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MINUTES

—OF THE—

THIRTY-NINTH ANNUAL SESSION

—OF THE—

Santa Fe River Baptist Association.

Hold with the LaCrosse Church, LaCrosse, Fla.,

October 29, 30 and 31, 1895.

OFFICERS:

R. B. WEEKS, MODERATOR HAWTHORN, FLA.
GEO. T. LEITNER, CLERK HAWTHORN, FLA.
E. E. STOKES, TREASURER CAMPVILLE, FLA.

OCALA, FLA.:
WITNESS BOOK AND JOB PRINT.
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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

R. B. WEEKS, HAWTHORN, FLA.
T. W. THOMPSON, MELROSE, FLA.
E. A. HOLT, ISLAND GROVE, FLA.
J. B. STRICKLAND, McMEEKIN, FLA.
E. E. STOKES, CAMPVILLE, FLA.

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ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Introductory Sermon.
2. Association called to order.
3. Read letters and enroll names of delegates.
4. Call for petitionary letters.
5. Election of officers.
6. Invite visiting brethren to seats.
7. Call for correspondents.
8. Appointment of committees.
9. Report of standing and other committees.
10. Election of messengers to S. B. C. and State Convention.
11. Ministers Relief Association.
12. Miscellaneous business.
13. Adjourned.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

R. W. Jones.....	LaCrosse, Fla.
P. W. Corr.....	Hampton, "
G. W. Riles.....	McMeekin, "
E. A. Holt.....	Island Grove, "
N. T. King.....	Hampton, "
Geo. T. Leitner.....	Hawthorn, "
W. T. Hundley.....	Gainesville, "
H. M. King.....	Gainesville, "
J. M. Deveneau.....	Gainesville, "
Paul Gallaher.....	.96 Rives St., Boston, Mass.

LICENTIATES.

Robert McClellan.....	Gainesville, Fla.
T. J. Fowler.....	Melrose, "
H. T. Murphy.....	Alachua, "
J. T. Culpeper.....	Rochelle, "
P. D. Cox.....	Hawthorn, "
J. B. Davis.....	LaCrosse, "

MINUTES.

LaCROSSE, FLA., Oct. 29, 1895.

The Santa Fe River Baptist Association met today with the LaCrosse Church at 11 a. m. The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. G. W. Riles from I Peter 4:17. after which the Association adjourned to 1:30 p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Association called to order at 1:30 p. m. Prayer by Rev. W. T. Hundley. Letters of the Churches called for and read by Bros. R. F. Rogers and W. T. Hundley, and the names of the following messengers enrolled:

Campville—H. A. Fisher, S. D. Thomas, Mrs. S. D. Thomas.

Hawthorn—Geo. T. Leitner, G. W. Riles, R. B. Weeks, S. M. Riles.

Ochwilla—Joseph Edenfield, H. B. Mizell.

Eliam—T. B. Lovelace, J. A. Knight, L. M. Baldwin, Mrs. T. B. Lovelace, Miss Lizzie McRea

Hampton—David Jones, J. S. Sasser.

First Baptist, Gainesville—Rev. W. T. Hundley, W. M. Holloway, S. C. Tapp.

LaCrosse—H. C. Parker, J. F. Futch, W. S. Mims, D. J. Williams.

Orange Creek—By Letter.

Rochelle—J. F. Perry.

Waldo—L. C. Doane, R. M. Williams

Mt. Sinia—D. J. Bird.

Perseverance—R. J. Hadsock, Mrs. Martha Rawles.

Petitionary letters called for and a letter was presented from the Harmony Church, Gainesville. Letter read and the Church received into the Association. Delegates names enrolled, which was L. W. Jackson and Mrs. Susie Jackson.

Proceeded to the election of officers. Rules waived and R. B. Weeks elected Moderator. Geo. T. Leitner, Clerk, and E. E. Stokes, Treasurer by acclamation.

Correspondents called for when the following Brethren responded:

G. S. Crosby from the Marion Association.

R. F. Rogers from the Beulah Association.

B. R. Moseley from the Beulah Association.

The Moderator appointed the following committees:

On religious exercises—Pastor and deacons of the LaCrosse Church and S. M. Riles.

On nominations—H. A. Fisher, Joseph Edenfield, T. B. Lovelace.

On publications—G. W. Riles, L. W. Jackson, L. M. Baldwin.

On missions—H. M. King, H. B. Mizell, David Jones.

On Woman's Work—W. T. Hundley, Miss Lizzie Mrs. S. Thomas.

On the Spiritual condition of the Churches—H. C. Parker, J. A. Knight, W. S. Mims.

On education—W. M. Holloway, J. F. Futch, D. J. Bird.

On Deceased Ministers and Deacons—S. D. Thomas, J. F. Perry, D. J. Williams.

On Temperance—S. C. Tapp, R. M. Williams, J. S. Sasser.

On Sunday Schools—L. C. Doane, H. C. Parker, J. F. Perry.

On Finance—L. W. Jackson, S. M. Riles, R. M. Williams.

On Letters and Queries—R. W. Jones, J. A. Knight, D. J. Williams.

The committee on Religious Exercises reported Rev. Geo. S. Crosby to preach tonight at 7 p. m. The Association adjourned to meet Wednesday at 9 a. m. Prayer by Bro. H. M. King. Rev. G. S. Crosby preached at night. Text from Malachi 4:1-2.

WEDNESDAY MORNING SESSION.

The Association called to order by the Moderator at 9 a. m. Prayer by B. R. Moseley. Reading of the minutes and the same approved. Proceeded to the regular order of business.

Called renewed for correspondents. J. C. Porter of the Florida Baptist Witness, R. W. Jones New River Association and M. M. May from the Marion Association reported and invited to seats with the body.

Committee on religious exercises reported Rev. J. C. Porter to preach at 11 a. m. and W. T. Hundley at 7 p. m. Reports of committees called for.

COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

The committee on missions made the following report which was discussed by H. M. King, H. B. Mizell, J. C. Porter, W. T. Hundley, R. M. Williams, J. B. Davis, J. F. Perry, B. R. Moseley.

It is unnecessary for your committee on Missions at this time to discuss the subject in its scriptural obligation, but rather call your attention to the situation that confronts us in our work at present. In our present financial condition we should encourage the pastors of our Churches to make diligent effort to supply the destitutions nearest their respective Churches. And our Associational Committee give their first attention to the weak Churches in our bounds.

We are not definitely informed of the condition of the work in the care of our State Board. In addition to their depleted treasury from general causes they have had the further misfortune of loss of funds already in hand. Of the field in charge of our Home Board the work in Cuba is in the midst of circumstances of cruel and relentless war and all Christians ought to pray that God will at the same time give her people natural liberty and by the power of the Gospel, give them spiritual salvation. In some of the foreign fields fiery persecution rages, and the lowering clouds of war hang over the missionaries and our

earnest prayers should be constantly offered for them. We believe these are the conditions which in the providence of God immediately precede the final triumph of the Gospel in those lands.

H. M. KING,
H. B. MIZELL,
DAVID JONES.

Report adopted.

The committee on publications reported. The report was made the special order for 2 p. m.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

The committee on Temperance made the following report, which was discussed by S. C. Tapp, J. C. Porter, R. F. Rogers, B. R. Mose et al.

The committee on Temperance beg to submit the following preamble and recommendation:

Whereas the present age is a day of intemperance not only in an alcoholic sense, but in the broadest and true meaning of that term in the active and every day life of our society. Therefore we declare and recommend it to be the duty of our pulpit, first to carefully watch the fabric of society by giving the proper instruction to the young of our land and educating them in and to the great duties and responsibilities of social life, and to call upon the parents of the children of the land to inculcate temperance in its true sense to the youths of the country. We declare and recommend it to be the duty of our pulpit, second, to acquaint itself from a scientific standpoint with the great evil effects of habitual alcoholic drink, and to emphatically denounce, and warn the people of the evil thereof. We declare and recommend third, that we as a denomination take our stand by the land marks of our fathers by declaring that we will always be found on the side of right, in protecting our homes and social life both in the Church and out of the Church, in the fight for temperance in its broadest and true sense in this day, of fast and reckless living, and immoral life.

S. C. TAPP,
R. M. WILLIAMS,
J. S. SASSER.

Report adopted.

The hour for preaching having arrived Rev. J. C. Porter preached from Acts 2:41-42, after which a collection was taken up amounting to \$8.25. Association adjourned to 1:30 p. m.

EVENING SESSION.

Association called to order by Moderator. Prayer by H. B. Mizell.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

E. E. Stokes in account with Santa Fe River Association:

1894	DR.	
Oct. 26, To cash on hand.....		\$ 94.66
Oct. 27, To cash from Finance Committee..		39 32
Oct. 27, To cash R. B. Weeks.....		2.10
Dec. 27, From Convention LaCrosse.....		13.90
1895.		
March 31, From Convention Hawthorn....		19.13
June 30, From Convention Melrose.....		20 75
Sept. 29, From Convention Ochwilla.....		8.40
To error.....		20
Total.....		\$198.48

CR.

Nov. 10, To G. T. Leitner.....	\$ 46.05
Nov. 15, To T. J. Fowler.....	75.00
Nov. 15, To W. N. Chaudoin.....	14.63
Nov. 18, To W. N. Chaudoin.....	33.03
June 30, To W. N. Chaudoin.....	20.75
Balance.....	8.42
Total.....	\$198.48
To balance on hand.....	\$8.42

Respectfully Submitted,

E. E. STOKES, Treasurer.

FINANCE REPORT.

Your committee on finance make the following report.

	For Minutes.	For. Mission.	
Ochwilla.....	\$1 50		\$
Harmony.....	1.50		
Rochelle.....	95		
Campville.....	2 50		
LaCrosse.....	4 55		
Hampton.....	1 50		
Eliam.....	5.15	2 30	
Waldo.....	1 50		
Gainesville.....	2.00		
Hawthorn.....	5.35		
Mt. Sinia.....	1.25		
Perseverance.....	2.09		
Public collection.....	8.25		
Total.....	\$38.09	\$2 30	\$40.39

Respectfully Submitted,

L. W. JACKSON,
S. M. RILES,
R. M. WILLIAMS.

THE REPORT OF NOMINATIONS.

The committee on nominations report as follows: We recommend that Rev. R. W. Jones preach the introductory sermon at our next annual meeting, and would also recommend that the next Association meet with the Perseverance Church Tuesday, after the Third Sunday in October next.

Respectfully Submitted,

H. A. FISHER,
JOSEPH EDENFIELD,
T. B. LOVELACE.

Report adopted.

DECEASED MINISTERS AND DEACONS.

Your committee report that we are thankful to Almighty God that none of our standard bearers have been taken from earth to Heaven, within the bounds of the Association, during this associational year. And your committee suggest that we join in a special prayer to God for His blessing upon us during this year.

Respectfully Submitted,

S. D. THOMAS,
J. F. PERRY,
D. J. WILLIAMS.

Report adopted.

The hour for the special order having arrived.

REPORT ON PUBLICATIONS.

The committee made the following report, which was discussed by J. C. Porter, W. T. Hundley, R. F. Rogers, B. R. Moseley, H. C. Parker, H. C. Mizell, G. W. Riles.

Your committee beg to submit the following: Whereas the minds and characters of the people, especially the young, are moulded and shaped for weal or woe in proportion to the literature read, and digested by the mind. Therefore we would most earnestly recommend the placing in the reach of our young people, the publications of our own denomination. Such as the Florida Baptist Witness, the standard bearer of our denomination for the State of Florida Also the Home and Foreign Mission Journal. That the Churches may be thoroughly acquainted with the work of our denomination throughout the world We also recommend and endorse the liberal use of the publications of the Sunday School board, of the Southern Baptist Convention, and also the Sunday School literature of the American Baptist Publication Society as sound and safe for information.

Respectfully Submitted,

G. W. RILES,
L. M. BALDWIN,
L. W. JACKSON.

Report adopted.

REPORT ON WOMAN'S WORK.

The committee on Woman's Work made the following report which was discussed by W. T. Hundley, B. R. Moseley, J. C. Porter.

With the passing of the years the agencies within the Churches of Jesus Christ are being multiplied, whereby the Gospel of life is to be carried to a lost world, and among these agencies there is none that is accomplishing more for the consummation of the desired end than the organized work of Christian Women. Through much op-

position this work has pressed its way to the front, demanding and receiving due recognition and sympathy from those even who once antagonized its very existence. We hail with joy and gratitude the success of this work. God has set His seal upon it. For its widening and deepening we do most earnestly pray, until every Church in every State within your Southland shall have a regularly organized Woman's Mission Society.

We recommend the speedy organization of such societies in all the Churches of our Association and that the Vice-President of Woman's Work for this Association, make a thorough canvass during the next associational year for the purpose of accomplishing the desired result.

W. T. HUNDLEY,
MISS LIZZIE McREA,
MRS. MATTIE THOMAS.

Report adopted.

REPORT ON LETTERS AND QUERIES.

Your committee on Letters and Queries make the following report. That all the Churches that were reported last year are represented by letter or letters and messengers, also one petitionary letter from the Harmony Church of Gainesville which letter and messengers were received and Church welcomed into the full fellowship of the Church. We find a request from Rochelle Church asking for your prayers and influence with the board in securing a pastor. We recommend the request be granted and the executive committee make an effort to assist them in securing a pastor. As to the request of Eliam Church, for a missionary to be employed by the Association, we recommend this request be granted if possible. We recommend that Mt. Sinai's request for a letter to join the New River Association be granted. We find that two Churches have asked for the Association next year, Hawthorn and Perseverance, and we recommend that the Association meet with Perseverance Church.

R. W. JONES,
J. A. KNIGHT,
J. D. WILLIAMS.

Report adopted.

Association adjourned to meet at 9 a. m. tomorrow. Prayer by R. W. Jones. Preaching at night by Rev. W. T. Hundley from James 5:17.

THIRD DAY—MORNING SESSION.

Association called to order by the Moderator at 9 a. m. Prayer by H. A. Fisher. Minutes read and approved. The following resolution offered by H. C. Parker, adopted. It is supposed that the funds referred to in the report on Missions were lost in the banks at Ocala and Leesburg when they failed.

REPORT ON THE SPIRITUAL CONDITION OF THE CHURCHES.

Your committee on the Spiritual condition of Churches beg to report that they have examined into the reports from the several Churches and find that there have been added during the past year by Baptism 72, by letter 56, by restoration 11, total gain 139. Dismissed by letter 47, by exclusion 15, by deaths 8, total loss 70, net gain 69.

The best we can learn from the letters the spiritual condition of Campville, Hawthorn, Eliam, LaCrosse, Ochwilla and Perseverance Churches are very good. We have reason to thank God that the losses by death are very few. We respectfully recommend that our executive board, make a diligent inquiry into the spiritual condition of the weak Churches and help them when in their power to do so.

Respectfully Submitted,

H. C. PARKER,
J. S. KNIGHT,
W. A. MIMS.

The Association elected Rev. Geo. T. Leitner as a delegate to the Southern Baptist Convention and W. T. Hundley, alternate.

The following delegates were elected to attend the State Convention:

W. T. Hundley, R. W. Jones, W. M. Holloway, E. A. Holt, Geo. T. Leitner, P. W. Corr, G. W. Riles, H. C.

Parker, R. B. Weeks, T. W. Thompson.

The committee on religious exercises report Geo. T. Leitner to preach at 11 a. m. and B. R. Moseley at 7 p m.

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

We, your committee on Sunday Schools recommend the following: The minds of the young of our county are reaching out, disiring to be filled and will be filled, with something erather good or evil. Therefore we think every effort should be put forth by Christian, people to emplant true Christian principles of manhood and womanhood in the hearts and minds of all our children. Solomon, the wise man, said "train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it" and Chirst said, "Search the Scriptures for in them ye think ye have eternal life" and they are they that testify of me." Paul said "Bring up your children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord," and again God's word is the "way bill of man" through life, and it is very necessary that we study the way, teaching and telling it to the generation following, that they may know the way of Christ before they learn the way of evil. We recommend to our Churches to keep up the Sunday School work.

Your committee,

L. C. DOANE,
H. C. PARKER,
JOHN PERRY

This report was discussed by L. C. Doane, G. S. Crosby, H. C. Parker, R. F. Rogers, B. R. Mosely. Report adopted.

REPORT ON EDUCATION

The committee on education made the following report which was discussed by W. M. Holloway, B. R. Mosely.

We, your committee on education beg to report as follows: Education in the highest and most comprehensive sense, embraces the full and harmonious development

of the whole man, the physical, the intellectual, and the spiritual. The training of any one of these faculties to the exclusion of the others, may be productive of results injurious in the highest degree. For instant, the training of the physical powers alone, may produce the physical giant, the athelete or the prize fighters; that of the intellectual only, thy physical dwarf, the mental dyspptic, the agnostic, or the atheist; that of the spiritual to the exclusion of the others, the faotic. Therefore previous to the selection of a school for our boys and girls in general, and our ministerial students in particular, a careful scrutiny of the cerriculum of such schools should show a due consideration of the foregoing physologic principles. It is with pleasure that we recommend Stetson University as being a school which fills all of these requirements, we regard it as a school whose central figure is God, whose aim is His ultimate glory, and therefore, deserves the patronage of our denomination. While we would not ignore the importance of educating the masses, we would call special attention to the necessity of ministerial education. In these days of progress, science and learning and in many instances, we are sorry to say of skepticism, agnosticism or infidelity it is imperatively necessary that we have a liberally educated ministry to counteract these baneful influences, and to be able at all times to give a reason for the hope that is in them. We therefore coupled with a divine call to the ministry take strong grounds for ministerial education, and urge that as far as possible, we as a denomination exert our energies, offer our prayers, and contribute of our substance towards the consumation of this end.

W. M. HOLLOWAY,

Respectfully submitted,

J. F. FUTCH,

D. J. BIRD.

Report adopted.

The Association proceeded to elect the executive committee which resulted in the election of R. B. Weeks, J. B. Strickland, T. W. Thompson, E. A. Holt.

Resolved, That any brother attending any of our

sister associations be requested to act as correspondent.

Resolved, That the heartfelt thanks of this Association be extended to the pastor and members of LaCrosse Church and all other friends for their kind reception and bountiful hospitality.

Resolved, That the clerk have the usual number of minutes printed and that he be allowed \$15 00 for his services and draw upon the treasurer for same.

Resolved, That we extend our prayers and sympathy to the first church of Gainesville in their effort to build.

The hour for preaching having arrived Geo. T. Leitner preached from Luke 19:31.

Resolved, That we adjourn to meet with the Perseverance Church, near Alachua, on Tuesday after Third Sunday in October, 1896.

Minutes read and approved Hymn "God be with you 'till we meet again" sung, parting hand giving. Closing prayer by Rev. W. T. Hundley, and the Santa Fe River Association stood adjourned.

GEO. T. LEITNER,
Clerk.

R. B. WEEKS,
Moderator.

CONSTITUTION.

1. The Association shall be called the Santa Fe River Baptist Association.

2. This Association shall be composed of messengers from Baptist churches, of which they must be members, maintaining the Gospel discipline, and who must present letters from their respective churches certifying to their election as messengers.

3. The object of this Association shall be the reunion of the churches, the promotion of the true Gospel, and the dissemination of Bible truth.

4. This Association shall meet annually, on the first day of which meeting it shall elect, by ballot, a Moderator, a Clerk and a Treasurer.

5. Any Baptist church newly organized may become a member of this Association by a letter petitioning for membership and giving information concerning organization and presbytery and by whom organized. Any church coming from another Association may become a member of this Association by presenting petitionary letter, accompanied by a letter of dismission from the Association from which it comes.

6. This admits the right of any one of the churches comprising it to withdraw by application for a letter without assigning any reason for so doing. At the same time, this Association claims the right to withdraw from any church which departs from the principles of this compact by becoming herodox in faith or disorderly in practice.

7. This Association shall be deemed an advisory council and shall treat the churches comprising it as independent bodies in all matters of self-government, and shall at no time interfere with their rights.

8. This Association shall have an Executive Committee of five, of which the Treasurer shall be a member ex-officio. The other four members shall be elected annually by the Association, no two members being from the same church. Three shall constitute a quorum for business. The Executive Committee shall elect its own chairman and secretary and shall have power to fill vacancies.

9. The Associational Mission work shall be under the control and supervision of the Executive Committee, and all missionaries shall make quarterly reports to them or whenever called upon to do so.

10. All churches shall be entitled to two messengers for the first fifty members and one additional messenger for each twenty-five members after the first fifty and for the major fraction thereof.

11. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive and disburse all funds of the Association, but only by order of the Association or Executive Committee.

12. This Constitution may be amended at any regular meeting of the Association, by a two-thirds vote of the messengers present.

