DRAFT

Evangelical Press Association
ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, May 13, 2026
Franklin Marriott at Cool Springs
Franklin, Tennessee

Call to Order
Dwight Widaman, presiding president, called the meeting to order at 1:19 p.m. Central time.

Approval of Minutes
Motion by Andy Olsen of Christianity Today to accept the minutes of the 2025 business meeting.
Seconded.
Motion carried.

New Business
Patti Townley, freelancer, moved to approve the bylaw change as presented.
This included:
- To change the ASSOCIATE member class to INDIVIDUAL member
- to change the number of membership classes from SIX to SEVEN
- to add a new membership class for STUDENT membership

Seconded.
Motion carried.

Membership Report
Board Treasurer Andy Olsen presented the annual membership report.

For the calendar year 2025, EPA had a total membership of 291.

That breaks down as follows:

107	Print Publications
75	Digital Publications
9	Campus Publications
61	Individual members
14	Affiliates
19	Honorary members
5	Contributing members
1	Student members

These numbers reflect an 8.5% decrease from the previous year. That trend appears to be continuing as we are running 7% behind in memberships for 2026, year-to-date.

Financial Report
Treasurer Andy Olsen presented the annual financial report.

During the fiscal year that ended last June 30, 2025, EPA had income of $235,359 and expenses of $238,722, for a net surplus of $3,397.

Our cash assets at the end of the fiscal year, June 30, 2025, were $132,252 with net assets of $113,338.

For the current fiscal year, which ends June 30, we are projecting a significant budget deficit, caused by our decline in membership and a lower-than-expected attendance at this convention.

Our reserves, built up over the past 10 years, have been strong and are sufficient to carry us through this year.

A preliminary budget for 2026-2027 has been developed. It will be reviewed and approved by the board later this fall after the numbers for this fiscal year are finalized. Some adjustments may be made at that time based on the actual outcome of this year's budget.

Scholarship Report
President-Elect Warren Maye presented the two annual scholarships:

- Jerry Jenkins Scholarship of $3,000 to Jason Lee of Biola University
- Douglas J. Trouten Memorial Scholarship of $1,000 to Anna Mitchell of Taylor University
- Neither was present to accept their awards.
- He thanked the 2026 scholarship committee made up of Katherine Chute, Marquita Smith, Lisa Crayton and Marshall Shelley.

Director's Report
Lamar Keener gave the director's report. He shared that times of changing as member publications move to digital or cease publishing. He shared the board has been working to look toward the future including exploring a new name for the organization and called on members to pray for the board in this work.

He presented the Emerging Journalist Awards:

- Sarah Wontorcik of Cru. Sarah was not present to accept her award.
- Calvin Cockrell of the Christian Chronicle. Calvin was present to receive his award.

He presented the Terry White Lifetime Achievement Award to Marvin Olasky, who previously led World magazine and currently serves as editor-in-chief of Christianity Today. Marvin was not in attendance, but Warren Smith spoke on his behalf and Andy Olsen accepted the award on his behalf.

He announced that EPA Convention 2027 will be held May 16-18 in Chicago, Illinois.

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Adjournment
Motion by Clem Boyd of Infinity Concepts to adjourn the business meeting.
Seconded.
Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:41 p.m., Central time.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristy Glaspie, Secretary

Approved (Date to be added when approved)