

# Constitution

## **ARTICLE I – Object**

Hinson Memorial Baptist Church, hereinafter referred to as “Hinson,” existing by the sovereign will of God as part of the body of Christ, shall preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ, administer the ordinances of the New Testament, disciple its members, and evangelize its community and the world.

## **ARTICLE II –Affiliation**

Hinson is an independent and autonomous Conservative Baptist Church, affiliated with the Venture Church Network, and subsequently Church Venture Northwest, the Southern Baptist Convention, and the Northwest Church Network. Hinson is presently incorporated and shall remain incorporated.

## **ARTICLE III – Membership**

The members of Hinson are all who profess repentance and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior, have been baptized upon that profession as prescribed in the Statement of Practices, and are approved by a congregational vote. The congregation of Hinson consists of its members in good standing. Members shall, with the Holy Spirit’s help, strive to conform to the faith and practices held by this church as set forth in the Statement of Faith and the Church Covenant.

## **ARTICLE IV – Governance**

Hinson practices congregational rule by the vote of its members, which includes all matters of doctrine and discipline. The congregation elects Elders, who, exercising a plurality of leadership, set policy for the church and its membership in accordance with the Constitution.

## **ARTICLE V — Eldership**

The congregation shall elect Elders to oversee and maintain the spiritual health of the church, to manage the affairs of the church, and to serve as directors of the corporation.

## **ARTICLE VI — Deacons**

The congregation shall elect Deacons as needed to carry out the various ministries of the church. Their purpose will be to facilitate the ministries of the church by coordinating volunteers from within the congregation.

## **ARTICLE VII — Congregational Meetings**

### **Section 1 — Fiscal Year**

The fiscal year of the church shall begin on July 1 and conclude on June 30 of the following

year.

### **Section 2 — Annual Congregational Meeting**

The annual congregational meeting shall be held on the first Sunday in July or on such other date as the Elders shall determine. The budget shall be presented for approval at the annual meeting.

**Section 3 — Regular and Special Congregational Meetings** There shall be other regular and special congregational meetings of the church during the year as set forth in the Statement of Practices. Elders and deacons may be elected at any congregational meeting.

### **Section 4 - Power Reserved to Members**

At any regular congregational meeting, any Hinson member shall have the right to present any or all matters, questions or issues before the church, as set forth in the Statement of Practices.

## **ARTICLE VIII - Miscellaneous**

### **Section 1 — Amendment**

This Constitution and the Articles of Incorporation may be amended only by a vote of at least two-thirds of the Voting Members present at any congregational meeting of the church. The Elders shall submit any proposed amendment to the church in written form at least two weeks prior to such meeting.

### **Section 2 — Statement of Practices**

The Statement of Practices shall describe the practical implementation of this Constitution. The Statement of Practices shall be adopted and may be amended only by a vote of at least two-thirds of the Voting Members present at any congregational meeting of the church.

### **Section 3 — Constitution Review**

The Elders shall be required to examine the Constitution and the Statement of Practices every five years and, if necessary, shall submit proposed amendments to the Voting Members of the church for approval.

### **Section 4 – Church Covenant Review**

The Elders shall be required to examine the Church Covenant every five years and, if necessary, shall submit proposed amendments to the Voting Members of the church for approval.