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**Board of Directors
Order of the Eastern Star
Regular Meeting Minutes
Grand Chapter Office
8101 Valcasi Drive, Suite 101, Arlington, Texas
July 15, 2023**

The Regular meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order at 9:05 a.m. We met in the Board Room at the Grand Chapter of Texas Office. The Chairman welcomed all present, thanking us for being here. A special welcome to Karen Wright, from District Five who has been appointed to fill the vacated seat of Randy Martin, who resigned due to health reasons. Our Chairman's wish for us is to never lose faith in God.

Board Members present: were Chairman Cindy Echols, District Two, Vice Chairman Darrell Albrecht, District Three, Secretary Brenda McDaniel, District Four, Rick Taylor, District One, Joe Gilmore, District One, Tamela Henington, District Two, Beverly Plante, District Three, Bill Henry, District Four, Karen Wright, District five and Oscar Hairell, District Five. Also present were Grand Secretary, Ellen Pickrell, Grand Treasurer, Greta Spradling, Donna Noe, Recording Secretary, Worthy Grand Patron, James Parker and Worthy Grand Matron, Phyllis Macon.

Others present: PGM, Jimmie Lee McMahon, PGP, Bill Wyatt, PGP, Tom Brisko, Keith Nix, Ashu Kukreja, Kate Cecil, Associate Grand Matron, Susan Dormady, Bill Dormady, Associate Grand Patron, Mark Dieckmann, Sherry Dieckmann, Ann Wyatt, Caroll Macon, Carlotta Fairchild, Sudie Pool, Chris Puckett, Mary Medford, Caron Joseph, Phyllis Wilson, Chris Elliot, Lou Ann Elliot and Kay Gilmore. Zoom was set up and as the conference room was full, several were watching from the other room. PGM, Terri Rozell watching by Zoom.

The Devotional was given by Beverly Plante. She shared words on Patriotism and Freedom. Read a poem about the dash between your dates, have you made a difference? What information is between your dash? Beverly led us in a word of prayer.

Chairman Cindy Echols reviewed the Housekeeping Rules for our meeting with everyone.

Bankers: Lyndon Westerberg from JP Morgan.

Bankers: Account Portfolios were handed out to all the Board Members. Josh Biering on vacation and now has a little one. Lyndon doesn't believe the recession has hit Texas yet, still a lot of buying and selling going on here. He discussed our accounts with us and answered a few questions. Lyndon congratulated Cindy and Darrell on their upcoming retirement. Chairman Cindy Echols thanked him for coming and he left at this time. 9:55am

Birthdays were announced for August:

Kay Gilmore	Aug. 12 th
Vi Griffin	Aug. 16 th
Tamela Henington	Aug. 20 th
Betty Benham	Aug. 21 st
Betty Friend	Aug. 27 th
Brenda McDaniel	Aug. 30 th

Birthdays were announced for September:

Jerry Martin	Sept. 5 th
Addie Taylor	Sept. 15 th
Carolyn Martin	Sept. 27 th
Ray Hertenberger	Sept. 29 th

Anniversaries were announced for August:

Beverly Plante and Pete Spurgeon	Aug. 22 nd
Oscar and Malinda Hairell	Aug. 26 th
Bill and Laurette Henry	Aug. 30 th
Phyllis and Carrol Macon	Aug. 30 th

Remarks By:

WGP: Worthy Grand Patron, James Parker thanked all for coming and the sideliners for being interested in what the is Board is doing. Thanked the Board for the banquet for our 2 retiring members.

WGM: Worthy Grand Matron, Phyllis Macon dittoed what the Worthy Grand Paron said and she also thanked the Board for the use of the van this last year. See you at Grand Chapter.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes for the May 20, 2023, Regular Board Meeting held at the Grand Chapter Office boardroom in Arlington were presented. A motion was made by Darrell Albrecht to approve the minutes as presented. It was seconded by Joe Gilmore. Motion carried.

The minutes for the Special Budget meeting on May 20, 2023, held after the Regular Board Meeting held at the Grand Chapter Office boardroom in Arlington were presented. A motion was made by Brenda McDaniel to approve the minutes as presented. It was seconded by Tamela Henington. Motion carried.

Ratify E-Mail Votes: May 22, 2023, to move the September Board meeting to the location of the Worthy Grand Patron's Fraternal Visit.

Tamela Henington made the motion to ratify the email votes. The motion was seconded by Joe Gilmore and the vote was adopted.

Correspondence: Board Secretary Brenda McDaniel reported since our last meeting she had mailed 6 Anniversary Cards, 12 Birthday Cards, 16 Get Well Cards, 1 Sympathy Card, 9 Thinking of You cards, and 102 Invitations to the Board of Directors Retirement Celebration for a total of 146 Cards. No correspondence received.

Grand Secretary's Report: Received all of the Annual Reports, they are now ready for Grand Chapter. Now working on the Directory. All ESTARL applications are in, and 8 \$1000.00 Scholarships were approved. Office is preparing the Secretary Packets and they will be mailed after Grand Chapter.

Grand Treasurer's Report: Financials emailed out earlier. No questions and the Grand Treasurer explained how the reports were generated. Her recommendation was to set up a meeting in September with the Board members to review each of the accounts. This will be helpful to the new Board Members and a refresher for the existing members. She also recommended that Grand Chapter reports be assigned in September. The Endowment checks have been sent to all the Chapters - \$13.55 per member.

Unfinished Business – None

New Business – Associate Grand Conductress, Glenda Klemm was unable to attend, her mother not doing well. No report on the 2026 Grand Chapter Session.

Committee Reports:

Benevolent Aid: For the month of July, Long Term Aid, \$4,300.00, Temporary Aid, \$1,000.00 and Emergency Aid, \$3,237.00, totaling \$8,537.00.

Museum & Facilities: Nothing to report.

Titles, Deeds & Properties: Rick Taylor - Drilling on 3 gas and oil leases, funds are coming in. We have 2 more to start drilling on in the fall.

WGM's Special Projects: Brenda McDaniel stated all items made a profit. Rob Morris funds have been dispersed and hope to have all the remaining products sold by Grand Chapter.

Retirement Banquet: Success. 80 tickets sold and 70 guests in attendance. Rick and Oscar to have final report at our next meeting. Very nice evening. Cindy and Darrell again thanked the Board Members for this lovely event. Cindy said it was a very emotional evening for her.

TMRC Lady: Beverly Plante said they purchased Suzzane some new shoes and she is doing well.

District Reports:

- **District One:** Installations are over, a few initiations and lots of fun events being held.
- **District Two:** A couple of initiations and several going to Grand Chapter.
- **District Three:** District Three is having a picnic event on July 22nd for our District event. PGM, Joyce Nikolaus has Covid, PGM, Annette Curry had a hip replacement. Darrell said several cases of Covid, it's on the rise. Mineral Wells Lodge is up and running after repairs.
- **District Four:** Chapters are supporting the Lodge Installations. Chapters are seeing a revival in Ritual work. Two chapters consolidated. Brenda McDaniel brought the supplies to Grand Chapter.
- **District Five:** Randy Martin enjoyed the Tribute for him done by Phyllis Wilson via Zoom last evening. Karen Wright visited with Betty and Jack Friend; Jack is in his 2nd round of Chemo. PGM, Mary Ruth White fell and had surgery, she is doing well. Chapters are seeing a revival in Ritual work. PGP, Ray Hertenberger doing therapy. PGP, Kenneth Gregory has been put on hospice. Keep them all in your prayers.

Executive Session Report – We reviewed the Long-Term Benevolent Aid applications and approved them.

Misc.: Next meeting is August 17th – 20th at Grand Chapter in Addison Texas. September 16th at the WGP's Fraternal Visit at the Arabia Shrine Center in Houston.

Rick Taylor read a letter from Opal Martin requesting that any funds received from the Top Hats be used for music scholarships for members. Rick Taylor made a motion to give a \$2,500.00 scholarship in memory of PMWGP and PGP of Texas Henry Martin for music. The motion was seconded by Bill Henry. Much discussion ensued. PGP, Bill Wyatt spoke for the Top Hat committee on this topic. Rick Taylor withdrew his motion and this has been tabled to a later date.

PGM, Jimmie Lee McMahon thanked the Board for all the help and work with her on the Finance Committee for General Grand Chapter the last two and a half years.

Mizpah Benediction was repeated by all.

The meeting was Adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Donna Noe, Recording Secretary