**Executive Board Meeting Minutes**

**January 22, 2015**

**Blue Ridge Baptist Church**

Moderator, Jeff Paul, welcomed everyone and opened with prayer. He then called the meeting to order.

Ron Finke, chairman of the Financial Committee, gave the December 2014 financial report. The report was approved. Ron presented two joint Finance/Administrative Committee recommendations. They were as follows:

The Finance and Administrative Committee makes the following recommendation:

We recommend that the Joint Administrative/Financial Committee Report that was presented and approved at the January 26, 2012 Executive Board meeting be amended as indicated below in red.

**Administrative/Finance Committee’s Joint Financial & Ministry Investment Proposal**

**for the proceeds from the sale of the Missions Center**

The Finance and Administrative Committees are committed to proper stewardship of the proceeds from the sale of the building. We are excited to see how God uses the funds to further His Kingdom through the VISION 2020 plan. The committees have worked hard to develop the following plan for spending and investing the proceeds.

***SPENDING RECOMMENDATIONS***

It is recommended that the proceeds from the building be spent over the next seven years with the earnings from the investments going into an earnings account. Each of the five ministry teams will be allocated a percentage of the proceeds to support projects in that particular area of ministry. Each quarter, the association will accept grant proposals from BR-KC churches, church plants, associational ministry teams, or associational personnel. ~~The Finance and Administrative Committees will review the proposals and submit approved applications to the ministry teams~~ ***The Ministry Teams will review the proposals and submit approved applications to the Finance and Administrative Committees***who will issue the grants based upon a variety of factors as outlined in the detailed spending plan below.

***INVESTING RECOMMENDATIONS***

The Finance and Administrative Committees researched options for investing the proceeds from the sale of the building. They reviewed information regarding the potential investment products as well as different providers of those products. The details of this research are contained in the investing recommendations below. In summary, the committees are recommending the funds be placed in a donor advised fund with the National Christian Foundation. The funds will be managed by Steve Cox, a local financial advisor, who will develop a customized investment plan based upon the association’s goals and spending plan.

***INTRODUCTION***

In 2009 the mission that God had written on the hearts of the churches of the BR-KC Baptist Association was transferred onto paper: “We envision a network of healthy Baptist churches partnering together to transform lives and communities through the power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ at home, in North America and around the world.” Our persistent request has been that God empower us with an unrelenting boldness to live out VISION 2020 for His glory.

We now stand two years later on the edge of what appears to be a unique God-sized provision; the sale of a building for the funding of the mission. Our God is great! Therefore, The Finance and Administrative Committees have worked hard to develop the following plan for spending and investing the proceeds. We are committed to proper stewardship and we are excited to see how God uses the funds to further His Kingdom through the VISION 2020 plan.

***SPENDING RECOMMENDATION***

**GUIDELINES FOR VISION 2020 GRANTS**

The VISION 2020 Grants of the Blue River-Kansas City Baptist Association shall be a fund used by BR-KC churches, church plants or Associational personnel to expand missions, ministry and assistance to our churches consistent with the VISION 2020 strategy previously adopted by the Blue River-Kansas City Baptist Association.

The VISION 2020 Grants shall be funded by the proceeds of the Mission Center property sale. The proceeds will be held in a donor advised fund at the National Christian Foundation until granted out for VISION 2020 purposes.

The allocation of funds to VISION 2020 objectives will be as follows:

a. Gospel Outreach - ~~22.5%~~ ***20%***

b. Resourcing churches – 20%

c. Assisting Community Transformation – 10%

 ***1. Safe House - 10%***

d. Church Planting – ~~22.5%~~ ***20%***

e. Equipping Leaders – 15%

~~f. Restructuring Contingency – 10% (not to be used in year one)~~

***f. Flex funds - 5%***

g. Earnings Account – All investments earnings (est. $250,000 by year 2020)

4. Funds will be available and allocated on a quarterly basis over seven years. Therefore, the ministry team leading each objective will receive 1/28th of their total allocation each quarter for distribution consistent with these guidelines.

5. The funds not allocated in a given quarter will be invested back into the earnings account.

6. Applications by BR-KC churches, church plants, associational personnel, and ministry teams shall be made to the Executive Director of BR-KC in care of the associational office for further review by the Administrative Committee, Finance Committee and the appropriate Ministry Team.

7. Grant applications must be received on or before the quarterly deadline for reviewing the grants. The application shall indicate the name of the requesting church, church plant, associational personnel or ministry team; the date of the application; the date(s) of the use of the funds; the manner of the use of the funds; and the purpose of the use of the funds. The Executive Director, Administration Committee, Finance Committee and Ministry Teams may require additional information at their discretion.

8. Grants shall be appropriated based on available funds, the degree to which the use of the funds is consistent with the VISION 2020 objectives, the desire to allocate funds broadly among the churches and church plants within BR-KC, and other criteria the Executive Director, Administration Committee, Finance Committee and Ministry Teams deem appropriate.

9. VISION 2020 grants not allocated to initiatives of associational personnel or ministry teams will be approved only for congregations that make a commitment to support missions through contributions (money, volunteerism, etc.) to BR-KC.

10. Grants for any one congregation from the BR-KC Association shall be limited to a maximum of three (3) per quarter.

11. There shall be no limit on the number of grant requests for each church, except there is a limit of one request per church or church plant for capital improvements per year.

12. The scope of capital improvements may include: electrical, plumbing, heating and cooling (HVAC), foundation repair, roof repair, sound improvements, painting. etc.

13. Within thirty days of completing the event, those receiving funds must report back to the associational office on the use of the funds. Future grants may not be considered for organizations failing to complete the report.

14. At the end of one year this allocation process will be reviewed by the Executive Director, Administration Committee and Finance Committee and the review findings will be reported to the Executive Board.

15. The restructuring contingency will be used to allocate additional funds to VISION 2020 objectives based on the findings of the Executive Director, Administration Committee and Finance Committee during the one year review.

The Finance and Administrative Committees also make the following recommendation:

That the 2014 Restructuring Contingency funds be redirected and made available to the Safe House for Victims of Human Trafficking ministry to be used in 2015. This amount would total $11,938.80.

Both recommendations were approved with no discussion.

Written reports were presented and approved. Gregg Boll then gave the Associate Director’s report. He gave updates on the Legacy Cohort. A few changes will be taking place including adding night meetings and bringing in outside speakers. E3 meetings are continuing. The Williams-Farmer Preaching Fellowship is scheduled for April 10th.

Gregg then reported on the recent Horn of Africa trip where he, Dr. Asefaw Indrias and Pastor Randy Messer (FBC Oak Grove) taught at a new Bible School in Shire, Ethiopia. Travis Hamm and Dr. Indrias both shared about the trip as well.

Rodney Hammer gave an update on the safe house, now named Restoration House of Greater Kansas City. He introduced September Trible, the new Executive Director. September talked about her background and about the problem of human trafficking in Kansas City.

Rodney then gave a “State of the Association” report. Here are some highlights:

* The association approved the Vision 2020 model in 2009 which includes ministry teams based on the word GRACE (Gospel Outreach, Resourcing Churches, Assisting Community Transformation, Church Planting and Equipping Leaders)
* The association was practicing deficit spending when he came in 2008 but that is done. We are operating in the black.
* The mission center sold and grants are now being given back to the churches every quarter.
* Over 80 churches are actively engaged in associational work. The remaining churches will be asked again to get involved.
* Church planting and church revitalization is happening on a regular basis in our association.
* We are partnering with the WestCoast Baptist Association in Vancouver to help their church planters.
* We are working to build libraries in refugee camps in northern Ethiopia as well as working with a new Bible School in Shire to develop new pastors and leaders.

The following churches were recognized with certificates for their accomplishments during the 2013/2014 church year:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Top 10** | **Giving** |  | **Top 10** | **Baptisms** |
| Lees Summit, First | $41730.87 |  | LifeQuest | 68 |
| Oak Grove, First | $39077.05 |  | Raytown, First | 62 |
| Blue Springs, First | $38370.98 |  | United Believers | 61 |
| South Haven | $37806.22 |  | Blue Springs, First | 60 |
| Noland Road | $35670.54 |  | Redeemer Fellowship | 55 |
| Raytown, First | $31200.00 |  | Lees Summit, First | 33 |
| Grain Valley, First | $12826.00 |  | South Haven | 31 |
| Big Creek, Pleasant Hill | $11535.75 |  | Oak Grove, First | 30 |
| Heart of Life | $10829.00 |  | Noland Road | 20 |
| Sycamore Hills | $9542.57 |  | U Church | 20 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **Top 10 Ratio** | **Giving** |  | **Top 10 Ratio** | **Baptisms** |
| Loma Vista | 98.45 |  | New Zion Missionary | 4.62 |
| Little Blue | 41.38 |  | Prince of Peace | 5.83 |
| Abiding Love | 29.59 |  | U Church | 7.5 |
| Blue Summit | 29.48 |  | Bethany | 8 |
| Noland Road | 28.45 |  | LifeQuest | 8.09 |
| South Haven | 27.46 |  | Primera Iglesia, Independence | 10 |
| Iglesia Pan De Vida | 27.25 |  | Redeemer Fellowship | 13.47 |
| Sycamore Hills | 25.93 |  | Iglesia Pan De Vida | 14.75 |
| Calvary, Blue Springs | 22.24 |  | Iglesia Cristiana Palabra Viva | 16 |
| Faith | 21.39 |  | Abiding Love | 17 |

The meeting was adjourned.