

BYLAWS  
OF THE  
IOWA ASSOCIATION OF REGULAR BAPTIST CHURCHES

ARTICLE I

NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Iowa Association of Regular Baptist Churches.

ARTICLE II

PURPOSES

The purposes of this Corporation shall be to maintain an association of sovereign, Bible-believing, Christ-honoring Baptist churches; to promote the spirit of evangelism; to spread the Gospel; to advance the Regular Baptist educational and missionary enterprises at home and abroad; to raise and maintain a testimony to the truth of the Gospel and to purity of the church and to raise a standard of Biblical separation from worldliness, modernism and apostasy.

ARTICLE III

OFFICES

The principal office of the Corporation in the State of Iowa shall be located in the City of Ankeny, County of Polk.

ARTICLE IV

MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. *Membership.* Any properly constituted Baptist church in the State of Iowa which accepts the Confession of Faith of the General Association of Regular Baptist churches and does not have any connection, actual or implied, with the American Baptist Convention and its auxiliaries, or the National and World council of Churches, may apply for fellowship in the Association. The Iowa Association of Regular Baptist Churches does not recognize dual fellowship. Upon recommendation by the Board of Directors (Council of Ten) the application shall be voted on by the churches at their Annual Meeting. Upon receiving a

majority vote, the church shall then be extended the right hand of fellowship. Any church that has been accepted into the fellowship of the Iowa Association of Regular Baptist Church may select three messengers as members of the Corporation; two of whom shall be designated by the church to act on the Elections Committee for the purpose of electing a Board of Directors. In all other business conducted by the Corporation each of the three messengers is entitled to one vote. No limit shall be placed on the number privileged to attend the Annual Meeting from any fellowshipping church.

Section 2. *Annual Meeting.* The Annual Meeting of the membership shall be held the second Monday and Tuesday of April each year at the time and place designated by the Council of Ten for the purpose of Bible exposition, fellowship, prayer, election of the Council of Ten, and the transaction of such other business as may come before the meeting.

Section 3. *Special Meetings.* Special Meetings of the members for any purpose or purposes, unless otherwise prescribed by statute, may be called by the Chairman or the Board of Directors.

Section 4. *Place of Meeting.* The Council of Ten may designate any place within the State of Iowa, as a place of meeting of any Special Meeting called by the Chairman or Council of Ten.

Section 5. *Notice of Meeting.* Written or printed Notice stating the place, day, and hour of the meeting, and in the case of a Special Meeting, the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called, shall be delivered not less than ten (10) days before the date of the meeting by mail. Such Notice shall be deemed to be delivered when deposited in the United States Mail, addressed to each church address as it appears on the membership books of the Association with postage thereon prepaid.

Section 6. *Quorum.* Twenty-five (25) percent of the membership shall constitute a quorum at a meeting of the members.

Section 7. *Proxies.* There shall be no vote by Proxy.

Section 8. *Cessation of Fellowship.*

- a. Any fellowshipping church may withdraw from the Association at any time and for any reason sufficient to itself. Christian ethics would suggest that reason for such withdrawal should be filed with the Association but such action is not mandatory. In conformity with the historic Baptist position, the property rights of such a church can in no wise be legally prejudiced or endangered by such withdrawal.
- b. Any fellowshipping church which is publicly known to be no longer in agreement with the Constitution and Articles of Faith of the

Association, and has not voluntarily withdrawn itself from the Association, may, upon satisfactory evidence of disagreement being presented by the Council and upon its recommendation, be removed from the rolls by majority vote of the Association.

## ARTICLE V

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. *General Powers.* The business affairs of the Corporation shall be managed by its Board of Directors.

Section 2. *Size and Representation.* The Board of Directors shall consist of ten (10) members who shall be known as the Council of Ten.

Section 3. *Election.* The board of Directors (Council of Ten) shall be elected by majority vote from a ballot compiled by the Secretary in the following manner: Each church in fellowship with the Association shall meet in business session and nominate as many names for the Council as it may desire. These names shall be sent to the Secretary of the Council at least two (2) weeks in advance of the Annual Meeting. The Secretary will make proper tabulation of all lists and the ten (10) highest names shall be considered the nominees. In case of a tie for the tenth nominee, only the first nine names shall be considered. Any pastor or layman is eligible who is a member in good standing of a Regular Baptist Church in the Iowa Association for at least one year prior to the Annual Meeting. Each church in fellowship with the Association shall designate two (2) of its messengers to serve on the Election Committee. At the announced time during the Annual Meeting, at the call of the Secretary, this Committee shall meet at which time the list of ten (or in some cases nine) nominees shall be presented to it, and each member shall select five choices. Those receiving the highest number of votes shall be considered elected to the Council.

Section 4. *Term of Service.* Five(5) at alternate years, shall be elected for a term of two(2) years. Upon completion of three (3) full terms, the board members shall be ineligible for re-election for one year.

Section 5. *Vacancies.* A vacancy in any office because of death, resignation, removal from the State, disqualification, or otherwise, removal from the State, disqualification, or otherwise, will be filled by the individual next in line as qualified by the annual ballot.

Section 6. *Compensation.* No member of the Board of Directors shall receive compensation for his services.

Section 7. *Regular Meeting.* The regular meeting of the Board of Directors (Council of Ten) shall be held at least four (4) times a year. The place and time of this meeting shall be determined by the Board of the Corporation.

Section 8. *Special Meetings.* Special Meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by or at the request of the President.

Section 9. *Quorum.* One half of the number of Directors fixed by Section 2 of this Article V shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Board of Directors, but if less than such number is present at a meeting, a majority of the Directors may adjourn the meeting from time to time without further notice.

Section 10. *Manner of Acting.* The acts of the majority of the Directors present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Board of Directors.

## ARTICLE VI

### OFFICERS

Section 1. *Number.* The officers of the Association shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. The first two officers shall be known as Chairman and Vice-Chairman. No more than one office may be held by any one person.

Section 2. *Chairman.* The Chairman shall be the principal executive officer of the Corporation and, subject to the control of the Board of Directors, shall in general supervise and control all of the business and affairs of the Corporation. He shall, when present, preside at all business meetings of the membership and of the Board of Directors. He may sign, with the Secretary, or any other proper officer of the corporation thereunto authorized by the Board of Directors, any deeds, mortgages, bonds, contracts or other instruments which the Board of Directors has authorized to be executed, except in cases where the signing and execution thereof shall be expressly delegated by the Board of directors or by these Bylaws to some other officer or agent of the Corporation, or shall be required by law to be otherwise signed or executed, and in general perform all duties incident to the office of Chairman, and such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors from time to time.

Section 3. *Vice-Chairman.* In the absence of the Chairman, or in the event of his death, inability or refusal to act, the Vice-Chairman shall perform the duties of Chairman and when so acting shall have all the powers of and be subject to all the restrictions upon the President, and shall perform such other duties as from time to time may be assigned to him by the Chairman or by the Board of

Directors.

Section 4. *Secretary.* The Secretary shall: (a) keep the minutes of the meetings of the members and of the Board of Directors in one or more books provided for the purpose; (b) see that all these notices are duly given in accordance with the provision of these Bylaws or as required by law; (c) be custodian of the corporate records; (d) keep a register of the post office address of each member which shall be furnished to the Secretary by such member; (e) sign with the Chairman or Vice-Chairman all instruments herein before provided for him to sign with the Chairman and such other instruments as may be authorized by the Board of Directors; and (f) in general perform all duties incident to the office of Secretary, and such other duties as from time to time may be assigned to him by the Board of Directors.

Section 5. *Treasurer.* If required by the Board of Directors, the Treasurer shall bond for the faithful discharge of his duties in such sum and with such surety or sureties as the Board of Directors shall determine. He shall: (a) have charge and custody of and be responsible for all funds and securities of the Corporation; (b) receive and give receipts for money due and payable to the Corporation from any source whatsoever, and deposit all such moneys in the depositories as may be selected by the Board of Directors, and (c) in general perform all the duties incident to the office of Treasurer and such other duties as from time to time may be assigned to him by the Chairman or by the Board.

Section 6. *Election and Term of Office.* The officers of the Corporation are to be elected by the Board of Directors from their membership at their first meeting after each Annual Meeting of the members. If the election of officers shall not be held at such meeting, such election shall be held as soon thereafter as conveniently may be. Each Officer shall hold office until his successor shall have been duly elected and shall have qualified or until his death or until he shall resign. Any vacancy shall be filled by majority vote of the Board of Directors.

## ARTICLE VII

### SALARIED SERVANTS

Section 1. *State Representative.* The securing and dismissing of the State Representative shall be the responsibility of the Board of Directors, (Council of Ten); however, he shall not assume duties until the messengers of the Association ratify the selection by two-thirds vote of the messengers assembled. He shall be responsible to the Board of Directors who determine his duties and compensation. His ministry shall continue as long as mutually agreed or beneficial to the Association. The State Representative shall be an ex-officio member of all committees and meetings of the Board of Directors.

Section 2. *Other Servants.* The Board of Directors (Council of Ten) shall have the power to hire additional help as the Board deems necessary. This additional help shall be responsible to the State Representative. The duration of their service shall be as is mutually agreeable between the State Representative in consultation with the Board of directors and the individual involved. The compensation presented the individual shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

Section 3. *Voting Privileges.* No salaried servant of the Corporation shall be privileged to vote in any meeting of the Boards, Committees, or Corporation.

## ARTICLE VIII

### AUDIT

A regular annual audit of the books, funds, records, and accounts of the Corporation shall be made as directed by the Board of Directors. This audit shall be made available as directed by the Board of Directors.

## ARTICLE IX

### BYLAWS ADOPTED BY MEMBERS

Any amendment of the Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws which have been adopted by the members must be submitted in writing at any Annual Meeting, but the same shall not be finally determined until one (1) year has elapsed after the said amendment is proposed. The said amendment or bylaw shall have been adopted by a two-thirds majority vote of the Corporation members present and voting.

### ADOPTED AMENDMENTS

Article V: Board of Directors

Section 4. *Term of Service.* Five (5) at alternate years, shall be elected for a term of two (2) years.

Add this sentence: Upon completion of two (2) full terms, the board member shall be ineligible for re-election for one year.

Section 6. *Compensation.* No member of the Board of Directors shall receive compensation for his services.

Delete this phrase: but shall be entitled to legitimate travel expenses to duly called Board meetings, and a nominal fee to cover expenses incurred by the Treasurer in performance of his duty.

AMENDMENT ADOPTED – April 20, 1987

Article IV: Membership

Section 8. *Cessation of Fellowship*

- a. Any fellowshiping church may withdraw from the Association at any time and for any reason sufficient to itself. Christian ethics would suggest that reason for such withdrawal should be filed with the Association, but such action is not mandatory. In conformity with the historic Baptist position, the property rights of such a church can in nowise be legally prejudiced or endangered by such withdrawal.
- b. Any fellowshiping church which is publicly known to be no longer in agreement with the constitution and Articles of Faith of the Association, and has not voluntarily withdrawn itself from the Association may, upon satisfactory evidence of disagreement, being presented by the Council and upon its recommendation, be removed from the rolls by majority vote of the Association.

AMENDMENT ADOPTED – April 4, 1988

Article VII: Salaried Servants

Section 1. *State Representative.* The securing and dismissing of the State Representative shall be the responsibility of the Board of Directors (Council of Ten); however, he shall not assume duties until the messengers of the Association ratify the selection by a two-thirds vote of the messengers assembled. He shall be responsible to the Board of Directors who determine his duties and compensation. His ministry shall continue as long as mutually agreed or beneficial to the Association. The State Representative shall be an ex-officio member of all committees and meetings of the Board of Directors.

AMENDMENT ADOPTED – March 27, 1989

Article IV: Membership

## Section 2. *Annual Meeting*

Presently reads: The Annual Meeting of the membership shall be held the same week following Easter each year...

Amended to read: The Annual Meeting of the membership shall be held the second Monday and Tuesday of April each year...

### AMENDMENT ADOPTED – April 20, 1992

## Article IV: Membership

### Section 1. Membership

Add the following sentence between the Iowa Association of Regular Baptist Churches does not recognize dual fellowship. and Upon recommendation by the Board...

Since our Association is a fellowship of Baptist Churches, all churches which are a part of the Association must have and must retain the name "Baptist" in their legal and advertised titles.

### AMENDMENT ADOPTED – April 10, 1995

## Article V: Board of Directors

### Section 4:

Presently reads: Terms of Service. Five(5) at alternate years, shall be elected for a term of two(2) years. Upon completion of two(2) full terms, the board member shall be ineligible for re-election for one year.

Amended to read: Terms of Service. Five(5) at alternate years, shall be elected for a term of two(2) years. Upon completion of three(3) full terms, the board member shall be ineligible for re-election for one year.

### AMENDMENT ADOPTED – April 10, 2006