

# **Constitution Of Nebraska Baptist State Convention**

## **Article I**

### **Name**

The name of this corporation shall be the Nebraska Baptist State Convention, known as the American Baptist Churches of Nebraska, a non-profit corporation incorporated under the laws of the state of Nebraska, October 8, 1901.

## **Article II**

### **Objects and Powers**

The objects and posers of this corporation shall be to promote the spread of Christianity according to the teachings and principles of the New Testament as interpreted by Baptist faith, both directly and through cooperation with the American Baptist Churches USA, any and all other duly constituted agencies; and to superintend the general and region work of American Baptist Churches of Nebraska. For the purpose of carrying out these objects, said corporation shall have power to receive, hold, administer and dispose of, as the highest governing or supervising corporate body of the Baptist faith, having the original corporate existence within this state, all the remaining real and personal property of any Baptist religious society affiliated with this corporation, which may have theretofore or shall hereafter cease to exist or maintain its organization, and to receive, hold and administer any and all funds or property that may be entrusted to it for the purpose herein expressed and to administer the same in accordance with the terms under which the same were received, to acquire, hold, improve, mortgage, sell, convey, transfer or otherwise dispose of property, real, personal and mixed of any and all kinds, to issue annuity bonds, borrow money , prosecute or defend actions in any and all courts and to do any and all other courts and do any and all other acts as may be deemed necessary or expedient for carrying out said objects by said corporation, but shall seek never to engage in any enterprise for its own pecuniary profit and invest according to a policy adopted by the Section of Finance and Investment and approved by the Leadership Team.

## **Article III**

### **Members and Vote**

This corporation shall be composed of all members in good standing of duly constituted American Baptist Churches of Nebraska, who shall be represented in all general meeting of this corporation by delegates chosen by the several churches as follow: The pastor and two other delegates from each church and one additional delegate from each church for each 100 members or major fraction thereof above the first 100 members.

## **Article IV**

### **Officers**

1. The elected officers of this corporation shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. Terms of officers shall be as stated in the corporate by-laws. These officers shall perform the duties usually incident to such offices, except as herein provided.
2. The Executive Minister/Region Missionary, selected by the Leadership Team for an indefinite period, upon recommendation of a Search Committee after active consultation with the General Secretary of the American Baptist Churches USA or the appointed deputy, shall be the chief executive officer of the corporation and responsible to the Leadership Team. The Executive Minister/Region Missionary shall have charge of the State Office and general supervision of all workers of the corporation. The Executive Minister/Ministers Council shall be the official medium of communication between the American Baptist Churches of Nebraska and all other agencies and shall fulfill the national staff relationships within the American Baptist Churches USA as directed by the Leadership Team of the American Baptist Churches of Nebraska.

## **Article V**

### **Leadership Team**

1. The general management of the affairs of this corporation shall be vested in a Leadership Team as defined in the By-laws of the Nebraska Baptist State Convention. The Leadership Team

has full power to transact all business of this corporation. The following officers of the American Baptist Churches of Nebraska shall be ex-officio members with power to vote.

President

Vice-President

Secretary

Treasurer

Section chairpersons and members

A representative of the American Baptist Men of Nebraska

A representative of the American Baptist Women's Ministries of Nebraska

A representative of the Ministers Council of the American Baptist Churches of Nebraska

A representative of Youth

Region Representative to the ABC-USA General Board

Executive Minister/Region Missionary

2. Terms of members shall be as stated in the corporate by-laws. The remaining members shall be chosen from nominees proposed by the churches to the Leadership Team who will serve as the Nominating Committee. No member shall be eligible to serve more than two consecutive terms, except ex-officio members. In the case of a member who has served only one year to fill a vacancy, that member can serve two additional terms.

3. The Leadership Team shall have the power to fill by appointment any vacancy that may occur among the elected members of the Board, or in the office of President (if the Vice-President is unwilling or unable to assume the office), Vice –President, Secretary or Treasurer, which appointee shall hold said office until the next annual meeting, when a person shall be elected to fill such vacancy.

4. Should any member of the Leadership Team be absent from the meetings of the Leadership Team without cause for one year, the office held may be declared vacant and the Leadership Team proceed to fill such vacancy.

5. The Leadership Team may establish such other offices and choose incumbents as may seem necessary or expedient for carrying on the work of the Corporation.

6. Any officer who handles funds belonging to the American Baptist Churches of Nebraska shall give a bond in form and amount to be approved by the Leadership Team.

7. Ten Leadership Team members shall constitute a quorum.

## **Article VI**

### **Meetings**

The annual meeting of the Corporation shall be held at such time and place as may be designated by the American Baptist Churches of Nebraska or the Leadership Team. Special meetings may be called by the Leadership Team provided written notice of such special meetings shall be given to each of the churches at least three weeks previous to the date of such meeting. A quorum at a special meeting shall be representation by delegates of 20% of the cooperating churches.

## **Article VII**

### **By-Laws**

The Leadership Team shall have power to enact and amend such by-laws as may be deemed necessary or expedient for carrying on the responsibilities of the churches entrusted to them.

## **Article VIII**

### **Amendments**

The American Baptist Churches of Nebraska shall have the power at their annual meeting to amend or alter this constitution by a vote of three-fourths of the delegates present, provided a written notice containing the substance of the proposed amendment has been given at a previous meeting or by recommendation of the Leadership Team.

**Amended 9/18/04**

**Amended 2/10**

**Proposed Amending 4/16**