

# **Southern Baptist Conference of the Deaf**

**July 9-14, 2023**

**Calvary Baptist Church**

**Clearwater, Florida**

## **July 9, 2023 (Sunday night)**

The meeting was called to order at 6:34p.m.

President Laura Hill explained that the minutes have been posted on the SBCD website and on Facebook. The minutes were accepted as read.

### **Executive Committee Report:**

President: We, the executive committee team met at Brentwood Baptist Deaf Church in Brentwood, Tennessee for our mid-year meeting during the first weekend of November in 2022. We had a wonderful meeting, we made great progress with a great team of leaders.

1st Vice President: No report

2nd Vice President: No report

Secretary: No report

Assistant Secretary: No report

Treasurer: Tom Linares will give his report later this week.

**The meeting was paused at 6:42pm**

## **July 10, 2023 (Monday night)**

The meeting was resumed at 6:32 p.m

### **Board of Directors Report:**

Greg Johnson-TN, Chairperson

Robert Moore-NC, Vice Chairperson

Anna Austin-TN, Secretary

John Wyble- VA

Dwight Swim- KY

Joni Bice- OK

Robert Moore- Worked as liaison with By-Law Committee to clean up some things in the By-Laws and the committee members are still working on the by-laws.

Greg Johannsen- He collected all old minutes (SBCD Meetings, Board of Director Minutes), TWSBD Newsletters, Charter of Incorporation, By-Laws and Policy & Procedure Manual, and other things. He is still working on updating everything and will store all of that information in google drive.

The Board of Directors announced that 2024 SBCD will be in Glorieta, New Mexico. In 2025, it will be in Ridgecrest, North Carolina.

Southern Baptist Conference of the Deaf  
2023-2024 Budget

Conference Site	
History/Preservation/Anniversary	\$ 500
SBCD Conference Week	\$8000
Executive Committee	\$4000
Board of Directors	\$4250
Cooperative Program (2%)	\$ 580
NAMC Fund (1%)	\$ 290
IMC Fund (1%)	\$ 290
Deaflympics (1%)	\$ 290
ASBID	\$ 250
Child Care	\$5000
Jr. SBCD	\$2000
FMPD	\$ 250
MAPSF	\$ 250
Ephphatha Scholarship	\$ 500
William Leonard Asbridge Home Office (2%)	\$ 580
Media	\$2000

**Grand Total**

**\$29,030**

No discussion. Passed.

**Board's 2024 and 2025 SBCD theme, place, and date proposal:**

**Themes:**

2024: Living, Active, Power - Hebrew 4:12

2025: Press ON! Remaining Steadfast through Challenging Times. James 1:12

## **Time and Place:**

2024- Glorieta, New Mexico July 7-12,2024

2025- Ridgecrest, NC July 14-18, 2025. (Date not finalized yet).

President Laura Hill called for a vote. Passed.

## **Baptist, Faith and Message 2000:**

### **Board of Director- Aric Randolph: (clarify on SBCD's beliefs)**

SBCD By-Laws Article 6 states that we follow the Baptist, Faith and Message 2000. In this Baptist, Faith and Message Article 6: The church it states: "Its two scriptural offices are that of pastor/elder/overseer and deacon. While both men and women are gifted for service in the church, the office of pastor/elder/overseer is limited to men as qualified by Scripture." What does that mean? Women can serve anywhere in the local church except the pastor.

If any question or problems with SBCD's belief, you are free to meet with the Board to discuss our By-Laws Article 6.

The meeting was paused at 6:47 p.m.

### **July 11, 2023 (Tuesday night)**

The meeting was resumed at 6:37p.m.

President Laura Hill, VA, announced that Business Meeting is postponed to Wednesday night at 6:30pm.

The meeting was paused at 6:38 p.m

### **July 12, 2023 (Wednesday night)**

The meeting was resumed at 6:33p.m.

Treasurer Report: Tom Linares Jr.-FL

## **Financial Report:**

The Southern Baptist Conference of the Deaf, Inc.

Annual Financial Statement

July 1,2022 to June 30,2023

Beginning Balance-7/1/2022

**\$124,303.91**

**Revenue**

300-Child Care	\$0.00
303-Designation	\$487.15
306-NAMB	\$0.00
312-Interest	\$4.24
316-Individuals	\$1,660.00
318-Local Church	\$6,203.07
321-Miscellaneous	\$0.00
327-Offering	\$1,941.30
330-Registration	\$39,469.79
333-Sales	\$1,970.30
334-Scholarships	\$0.00
336-State	\$0.00
<b><u>TOTAL REVENUE</u></b>	<b><u>\$51,735.56</u></b>
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$176,037.47</b>

**Expenses**

400-Bank Charge	\$0.00
402-Cooperative Program	\$80.00
405-Child Care	\$0.00
410-Conference	\$0.00
415-Copies	\$0.00
420-Honorarium	\$0.00
425-Interpreting	\$0.00
430-Linens	\$0.00
435-Lodge	\$2,986.42

440-Supplies	\$10,113.87
445-Meals	\$6,178.41
450-Miscellaneous	\$0.00
460-Postage	\$106.37
465-Printing	\$0.00
475-Refund	\$451.78
480-Registration	\$0.00
485-Rental	\$0.00
490-Returned	\$0.00
492-Scholarships	\$0.00
495-Telephone	\$0.00
500-Transportation	\$3,562.45
555-Missions	\$8,349.67
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$32,328.97</b>

Ending Balance-6/30/2023 **\$143,708.50**

Respectfully Submitted,

Tom Linares Jr.- SBCD Treasure

**Audit Report:**

Kevin Bryant reviewed the audit report and everything looks good.

The following auditors have found Annual Financial Report to be accurate.

**Name of list who audited:**

Robert Crowell-MO

Stacey Clement-NC

Scott Williams-FL

**Passed.**

### **FMPD Report:**

Larry White- acting Chairperson for Larry Barrett (absent due to health reasons).

New Chairperson- Larry White-TN

Vice Chairperson-Stacey Clement-NC

Secretary- No report

### **MAPSF Report:**

Allison Randolph-TN

MAPSF met on Monday and Tuesday afternoon with 26 women in attendance.

Thank you to Brenda Tolosa for leading craft time making cards to be shared with others.

Our guest speaker was Dr. Angela Scruggs who led our afternoon session focusing on mental health for ourselves and church members. We were so thankful for her insights and plan to meet with her on ZOOM several times during this year.

On Tuesday, We meet with FMPD for lunch and time for fellowship and pictures. We talked about our needs and want to stay connected to each other more during the year.

We elected Mandi Dye as chairperson for MAPSF 2024 and hoping to focus on relationships and healthy boundaries.

We voted to reimburse expenses for crafts and the rest of our budget to be given as a honorarium for our guest speaker. Respectfully submitted by,

Allison Randolph, MAPSF Chair 2023

### **Missions Report:**

Nathan Hill-GA

It was a new experience working with the Mission Team. We supported two people, Barbara Coffan, GA, and Stacy Nalls, GA, for their mission trip to Honduras.

Barb Coffan and Stacy Nalls shared their testimonies about their work in Honduras.

Missions currently have \$26,000 for NAMF and \$12,000 for IMF.

### **History Report:**

Sharon Joyner-WV:

Liz Renter- Designed and sold t-shirts for our 75th year anniversary.

Lorraine Linares planned the 75th anniversary banquet.

There is a total at 195 people here that will attend the 75th anniversary banquet. Out of 195 people, only two people were at the 25th anniversary of SBCD.

### **Nominating Committee Report:**

Tony Austin, TN – Chair

Dirk Hill, VA

Chadwick Noel, KY

Tony Austin showed a list of Nominees for 2023-2024 SBCD officers and committee members.

The meeting was paused at 6:51p.m.

### **July 13, 2023 (Thursday Morning)**

The meeting was resumed at 9:06 a.m.

### **By Laws Committee:**

Daniel Lute, AL

By-Law Committee (Daniel Lute and Mary High)

Daniel Lute went over the motions that have been submitted by the messengers. We will look over 3 motions, we will vote for one of them this year as for the other two, we will vote on them next year to make sure it does not conflict with the By-Laws.

### **Education Committee:**

No Report

### **Kid SBCD Report:**

Avey Jane Lute shared her report with us during Kid SBCD night. The theme for this week was GLOW – Sharing His Light. There were 19 children in attendance – 18 Hearing and 1 Deaf. Avey thanked the volunteers for their time in assisting with Child Care this week. They made pillowcases that glow in the dark and did other fun things along with Bible Study.

### **Jr. SBCD Report:**

Ethan Elder shared his report with us during Jr. SBCD night. They had 9 Jr. SBCD attendees. They participated in Bible Study and had fun activities planned throughout the week. Ron Cooney taught Bible Study during the afternoons. It has been a great

week for Jr. SBCD.

**ASBID Report:**

Cindy Moore, NC- ASBID Chairperson

ASBID had business meeting on July 12, 2023.

26 interpreters in attendance

12 workshops were set up and provided RID CEUs

Florida Baptist Interpreters and Calvary Deaf Ministry hosted fellowship.

The newly elected ASBID Officers for 2023-2024

Chair: Bill Green, TX

Vice Chair: Tommy Cothorn, MS

Secretary: Daphne Cox, FL

Historian: Ian Fay Price, KY

Nominating Committee Chair: Rosalle Harris, FL

Deaf-Blind Interpreter Coordinator: Esperanza, CO

Interpreter Coordinator: Jennifer Mitchell, FL

Program Chair: Karen Corbello, TX

**SBCD Roll Call: Brance Long, NC**

<b>State</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Total</b>
AL	9	MO	4
AR	1	MS	4
CA	1	NC	22
CO	3	NY	14
FL	54	OH	8
GA	26	OK	9
IL	3	TN	20



KS	3	TX	24
KY	16	VA	18
MA	4	WV	1
MD	2	WY	1
<b><u>Categories:</u></b>	<b><u>Total</u></b>	<b><u>Categories:</u></b>	<b><u>Total</u></b>
Messengers:	125	Spouse of Missionaries:	3
Visitors:	124	Interpreters:	28
Deaf:	138	Sunday School Teachers:	16
Hearing:	71	Pastors:	24
Deaf/Blind:	4	Spouses of Pastors:	25
Jr. SBCD	9	Lay Ministers:	1
KidSBCD:	14	Deacons:	0
Missionaries	17		

**Total Number of Attendees: 249**

### **New Business**

#### **Motion #1:**

Phillip Easterling, NC move that all presentations at the SBCD annual meeting will be done in either American Sign Language or spoken English with an American Sign Language Interpreter.

Seconded by Danny Bice, OK

Discussion. Close discussion and vote on the motion.

Motion passed.

#### **Motion #2:**

I, Aric Randolph, TN move that By-Laws Article 10: Committees Section 2.2.4.2 be amended as "The members of JR SBCD shall consist of Deaf young person 7th grade to high school graduate belonging to Southern Baptist Conference of the Deaf. **Motion will be brought up to vote next year.**

**Motion #3:**

I, Aric Randolph, TN move that By-Laws:Article 8: Officers oversee the coordination of childcare programs from birth to 6th grade. Section 5.8 be amended as "Childcare Coordinator": Can't vote this year Why? Because must print TWSID advance. **Motion will be brought up to vote next year.**

**Nominations:**

Tony Austin, TN

**2024 Executive Committee:**

President: Laura Hill, VA

Vice President: Steve Dye, AL

2nd Vice President: Brance Long, NC

Secretary: Marsha Forer, TX

Asst. Secretary: Deanna Hill, GA

Treasurer: Tom Linares, FL

Cindy Moore, NC moves to accept all Executive Committee for 2024 by acclamation. Dirk Hill, VA seconded, Passed.

**Nominations for Childcare Coordinator:**

Sarah Noel, KY

Karen Rhoads, VA

Vote on Child Care Coordinator. Karen Rhoads was voted as the Child-Care Coordinator. Passed.

Jr SBCD Coordinator: Corey Harrison, KY

**Passed**

**Board of Directors:**

Dwight Swim, KY- 2024

Bob Moore, NC - 2024

Joni Bice, OK - 2025

Donnie Wiltshire, TX - 2025

Anna Austin, TN - 2026

John Wyble, VA- 2026

New nominees:

Aric Randolph, TN - 2027

Greg Johannsen, TN – 2027

Passed.

**Missons Committee:**

New nominees: Robert Crowell, MO and Kevin Cartwright, KS. One vacancy needs to be filled.

Nancy Perry, KY nominated Ronda Perrin, GA accepted.

**Missions Committee:**

Robert Crowell, MO

Kevin Cartwright, MO

Esperanza Hernandez, CO 2024

Martha Knowles, FL 2024

Tina Clary, FL 2024

Gloria Hodson, AZ 2025

Donna Lawlor, KY 2025

Rosalie Harris, FL 2025

Robert Crowell, MO 2026

Kevin Cartwright, MO 2026

Ronda Perrin, GA 2026

**Passed.**

**By Laws Committee:**

New nominees for one vacant position:

Leanne Carrera, VA

Daniel Lute, AL nominated Danny Bice, OK, accepted

Messengers voted for Danny Bice.

**By-Laws Committee:**

Daniel Lute, AL 2024

Kevin Hodson, AZ 2025

Danny Bice, OK 2026

**Passed**

**Education Committee:**

Nominations for one vacant position:

Cindy Moore, NC nominated Ethan Elder, FL, accepted.

Steve Dye, AL nominated Ashton Luff, TX, accepted.

Messengers voted for Ashton Luff.

**Education Committee:**

Nina Coyer, KY 2024

Jessica Cartwright, Ks 2025

Ashton Luff, TX 2026

**Passed**

**History Committee:**

One position vacant

Nominations:

Chadwick Noel, KY

Cindy Moore, NC nominated Ethan Elder, FL, accepted.

Sharon Joyner, WV nominated Leeann Carrera, VA, accepted.

Messengers voted Ethan Elder, FL.

**History Committee:**

Sharon Joyner, WV 2024

Liz Rentner, TX 2025

Ethan Elder, FL

**Resolutions:**

Anna Austin, TN - Chairperson

Committee Members: Lorraine Linares, FL and Laura Hill, VA

Anna Austin, TN showed SBCD resolution letter on the screen.

WHEREAS, to the glory, honor and praise of God, the Father, through His Son Jesus Christ, the Southern Baptist Conference of the Deaf (SBCD) held its 72<sup>nd</sup> conference at Calvary Church in Clearwater, Florida where administration staff and technical personnel demonstrated their Christ-like servant spirit.

WHEREAS, the SBCD Executive Officers, Board of Directors, Worship Pastor, Praise Team leaders, workshop presenters, interpreters, committee members and Calvary Church team have demonstrated God through their service to SBCD.

WHEREAS, the SBCD expresses their deepest gratitude to Taylor Smith - Groups Ministry Assistant, Ron Cooney – Executive Pastor, Calvary Church and all their volunteers, Florida Baptist Convention and their representative, Myles Dowdy, and Florida Baptist Conference of the Deaf Officers and their volunteers for investing their time during this conference. They demonstrated God's love through their service to SBCD.

WHEREAS, the SBCD expresses their deepest gratitude to Sharon Joyner and Lorraine Linares for investing their time in preparing for the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration of Southern Baptist Conference of the Deaf. They have demonstrated God through their service to SBCD.

WHEREAS, the SBCD expresses their deepest appreciation to Donnie Wiltshire for his time and dedication to gathering all the historical moments of SBCD for the last 75 years. Donnie shared amazing memories of people who invested their time with SBCD throughout the years and displayed historical events throughout the week.

WHEREAS, the SBCD conference theme – “CONTINUE THE TASK” – Ephesians 2:10 challenged messengers and visitors to remember to continue to carry on the task that is set forth before us and to include HIM in our daily lives.

WHEREAS, the SBCD, the technical and video staff shared information through video presentations and exhibitors shared their ministries through exhibit booths.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:**

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that, We at SBCD wholeheartedly agree and thank every person who served the members of our conference and its auxiliaries.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that, We at SBCD, both individually and collectively, embrace God's call to reach out to the lost Deaf people throughout the world and reach the unreached people who do not know the gospel.  
Passed.

Donna Lawlor move for SBCD to accept this Resolution Letter for NAD. Seconded by Dwight Swim, KY.

### **Resolution About the NAD**

Whereas, the National Association of the Deaf (NAD) claims to represent all parts of the Deaf Community.

Whereas, NAD hosted a webinar entitled; "HOW-TO: LGBTQIA2S+ Clubs at Deaf Schools/Programs on June 13, 2023.

Whereas, Deaf/HH students with gender confusion, addiction to pornography, or involved in sexual abuse need the truth of the Savior along with healthy mentoring relationships. See Leviticus 18:22, Leviticus 20:13, Romans 1:26-28, Jude 1:7

Whereas, NAD should empower the parents of these students by teaching the parents how to communicate these tough ASL topics in a manner that is clearly understood.

Whereas, NAD has failed to equally represent the Judeo-Christian Deaf/HH Community in any political discourse relating to human sexuality.

WHEREAS, The Bible declares that God created humans in His own image as distinctly male and female (Genesis 1:27; Matthew 19:4); and

WHEREAS, The Bible teaches that the differences between men and women are complementary, determined at conception, immutable, rooted in God's design, and most clearly revealed in bodily differences (Genesis 1:28; Psalm 100:3), not in self-defined and ultimately false notions of "gender identity"; and

WHEREAS, The Baptist Faith and Message declares that "[t]he sacredness of human personality is evident in that God created man in His own image, and in that Christ died for man; therefore, every person of every race possesses full dignity and is worthy of respect and Christian love" and that God created "male and female as the crowning work of His creation....The gift of gender is thus part of the goodness of God's creation" (Article III); and

WHEREAS, God's holy and good design for two distinct and complementary sexes is rooted in the created order, and it serves as the foundation for all societal cooperation and structures; and

WHEREAS, Scripture teaches that the body should be honored as the temple of the Holy Spirit and affirms the unity of body and soul (1 Corinthians 6:19); and

WHEREAS, Driven by cultural change, the promotion of gender ideology, and social pressures, unprecedented numbers of adolescents and young adults are experiencing identity or body-related distress or asserting an identity at odds with their birth sex; and

WHEREAS, The number of medical interventions for purposes of “gender transition” has also risen significantly, including the use of puberty blockers, unnaturally high doses of hormones, and surgical interventions; and

WHEREAS, These so-called medical interventions are not only spiritually destructive but also render otherwise healthy children sterile for life, impairing or destroying their fertility, reproductive organs, capacity for sexual pleasure, and at times causing lifelong medical dependency as well as unknown long-term consequences; and

WHEREAS, Vulnerable children and teens are targets for psychosocial messaging and claims from the medical community that induce and even coerce their participation in escalating, increasingly harmful “transition” interventions; and

WHEREAS, The Lord has ordained government for the purpose of executing justice, praising that which is good, and punishing those who do evil (Romans 13:1-7; 1 Peter 2:14); and

WHEREAS, Some state governments have taken action to prohibit the promotion of gender ideology and “transition” interventions for children; and

WHEREAS, Tragically, other governments and municipalities throughout the United States have taken egregious action to promote “gender transition” for children, enabling minors to bypass parental consent and obtain these life-altering procedures, often through so-called sanctuary cities that provide confidential services to out-of-state children; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the messengers to the Southern Baptist Conference of the Deaf meeting at Calvary Church in Clearwater, Florida, July 9-13, 2023, condemn and oppose “gender-affirming care” and all forms of “gender transition” interventions; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we oppose “gender transition” interventions as a futile quest to change one’s sex and as a direct assault on God’s created order; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we condemn corporate medical services that promote harmful and often irreversible “gender transition” experiments on vulnerable minors and young adults, exploiting them for the sake of profit; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we call on legislatures to reverse any law or policy that supports “gender transition” interventions, undermines parental rights, or creates supposed sanctuary jurisdictions that facilitate these harmful interventions for minors; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we commend the legislatures who have undertaken just and praiseworthy action to protect children from “gender transition” interventions, have re-affirmed the rights of parents to direct the upbringing of their children, and have defended the free speech and conscience rights of religious believers from governmental efforts to coerce them into endorsing gender ideology; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the messengers of the S.B.C.D. call on any members of the Southern Baptist Conference of the Deaf who are performing or actively supporting “gender transition” interventions to immediately repent and refrain; and be it further

RESOLVED, that SBCD informs NAD of this resolution requesting that NAD remain neutral on the topic of human sexuality especially with minors finally

RESOLVED, That we extend the love of Christ, who can save anyone who would call on His name, as well as compassionate care and tender mercy to those experiencing identity or body-related distress and/or are currently undergoing or have undergone “gender transition” interventions.

**Discussion:**

Mary High, NC - I move to refer it to the Board of Directors to look over the letter and consider a better way to handle it and decide what we should do. Phillip Easterling, NC seconded

No discussion. Passed.

The meeting was adjourned by President Laura Hill at 10:49 a.m.

**Respectfully submitted by:**

**Marsha Forer, Secretary (TX)**

**Deanna Hill, Assistant Secretary (GA)**





