Motion to Establish a Special Committee on a Texas Baptist Confession of Faith

Brent Gentzel, messenger from First Baptist Church, Kaufman, brought a motion for consideration:

Motion to Establish a Special Committee on a Texas Baptist Confession of Faith
Based upon the recommendations and findings of the 2010 Green Hat Committee and pursuant to Article VI, Section 2 of the BGCT Constitution, and with great faith in God and our Texas Baptists family, I move adoption of the following four-part motion.

I. Establishment and Purpose
I move that Texas Baptists establish an 11-member special committee for the purpose of developing a proposed Texas Baptist Confession of Faith to be presented to the messengers at the 2027 Annual Meeting for consideration and adoption.

II. Selection of Committee Membership
I move that Texas Baptists specify the method of selecting members of this special committee by directly selecting the following eleven individuals to serve as members through adoption of this motion:

1. Dr. Jim Denison, Texas Baptist Theologian in Residence
2. Dr. Rolando Aguirre, Park Cities Baptist Church, Dallas
3. Dr. Michael Evans, Bethlehem Baptist Church, Mansfield
4. Dr. Katie Frugé, Texas Baptist Christian Life Commission
5. Dr. Michael Gossett, Green Acres Baptist Church, Tyler
6. Dr. Alan Lefever, Texas Baptist Historical Collection
7. Dr. David Lowrie, Howard Payne University School of Christian Studies
8. Dr. Emily Prevost, University of Mary Hardin-Baylor College of Christian Studies
9. Dr. Todd Still, Baylor University's George W. Truett Theological Seminary
10. Dr. John Whitten, Pioneer Drive Baptist Church, Abilene
11. Dr. Malcolm Yarnell, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

III. Instructions and Dissolution:
I move that the special committee be instructed to: Develop a proposed Texas Baptist Confession of Faith that articulates core Baptist theological convictions and principles of Christian practice, with consideration given to the historic Baptist tradition and the distinct identity, mission, and ministry of Texas Baptists; and Adopt procedures that provide meaningful opportunities for Texas Baptists churches, messengers and other Texas Baptists to offer input, recommendations, and feedback throughout the development process; and Complete its work and present a proposed Texas Baptist Confession of Faith to the messengers at the 2027 Annual Meeting for consideration and adoption. The special committee shall conclude its work upon adjournment of the 2027 Annual Meeting, unless otherwise directed by the messengers.

IV. Funding: I move that Texas Baptists seek to secure from available undesignated non-cooperative program funds $64,000 to support the work of the Special Committee, including reasonable and necessary expenses associated with the development of the proposed Texas Baptist Confession of Faith. Funds shall be used primarily to support graduate-student assistance in gathering, organizing, and processing input received during the development process. All expenditures shall be administered in accordance with Texas Baptists' applicable financial policies and procedures.