

**NOTE: These minutes were approved as corrected at the May 15, 2021, Board of Directors meeting held by video conference.**

GRAND CHAPTER OF TEXAS  
ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING  
APRIL 17, 2021  
FORT WORTH, TX

The Regular meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order at 9:04 a.m. at the Southside Masonic Lodge in Fort Worth, TX. The Chairman welcome everyone to the first in-person meeting of the Board of Directors in 13 months and to the members participating by Zoom. An update was given on the Covid vaccine. President Joe Biden is working to make the vaccine available to everyone in the United States by July 4<sup>th</sup>.

Board Members present: Chairman, Bob Royall, District Four; Vice Chairman, James Parker, District One; Secretary, Phyllis Wilson, District Five; Joe Gilmore, District One; Tamela Henington, District Two; Darrell Albrecht, District Three; Donna Noe, District Three; Bill Henry, District Four; and Randy Martin, District Five.

Board members absent: Cindy Echols, District Two due to a death in the family.

Others present for the meeting were: Grand Treasurer, Greta Spradling; Past Grand Matron, Jimmie Lee McMahon; Past Grand Matron, Jerre Lucas; Past Grand Matron, Cheryl Albrecht; Past Grand Matron, Carolyn Martin; Past Grand Patron, Bill Wyatt; Past Grand Patron, Tom Murphy; Barbara Martin, Ron McMurray, Lesa Smith, Cheryl Royall, Shelly Walker, Glenda Murphy, Kim Waxler, Beverly Plante, Sherrie Fowler, Jerre Miller, Susan Martin, Madi McMurray, Judith Wilson, Lyndon Westerberg and Janet Travers.

Those present by video conference for the meeting were: Worthy Grand Matron, Linda Winn-Christenson; Worthy Grand Patron, Paul Garner; Associate Grand Patron, Tom Brisko; Grand Secretary, Dr. Ellen Pickrell; Grand Conductress, Phyllis Macon; Associate Grand Conductress, Susan Dormady; Kathy Paschal, Tonya Wilson, and Brenda McDaniel.

Bob Royall presented a devotional on behalf of Cindy Echols on the Old Telephone on the Wall – Hello? – Information Please. A prayer was presented by Bob Royall at the end of the devotional.

**Worthy Grand Matron Update:**

Thanks were given to everyone in attendance in person and those attending by Zoom.

Regrets were given for not being able to attend the meeting in person. The Worthy Grand Matron thanked the Board of Directors for continuing to do the work of the Grand Chapter.

**Worthy Grand Patron Update:**

The Worthy Grand Patron thanked everyone that had showed up in person for the Board Meeting and was grateful that he and others were able to attend by Zoom.

**J. P. Morgan Chase Bankers:**

Lyndon Westerberg presented information on the Financial Investments of the Grand Chapter. An overview was given on the current financial outlook in the banking industry and the economy. The major OES Grand Chapter accounts were reviewed.

**Birthdays and Anniversaries:**

- The following May birthdays were recognized: Phyllis Wilson and Cheryl Royall.
- The following May anniversaries were recognized: Tamela and Wayne Henington

**Minutes:**

The minutes of the March 20, 2021, Regular Board of Directors meeting held by video-conference were presented.

Tamela Henington moved that the minutes of the March 20, 2021 Regular Board of Directors Meeting be approved as distributed. The motion was seconded by Randy Martin and adopted

**Email Vote Ratification:**

There were no email votes to be ratified.

**Correspondence:**

Seven (7) cards were sent this past month.

Cards sent by the Secretary included: 2 Birthday Cards, 0 Anniversary Cards, 2 Get Well Card, and 3 Sympathy Cards.

**Grand Secretary's Report:**

The Grand Chapter Zoom subscription expires in August. The Grand Secretary will take care of the renewal.

The transition to the new Secretary's Database is moving along nicely. They are hoping to have the dues cards printed next week.

The Grand Chapter Office is working to get ready for the Grand Chapter Session.

**Grand Treasurer's Report:**

The Board has been provided with the Financial Reports as requested. The reports include: Eastern Star Home Account, Grand Chapter Account, Balance Sheet Entries and the Profit/Loss Report.

Questions on reports should be emailed in advance of the meeting so the necessary research can be completed.

A number of the Grand Chapter investments provide interest payments to the Grand Chapter on a quarterly basis.

The Endowed Membership report and funds available to Chapters is being compiled. The checks will be mailed to the Chapters the beginning of May.

**Unfinished Business:**

The funds available for a Grand Chapter Vehicle replacement were discussed. The amount of funds allocated in the budget over the past four years for a replacement vehicle is \$48,000.00. There is also additional funds available that were received when the Grand Chapter Vehicle was replaced 4 years ago.

**New Business:**

Budget Workshop: A separate Budget Workshop will be held for next year's Grand Chapter budgets. The Associate Grand Matron's Proposed Budget needs to be finalized no later than 90 days before Grand Chapter and submitted to the Grand Secretary's Office by June 6<sup>th</sup>.

The Grand Chapter funds from April have to be closed out before a Budget Workshop can be held. James Parker will be coordinating the information for the meeting.

**Committee Reports:**

Benevolent Aid: Phyllis Wilson reported on Benevolent Aid for March 2021 and April 2021.

**March 2021**

Long Term Aid was paid to the following Chapters in March:

Kerrville #24	Alvarado #656	South Fort Worth #835
Duncanville #1014	New Caney #1093	Amarillo #787
Winnie #160	Aldine #1088	Burnet #425
Haltom City #982	Cockrell-Hill-Delta-Flora #794	

Grand Prairie #219                      Round Rock #316                      Round Rock #316  
 Emergency Aid:     None

Temporary Aid: Conroe #710

The totals for Benevolent Aid in March were:

Long Term Aid	\$ 7,000.00
Emergency Aid	\$ 0.00
Temporary Aid	\$ 500.00
Total	\$ 7,500.00

### April 2021

Long Term Aid was paid to the following Chapters in April:

Kerrville #24	Alvarado #656	South Fort Worth #835
Duncanville #1014	New Caney #1093	Amarillo #787
Winnie #160	Aldine #1088	Burnet #425
Haltom City #982	Cockrell Hill Delta Flora #794	
Grand Prairie #219	Round Rock #316	Round Rock #316

Emergency Aid:     None

Temporary Aid:     Conroe #710

The totals for Benevolent Aid in April were:

Long Term Aid	\$ 7,000.00
Emergency Aid	\$ 0.00
Temporary Aid	\$ 500.00
Total	\$ 7,500.00

There were no new applications during the month of April.

**Museum and Facilities:** Darrell Albrecht reported on the Museum.  
 No new information is available at this time.

**Titles, Deeds, & Properties:** Bill Henry reported on the Titles, Deeds and Properties. Bill Henry presented a report by Rick Taylor. The report provided a synopsis of the information that Rick Taylor had researched on the Gas and Oil Leases. This report is on file.

**Worthy Grand Matron's Special Projects:** Tamela Henington reported on the Worthy Grand Matron's Special Projects. No new information is available at this time.

**TMRC (Our Precious Ladies):**

Information on our OES Ladies was presented by Barbara Martin. The three (3) ladies are doing well. Barbara Martin has been allowed to see our OES Ladies. TMRC has started allowing more activities for everyone. Barbara Martin will be visiting our OES Ladies again next week.

**Grand Chapter Vehicle Replacement:**

The current Grand Chapter Vehicle needs to be replaced. The Grand Chapter Vehicle committee gave the following report.

Two items were the main focus when researching a new vehicle:

- a. Functionality of Vehicle
- b. Staying within the budget

The committee's recommendation is to purchase a 2020 XL Transit Van from Lufkin Ford for \$49,571.10. This cost includes the vehicle, window tint, a trailer hitch and a 60 month extended warranty. This purchase quote is good until Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup>. A discussion of the vehicles features followed.

Joe Gilmore moved that Grand Chapter purchase the 2020 Transit Van (4 Door Wagon) for the amount of \$49,571.10 which includes window tint, trailer hitch and an extended warranty. The motion was seconded by Phyllis Wilson and adopted. Bill Henry abstained from voting due to his association with the Ford Motor Company.

**Vehicle Committee:**

Additional information was provided by the Grand Chapter Vehicle committee on the retirement of the current vehicle.

Carlotta Fairchild had the current vehicle appraised for resale. Information from the appraisal: NADA value – Retail Value is \$19,225.00, Resale (trade-in) value \$14,500.00

Lufkin Ford has offered to pay the resale (trade-in) value and the offer is good until April 30<sup>th</sup>.

Discussion followed with the following significant items concerning liquidation of the 2016 Grand Chapter Van:

- Does the Board have to offer the current 2016 van to the membership before accepting the sale offer from the dealership?
- Will the Grand Chapter be able to provide insurance coverage on both vehicles until the Grand Chapter Session?
- Worthy Grand Matron will be provided a vehicle in accordance with the Article 37 of the Grand Chapter Code of Laws.
- The Grand Chapter Constitution and Code of Laws are being researched to obtain information on the proper way to liquidate the 2016 Grand Chapter Van.

James Parker moved that the Board of Director trade-in of the current 2016 Van to Lufkin Ford pending discovery of additional information in the Constitution and Code of Laws that would prohibit the trade-in of the vehicle. The motion was seconded by Tamela Henington.

Discussion followed on the pro's and cons of the sale of the 2016 Grand Chapter Van.

Bill Henry moved to amend the motion by striking the two instances of the word "trade-in" and insert the word "sale" in both places and insert after Lufkin Ford "for the amount of \$14,500.00". The amendment was seconded by Joe Gilmore and adopted.

The amended motion on the floor: Move that the sale of the 2016 Grand Chapter Van to Lufkin Ford for the amount \$14,500.00 pending discovery of additional information in the Constitution and Code of Laws that would prohibit the sale of the vehicle to Lufkin Ford.

James Parker moved to postpone the vote of the sale of the 2016 Grand Chapter Van until additional information can be obtained with the vote to be conducted by email. The motion was seconded by Darrell Albrecht and adopted.

**Retirement Banquet:** Information on the retirement banquet was presented by Bill Henry, Randy Martin, Joe Gilmore and Donna Noe.

The Board of Directors Retirement Banquet is coming soon. Date for Banquet will be July 16, 2021.

The banquet will be held at Southside Masonic Lodge located at 7700 Crowley Rd. in Fort Worth.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions seating will be limited to 60 people.

The ticket price is \$31.00 per person and Randy Martin is the ticket chairman.

Deadline for purchasing tickets is July 5<sup>th</sup>.

Entertainment will be provided by Carl Chalfant and company.

Decorations and presentations are in the works.

**Miscellaneous:**

- Next Board meeting is scheduled for May 15, 2021 and will be an in-person meeting located at the Renaissance Dallas Addison Hotel.
- Legislative Workshop will be held April 17<sup>th</sup> to follow today's meeting. All proposed legislation must be turned in by May 4, 2021
- The May devotional will be given by Tamela Henington.

**Grand Chapter Session Update:**

The Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron provided an update on the Grand Chapter Session.

The Grand Chapter Session will be held in Waco, TX.

The Waco Convention Center is no longer being considered as a venue for the Grand Chapter Session.

The Executive Committee is in negotiations with the Grand Lodge as the location for the Grand Chapter Session. The committee is also working on parking and the social functions.

The contracts will be provided to the Board of Directors Contract Committee for review and approval.

Legislation presented will be conducted with limited discussion so close attention needs to be paid to what is presented.

Appreciation was expressed for the wonderful job being done by the Executive Committee

**District Reports:**

District 1: James Parker and Joe Gilmore reported on the following happenings:

Past Grand Matron, Carolyn Martin, will have her "Hanging" on April 24<sup>th</sup> at Lothrop Lodge in Crockett, TX

Grand Conductress Round-up and Mr. X Banquet will be on May 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> at the Renaissance Dallas Addison Hotel.

District 1 Banquet will be May 22<sup>nd</sup> at The Landmark on the Lee in Greenville, TX.

Past Grand Patron Bill Wyatt reported that Past Grand Patron Ed Warner and his wife, Beulah, are both doing well.

A memorial service was held for Pat Garcia who served as Worthy Patron for numerous Chapters in Districts 1 and 3.

Past Grand Patron Bill Wyatt asked for prayers for several members that are struggling.

Several Chapters are initiating new members.

District 2: Tamela Henington reported on the following happenings:

Keep Cindy Echols family in thoughts and prayers as she has had a death in the family.

Associate Grand Conductress Round-up will be April 30<sup>th</sup>-May 1<sup>st</sup> at the Eastern Star Temple in Abilene.

District 2 Banquet will be May 22<sup>nd</sup> at Yellow House Masonic Lodge in Lubbock.

Tamela Henington's new grandson will be arriving in the next few weeks.

District 3: Darrell Albrecht and Donna Noe reported on the following happenings:

Deputy Grand Matron, District 3, Section 1, Peggy Stewart has had a stroke.

District 3 Banquet will be May 22<sup>nd</sup> at Western Hills United Methodist Church in Fort Worth.

Cheryl Royall will be presenting a program at Crescent Chapter in April.

Doyle Martin has been off a ventilator for a year.

Mary Nell Ramsey will be celebrating her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on May 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Several members have passed away and others are in need of prayer.

District 4: Bob Royall and Bill Henry reported on the following happenings:

Past Grand Patron, Burley Jones, will have his "Hanging" on May 23<sup>rd</sup> at Tarkington Prairie Masonic Lodge.

District 4 Banquet will be May 22<sup>nd</sup> at The Monument Inn Restaurant in LaPorte.

Bill Henry attended several Chapters which have tried having a regular stated meeting with no abbreviations.

Several members have passed away and others are in need of prayer.

District 5: Phyllis Wilson and Randy Martin reported on the following happenings:

Travis Chapter initiated a new member in April.

District 5 Banquet will be May 22<sup>nd</sup> at the First United Methodist Church in Gonzales.

Several members that had Covid-19 are experiencing lung issues.

Garvid Wilson has been going through lung cancer treatment and is now legally blind. He has been doing well with chemo and radiation treatments.

**Executive Session Report:** The Chairman reported on items discussed in the Executive Session: Benevolent Aid and update on Gas and Oil Leases.



There being no further business, the Mizpah Benediction was repeated in unison.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:32 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Travers  
Recording Secretary