

THE BY-LAWS OF
THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN
CONSERVATIVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Revised - July 2005

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ARTICLE I – NAME

The official name of this organization shall be the "Rocky Mountain Conservative Baptist Association," a nonprofit corporation, hereinafter referred to as the Association.

ARTICLE II – PURPOSE

The Purpose of the Association shall be to bring glory to God by encouraging its affiliated churches to fulfill the Great Commandment and the Great Commission of the Lord Jesus Christ.

1. The Great Commandment: Mark 12:29-31
". . .What commandment is foremost of all?" Jesus answered, "The foremost is, 'Hear, O Israel; the Lord our God is one Lord; and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."
2. The Great Commission: Matthew 28:19-20
". . .Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

The means by which this purpose shall be carried out is to include, but not be limited to, the following activities:

1. The planting of new Rocky Mountain CBA churches throughout the region;
2. The provision for assistance, for existing member churches, in areas such as pastoral support and encouragement, pastoral placement and church health.
3. The furtherance of any cooperative endeavor that will enable the churches to fulfill their mission, vision and values.

The Association shall: receive gifts, bequests and legacies; acquire, buy, hold, improve, rent, lease, mortgage, sell and convey, and otherwise deal in real and personal property as may be necessary to conduct the business and fulfill the purpose of this Association.

ARTICLE III – DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

While sharing a common life in Christ with all truly regenerated people and adhering to the classic confessions of historic Christian orthodoxy, this Association regards the following declaration of faith as central in God's revealed truth disclosed in the Bible:

1. We believe that the Bible is God's Word, that it was written by men divinely inspired; and that it is the supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct.
2. We believe in one living and true God whose essence cannot be fully comprehended by man, but whose self-revelation disclosed, within a divine unity, three personal and eternal distinctions: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, equal in every divine perfection and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the work of creation and redemption.
3. We believe in God the Father, perfect in holiness, infinite in wisdom, measureless in power. We rejoice that He concerns Himself mercifully in the affairs of men, that He hears and answers prayer, and that He saves from sin and death all who come to Him through Jesus Christ.
4. We believe in Jesus Christ, the eternal and only begotten Son of God, conceived of the Holy Spirit, of virgin birth, sinless in His life, making atonement for the sins of the world by His death. We believe in His bodily resurrection, ascension and visible premillennial return to the world according to His promise.
5. We believe in the Holy Spirit who came forth from God to convince the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment; and to regenerate, sanctify and comfort those who believe in Jesus Christ.
6. We believe that all men by nature and by choice are sinners, but that "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." We believe, therefore, that those who accept Christ as Lord and Savior will rejoice forever in God's presence; and those who refuse to accept Christ as Lord and Savior will be forever separated from God.
7. We believe in the Church – a living, spiritual body of which Christ is the head, and of which all regenerated people are members. We believe that a visible church is a company of believers in Jesus Christ, immersed on a credible confession of faith, and associated for worship, work, and fellowship. We believe that to these visible churches were committed, for perpetual observance, the ordinances of baptism and the Lord's Supper, and that God has laid upon these churches the task of persuading a lost world to accept Jesus Christ as Savior, and to enthrone Him as the Lord and Master. We believe that all human betterment and social improvements are the inevitable by-product of such a Gospel.

8. We believe that every human being has direct relationship with God, and is responsible to God alone in all matters of faith; that each church is independent and autonomous and must be free from interference by any ecclesiastical or political authority; that, therefore, Church and State must be kept separate as having different function, each fulfilling its duties, free from the dictation or patronage of the other.

ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP

A. Qualification

1. Churches from the Rocky Mountain region who desire membership in the association shall:
 - a. adhere to the following Baptist distinctives:
 1. The Scriptures are the sole and sufficient rule of faith and practice.
 2. It is the privilege of each individual to have direct access to God through Jesus. (Universal priesthood of believers)
 3. The church and state are to be completely separate in their respective fields.
 4. The church's government is congregational.
 5. Baptism is for believers only, and only by immersion.
 6. Church membership is for the regenerate only.
 7. Christ is the supreme Head of the church.
 8. The evangelization of the world is our task.
 - b. make application to the Board of Directors according to procedures established by the Board
 - c. declare themselves by vote of the church to be in agreement with the Doctrinal Statement of this Association.
2. After approval of application, the Board of Directors shall provide the church with a certificate of membership.

B. Removal from Membership

1. Any church ceasing to be in agreement with the Purpose and/or Doctrinal Statement of this Association may withdraw from membership in the Association by submitting to the Board of Directors a copy of the resolution of the church to discontinue membership.
2. The Board of Directors may, for due cause and by a two-thirds majority, vote to dismiss a church from the Association.

C. Associational Relationships

The Rocky Mountain CBA is related to the CBAmerica in a voluntarily covenantal relationship. We value our historic ties with other Conservative Baptist Ministries therefore the Rocky Mountain CBA will partner with those ministries so as to effectively serve the churches.

ARTICLE V – DISTRICTS

The Rocky Mountain Conservative Baptist Association districts are:

1. Colorado
2. Northern Utah
3. Montana, Wyoming, Western South Dakota and Western Nebraska

The Board of Directors shall be responsible to define the boundaries and recommend changes or additions. Districts shall meet once a year to nominate and elect their representative to the Board of Directors which shall consist of one member per district plus one additional representative for each 10 churches.

ARTICLE VI – BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A. General Power

The affairs and all legal matters of the Association shall be managed by its Board of Directors.

B. Qualifications

Each Director of the Association shall be of majority age and must belong to a church in active affiliation with the Association and shall be in full agreement with the Rocky Mountain CBA Doctrinal Statement.

C. Number and Selection

The Board of Directors shall be comprised of one member from each district plus an additional member for each ten churches provided sufficient members and individuals are duly elected and qualified.

At least three members of the Board of Directors shall be non-pastors.

Each district will be responsible to nominate and then elect its own representative to the Board.

D. Terms of Office

The elected members of the Board of Directors shall serve three-year terms, beginning immediately after the fall meeting, and are eligible for reelection. No elected board members shall serve more than six consecutive years.

E. Vacancies

Any vacancy in office occurring during a fiscal year shall be filled by appointment of the Board of Directors for the remainder of that fiscal year.

F. Meetings

Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at such time and place as shall be designated from time to time by resolution of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall meet a minimum of two times a year.

G. Quorum

A simple majority will constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE VII – OFFICERS

A. Selection

The officers of the Board of Directors shall be elected annually from among and by the members of the Board of Directors.

B. Duties

1. The Chairperson and the Vice Chairperson of the Board

The chairperson of the Board of Directors or, in the chairperson's absence, the vice-chairperson of the Board of Directors shall preside at all meetings of the members of the Board of Directors and shall perform such other duties as may from time to time be requested of the chair by the Board of Directors. The chairperson shall serve as president of the association unless otherwise designated by the board.

2. The Secretary

The secretary shall give, or cause to be given, due notification of all meetings of the Board of Directors. The secretary shall keep, or cause to be kept, complete and accurate minutes and records of all proceedings of the meetings of the Board of Directors.

3. The Treasurer

The treasurer shall keep, or cause to be kept, accurate books of accounts in which all the financial transactions of the association shall be fully set forth. The treasurer shall be responsible for rendering reports of the financial condition of the association and shall perform other such duties as shall, from time to time, be assigned by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VIII – PERSONNEL

A. Personnel

The Board of Directors shall hire or authorize the hiring of such personnel necessary to conduct the business of the association.

B. Executive Director

The Executive Director shall be the chief executive officer of the association. He shall sign, execute, and acknowledge, in the name of the Association, deeds, mortgages, bonds, contracts or other instruments authorized by the Board of Directors except in cases where the signing and execution thereof shall be expressly delegated by the Board of Directors to some other officer or agent of the Association.

The Executive Director is subject to the Board of Directors. He is an ex-officio member of the Board.

ARTICLE IX – AMENDMENTS

These by-laws may be amended by a three-quarter majority vote of the Board of Directors subject to ratification by three-quarters majority vote of the member churches in the Association.

ARTICLE X – MEDIATION

Any claim or dispute arising from or related to this agreement shall be settled by mediation and, if necessary, legally binding arbitration in accordance with the Rules of Procedure for Christ Conciliation of the Institute for Christian Conciliation, a division of Peacemaker Ministries (complete text of the Rules is available at www.Peacemaker.net). Judgment upon an arbitration decision may be entered in any court otherwise having jurisdiction. The parties understand that these methods shall be the sole remedy for any controversy or claim arising out of this agreement and expressly waive their right to file a lawsuit in any civil court against one another for such disputes, except to enforce an arbitration decision.