

## CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

### ARTICLE I: NAME

This body shall be known as the Heart of Kansas Southern Baptist Association.

### ARTICLE II: STATEMENT OF FAITH

The statement of faith for Heart of Kansas Southern Baptist Association is The Baptist Faith and Message 2000.

### ARTICLE III: MISSION

The Heart of Kansas Southern Baptist Association exists to influence and assist participating churches to fulfill the Great Commission as they cooperate in the creation and development of healthy churches. While recognizing the autonomy of each church to follow the dictates of God through the Scriptures, The Heart of Kansas Southern Baptist Association shall endeavor to carry out its mission in cooperation with the Kansas Nebraska Convention of Southern Baptists and the Southern Baptist Convention's global missions enterprise.

### ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: This association shall consist of cooperating Southern Baptist churches whose faith and practice is in accordance with the doctrine expressed in The Baptist Faith and Message 2000, and who have been granted affiliation with the Association through due process, and who share in the mission of the Association.

Section 2: Any church wishing to join the association shall file a petitionary letter with the Credentials Committee. Upon recommendation of the Credentials Committee a petitioning church may be received into membership upon the majority vote of either the Annual Meeting of the Association, or the quarterly meeting of the Executive Board.

Section 3: While this Association does not have authority over a local church, it reserves the right to withdraw membership from any church whose faith and practice is not in accordance with the doctrine expressed in The Baptist Faith and Message 2000. This Association shall seat no messengers from churches that receive members without requiring a public profession of repentance toward God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, followed by believer's baptism, exercised by the proper authority of a New Testament church.

Section 4: A church whose faith and practice is not in accordance with the doctrine expressed in The Baptist Faith and Message 2000 shall be removed from membership upon recommendation from the Credentials Committee and two-thirds vote of the Annual Meeting. Any church desiring to terminate its membership with this Association will notify the Association. Recognition of this action will be taken upon the recommendation of the Moderator of the Association at an Executive Board or Annual Meeting.

## ARTICLE V: OFFICERS

Section 1: The officers of the Association shall be Moderator, Vice-Moderator, and Parliamentarian, who shall hold the same position on the Executive Board of the Association. The officers of the Association shall be members of member churches. The Moderator may serve no more than two consecutive terms. Officers shall serve one-year terms beginning at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting.

Section 2: The Committee on Committees shall nominate the Officers Nominating Committee consisting of a chairperson and two members to serve for one year. Members cannot serve two consecutive years. This committee will present a recommended slate of officers to the Annual Meeting to serve the Association for the coming year. Additional nominations may be made from the floor.

Section 3: Removal and/or replacement of the officers of the association must be done in a Special Called Business Meeting (See Article V Section 3). The Advisory Team shall determine who will moderate this special called business meeting.

Section 4: If, during the absence of all the Associational Officers, a signature on some official and/or legal paper should be required, the Executive Board shall authorize one of its members to sign such paper.

## ARTICLE V: MEETINGS

### Section 1: Annual Meeting

(a) The Association shall meet annually at such a time and place as determined by the Association in Session. The association is in session when meeting for its Annual Meeting, Executive Board Meeting, or Special Called Business Meeting. Notification through normal means of communication of the Annual Meeting time and place shall be made at least 30 days in advance.

(b) A representative from at least 15% of HOKSBA churches must be present to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

(c) A simple majority is required to approve all votes unless otherwise noted.

(d) Each church shall be represented by church appointed messengers to the Annual Meeting. Each church shall be entitled to four (4) messengers from a weekly worship attendance of up to one hundred (100), and one (1) messenger for each additional one hundred (100) or fraction thereof in weekly worship attendance. No church shall have more than nine (9) messengers. All messengers must be members of the church they represent.

(e) A multi-site church may combine the worship service attendance for all of its sites for the purpose of calculating its messengers. A sponsoring church may include the worship service

attendance of its church plants in calculating its messengers, until those church plants become independent.

(f) Weekly worship attendance shall be determined by the current year's Annual Church Profile (ACP). In the event a church has not submitted the current year's ACP, the messenger allotment will be based on the previous year's ACP. If neither ACP is on file, the church will be entitled to four (4) messengers.

(g) The Credentials Committee will have authority in determining allotted messengers based on these criteria.

(h) The Association staff, in coordination with the officers, shall prepare a proposed agenda for the Annual Meeting to be sent to member churches at least 15 days before the Annual Meeting.

## Section 2: Executive Board

(a) The Executive Board shall consist of the officers of the Association, the pastor of each church cooperating in the Association, and two others appointed by each church annually. Each church will be entitled to three (3) board members. Each church is entitled to furnish its own alternates in the absence of any of its board members. Executive Board members and alternates must be members of the church they represent.

(b) Any number present shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

(c) The Executive Board shall transact any and all business of the Association during the interim, provided that nothing shall be done by the Board contrary to the Constitution or the expressed will and purpose of the Association.

(d) Scheduled meetings for the Executive Board shall be published at the Annual Meeting.

(e) The Moderator may call a special Executive Board meeting at his own discretion. In the absence of the Moderator, the Vice Moderator shall have this authority. Proper notification of special Executive Board meetings will be made in writing to member churches and appointed Executive Board members at least two weeks prior to the date of the meeting.

## Section 3: Special Called Meetings

A Special Called Meeting of the Association may be called at the discretion of the Advisory Team. Representation at such meetings shall be determined by Article VI Section 1. Notification of time, place and agenda shall be made known through normal means of communication to member churches at least two weeks prior to the date of the meeting.

## ARTICLE VII: EXECUTIVE SECRETARY-TREASURER

Section 1: This Association shall have the authority to employ an Executive Secretary-Treasurer (Associational Missions Strategist) who shall supervise all other employees of the Association.

The Executive Secretary-Treasurer may be approved at a regular or special called Executive Board meeting where a two-thirds majority vote will be required.

Section 2: The Associational Missions Strategist may be dismissed by a two-thirds majority vote of a special called meeting of the Executive Board.

Section 3: If it is determined by the Advisory Committee that the Associational Missions Strategist has acted in an immoral or criminal manner, he shall be placed on paid administrative leave pending action by the Executive Board in a special called meeting.

## ARTICLE VIII: BUSINESS

Section 1: Proposed amendments to the Constitution must be presented in writing to the Associational Staff at least forty-five days prior to the Annual Meeting and must be included in the proposed agenda per Article V: Section 1 (h). The constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority vote of the messengers present at an Annual Meeting.

Section 2: This Association shall follow the Parliamentary Procedures as set forth in Roberts Rules of Order, Revised.