members of the Session Minutes Review Committee, representing the Stated Clerk*, shall sign off on each set of session minutes upon completion of their review, and a record of reviewed session minutes shall be entered into the record of each Presbytery meeting.

Rationale. The present requirement that the Stated Clerk shall sign off on each set of minutes is cumbersome and virtually impossible to fulfill in a stated meeting setting. Assigning SMRC members the responsibility to act on behalf of the Stated Clerk does not diminish the validity of the review process.

Moderator Billy Bell presented the first reading of proposed amendments to the Manual of Administrative Operations and the second reading will be presented at the next stated meeting in July.

PROPOSED MANUAL AMENDMENTS FOR FIRST READING

A. Add a new paragraph 2.6116

The Moderator, in consultation with the Stated Clerk and Executive Presbyter, shall:

1. Appoint an Investigating Committee when a disciplinary case is initiated by receipt of a statement of an alleged offense.
2. Appoint a Committee of Counsel when the Presbytery becomes a respondent in a remedial case.

Such action shall be reported to the Presbytery at its next meeting.

Rationale. When a judicial process is initiated, it is ordinarily not feasible to convene a special meeting of Presbytery to name an Investigating Committee or a Committee of Counsel. The Book of Order makes provision for a Presbytery to delegate the appointment of these committees (D-10.0201b and D-6.0302a, respectively).

B. Add a new paragraph 3.1213

The Coordinating Team is authorized to approve minutes of a recent meeting of the Presbytery when such minutes must be provided for a civil or ecclesiastical purpose before it is feasible to obtain approval by the full Presbytery. Such action shall be reported to the Presbytery at its next meeting.

Rationale. This paragraph would follow the general statement of Coordinating Team responsibilities in the Manual: *The responsibilities of the Coordinating Team are to facilitate the effectiveness of and coordination across teams and committees, and fulfill such other duties for the Presbytery as the Presbytery may delegate (3.1212).* A number of presbyteries in the PC(USA) have adopted similar provisions in their standing rules to facilitate a rapid response in those rare cases where approved minutes of a recent meeting must be provided as verification of Presbytery's action.

C. Amend paragraph 3.1211 (with text to be added in italic and text to be deleted in strikethrough)

The Coordinating Team shall consist of the Moderators from the ~~Administrative Team Leader, Business Affairs Team (BAT),~~ Committee on Ministry (COM), Congregational Development Ministry Team (CDMT), Maranatha Ministry Team (MMT), Mission Strategies and Resources Team (MSRT), ~~Youth and Young Adult Ministry Team (YYAMT),~~ Youth Ministry Team (YMT), Young Adult Ministry Team (YAMT), the Moderator and Vice-Moderator of the Presbytery. The Moderator of the Presbytery shall convene this Team. The Executive Presbyter, MCCC Executive Director and Stated Clerk shall be ex-officio members of this team.

Rationale. The first change is suggested for simplification inasmuch as the BAT moderator heads the Administrative Executive Committee (3.1301). Several years ago, the Presbytery divided the Youth and Young Adult Ministry Team into two new teams: the Youth Ministry Team and the Young Adult Ministry Team. The proposed amendment would conform the membership of the Coordinating Team to the new organization. The resultant addition of one member would be consistent with the Team's responsibility "to facilitate the effectiveness of and coordination across teams and committees..." (3.1212).

STATED CLERK'S REPORT – Part 2

Minister/Elder Parity Report

As of December 31, 2008 there were 66 minister members of North Alabama Presbytery, 49 of whom are resident/active. The basis number of elder commissioners from our churches, as provided by the Book of Order (G-11.0101a), is 34: one from each church with 500 or fewer members, and two from churches with 501 to 1000 members. The Book of Order further provides that additional elders shall be selected to redress an imbalance when the number of resident/active ministers is greater than the basis number of elders (G-11.0101b). Other laypersons, including the moderator and other officers designated by the presbytery, may be enrolled as members of presbytery for their term of office (G-11.0101c). Our presbytery has already granted voice and vote to elders serving as vice moderator and stated clerk, and, if a proposed Manual revision is adopted at today's meeting, elder members of the coordinating

SYNOD COMMISSIONERS REPORT

Rev. Scott Jeffreys presented a report on the Synod meeting in January highlighting the following:

- The Synod is in good financial shape.
- Publication of the Synod Voice has been reduced from 6 to 4 times a year due to financial restraints and readily available electronic communications.
- The Living Waters for the World program makes our Synod unique. The Synod has entered into a covenant with Calvin Presbyterian Conference center to establish a training center. In 2008 the number of water systems installed increased from 175 to 253.

JOHN CALVIN 500TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Rev. John Bush, Moderator of the 500th Anniversary Task Force, informed the presbytery that he and his committee, which consists of Rev. Jim Thompson, Allan Flowers, Elder B. J. Breeding and Elder Gladys Bracy, is working on a multi-pronged approach to a Presbytery-wide observance of the 500th Anniversary of the Birth of John Calvin, with the following recommendations and resources for sessions and congregations, as well as for the Presbytery itself:

FOR SESSIONS AND CONGREGATIONS:

- The task force is providing a paper listing suggested Christian Education Resources/Activities related to the Calvin Jubilee. It will suggest materials and ideas appropriate for a wide variety of ages. This has been distributed via e-mail; a slightly revised document will be forthcoming.
- The task force plans to provide each pastor/congregation with suggested worship elements (prayers, etc.) appropriate to the occasion.
- They plan to provide each congregation with suggested choral and congregational song/music for inclusion in worship.

FOR PRESBYTERY:

The worship at the July 21, 2009 meeting of North Alabama Presbytery will be based on liturgy from Calvin's Geneva Worship Book. This should be a communion service.

The event will include a presentation of a theme relating John Calvin to ministry in the 21st century. Our visiting scholar for the occasion will be Dr. Timothy George, Dean of Beeson Divinity School at Samford University, Birmingham. Dr. George will also be preacher for our worship service at that meeting.

Rev. John Bush made the following motion for presbytery approval:

WE RECOMMEND that North Alabama Presbytery authorize the celebration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper at the July meeting of Presbytery.

Presbytery adopted this motion.

CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT MINISTRY TEAM (CDMT)

Elder Anita Raby, CDMT Moderator, observed that the Holy Spirit continues to move through the churches of the NAP. Elder Raby asked that everyone continue to pray for one another and for growth in vitality for each congregation.

Elder Raby reminded the presbytery that the Acts 16:5 Initiative churches will be gathering on March 23rd at Hope Presbyterian Church in Huntsville with Dr. Stan Ott in the final gathering of the two year cycle. The eight participating churches report various growth in vitality. Churches have started new small bible study groups and various ministry teams for service to the congregation and for reaching the surrounding community. The work of these two years is just the beginning for these transformational churches.

The CDMT celebrated with Grace PC in December as they dedicated their new addition. Grace is already sharing this facility with the community and is partnering with the CDMT in the New Church Development project.

The New Church Development – Pastor Nominating Committee has conducted several interviews with no success and so continues meeting regularly to process Personal Information Forms seeking guidance for God's candidate for the NCD. The CDMT has accepted the resignation of the Rev. Jim Matthews from the PNC. The CDMT nominated Rev. Don Haas to membership on that committee. Rev. Haas was elected.

The CDMT is working with several churches as they explore ideas for transformation/revitalization and is working on a plan for triennial visits with all NAP churches.

CHURCH DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION BOARD REPORT (CDFB)

Elder Harriet Bibb referred the presbytery to the CDFB report in the packet (*Appendix B*). Elder Bibb informed the presbytery that bulletin inserts will be mailed out to all NAP churches which highlights three of our churches that have participated in Acts 16:5 and the way that the program has made a difference in their individual churches.

MARANATHA MINISTRY TEAM (MMT)

Rev. Kerry Campbell, member of MMT, gave the report on behalf of Bo Lundy, MMT Moderator. She referred presbytery to the report in the packet (*Appendix C*) and highlighted that the new camp brochure was available and there are new camps starting, and there is something for everyone.

Rev. Lyndall Hamlett told presbytery about a Mother/Daughter retreat that will be held at Maranatha Camp and Conference Center on May 8-9, 2009. She encouraged all to participate, and flyers have been sent out to all churches regarding this upcoming retreat.

SPECIAL TASK FORCE FOR MARANATHA

Rev. Bob Grigsby conveyed to the presbytery that the Special Task Force for Maranatha was still working on the property surveys at camp and that they are working with outside entities, such as TVA, and the process is a slow one.

Rev. Grigsby said there are many ways that we can own a piece of Maranatha and the latest project is to contribute \$20.00 or more and become the proud owner of a walking or hiking stick of your choice handcrafted from the Maranatha woods. All monies received will be used for scholarships and general operating expenses at the camp.

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY (COM)

INFORMATION

Elder Patrick Smith, COM Moderator, informed the presbytery that since the October 2008 meeting of North Alabama Presbytery the Committee on Ministry has, on behalf of Presbytery:

1. Counseled with several churches, Sessions and Pastor Nominating Committees (“PNCs”) in the pastoral search process.
2. Appointed a Congregational Care Team to work with the Session of Faith-Huntsville in an attempt to resolve conflict within that congregation. A conflict consultant was recommended to, and engaged by the Session, and the work there is ongoing.
3. Appointed a Congregational Care Team to work with Korean-Huntsville in an attempt to resolve conflict within that congregation.
4. Approved a position paper entitled “Guidelines for Pastors Approaching Retirement” to aid pastors, sessions and congregations as installed pastors approach retirement.

ACTION ITEMS

Examination of Richard Gillespie

1. The Committee on Ministry recommends that the call between First-Florence and Rev. Dr. Richard J. Gillespie be approved effective 12/01/08 and that he be entered as a member of North Alabama Presbytery. Rev. Gillespie’s Statement of Faith and Faith Journey are attached as *Appendices D and E*.

Dr. Gillespie passed his examination before the COM unanimously. Dr. Gillespie is a member in good standing of the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta. Accordingly, following the usual procedure of North Alabama Presbytery, COM allowed Dr. Gillespie to take the field on 12/01/08.

Elder Patrick Smith, Moderator of COM asked that Rev. Gillespie give a brief description of his faith journey. Rev. John Bush then questioned Rev. Gillespie in regards to Theology, Polity and Sacraments. After answering the questions from Rev. Bush and from the presbytery, the above recommendation was **approved**. Rev. Don Haas led a welcoming prayer.

Terms of call for Rev. Richard Gillespie as listed below were also **approved**.

| | |
|--|------------|
| Salary & Housing | \$58,000 |
| ½ of SECA | 4,437 |
| Full Pension/Medical | 18,560 |
| Professional Expenses | 6,000 |
| Medical/Dental Reimbursement (Vouchered expenses) | <u>509</u> |
| Total | \$87,506 |

Vacation: 4 weeks annually; Study Leave: 2 weeks annually.

2. COM recommends clarification of past minutes of presbytery to appropriately reflect that both Rosemary McMahan and Robert Lawton, Certified Lay Pastors at Big Cove and Trinity-Huntsville, respectively, be granted the authority to moderate the session and administer the sacraments at each of these locations, respectively, for the duration of their time serving these churches. **APPROVED**
3. COM recommends that Les Anderson, CLP at Trinity-Gadsden be granted the authority to moderate the session and administer the sacraments at that church for the remainder of the time he serves that church. Also, that his contract (15-20 hours per week) be approved under the following terms:

Salary \$11,700

Professional Expenses, continuing education allowance and books upon request.

Four weeks/Sundays vacation

APPROVED

4. COM recommends the election of Rev. Robert Seitz to the position of Parish Associate at Covenant-Huntsville, with no remuneration. Rev. Seitz has previously served that congregation as Associate Pastor. **APPROVED**

Elder Patrick Smith referred to the Nebo Presbyterian Church Dissolution Motion and conveyed to the presbytery how this procedure was undertaken with cooperation from the Nebo Presbyterian Church. The motion is presented as follows:

Whereas the Nebo Presbyterian Church has not had a Presbyterian minister serving in their pulpit for over twenty years and has not had a duly functioning session as provided in Section G-10 of the *Book of Order* for at least ten years.

Whereas the Nebo Presbyterian Church has had little or no meaningful involvement in the structure and ministries of North Alabama Presbytery for more than six years;

Whereas the membership of the Nebo Presbyterian Church has been reduced to thirteen members;

Whereas the Nebo Presbyterian Church is located in a rural area of Limestone County with little prospect of sizeable population growth in the foreseeable future;