

NOTE: These minutes were approved at the April 16, 2022, Board of Directors meeting held in Arlington.

**GRAND CHAPTER OF TEXAS
ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 19, 2022
ARLINGTON, TEXAS**

The Regular meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order at 9:02 a.m. We met in the Board Room at the Grand Chapter of Texas Office. The Chairman welcomed all present and left us with a quote from Helen Keller.

Board Members present were: Chairman, Cindy Echols, District Two; Vice Chairman, Darrell Albrecht, District Three; Joe Gilmore, District One; Ray Hargis, District One; Tamela Henington, District Two; Beverly Plante, District Three; Bill Henry, District Four and Randy Martin, District Five.

Others present for the meeting were: Grand Secretary, Ellen Pickrell, Barbara Martin, Oscar Hairell and Susan Martin. By Zoom, Worthy Grand Matron Terri Rozell, Brenda Mc Daniel, District Four board member and Grand Treasurer, Greta Spradling.

Devotional: The devotional was given by Joe Gilmore who spoke to us about "Acres of Diamonds". Joe stated that America needs God and we went to the Lord in prayer.

The gentlemen from JP Morgan arrived.

Bankers present: Lyndon Westerberg, Joshua Biering and Graham Wyatt. They passed out booklets to the Board Members. They gave a synopsis of our accounts. Several questions were asked and answered. 2006 was the last time percentages were changed in our investments, this may be something we look at changing. JP Morgan will be here to help if needed during budget workshop. Chairman Cindy Echols thanked the bankers for coming.

Worthy Grand Matron Remarks: Worthy Grand Matron, Terri Rozell thanked the bankers for their work and for coming and giving us an update on accounts. She then thanked all the Board Members for their hard work that they do. She really appreciates everyone.

The bankers thanked the Board Members for having them and they left.

House Keeping Rules: Chairman Cindy Echols read them.

Birthdays and Anniversaries: The following April birthdays were recognized:

- Ray Hargis, April 5th
- Dan Noe April 20th

Approval of Minutes: There were no minutes to approve. We are having technical difficulties. Hope to have them available soon.

Email Vote Ratification: The next item of business was ratification of email votes conducted since the February meeting.

- February 25, 2022 - Vote to approve buying 200 additional Ritualistic Pins at \$1.00 each.

Darrell Albrecht moved to ratify the email votes. The motion was seconded by Randy Martin and the vote was adopted.

Correspondence: None received. Five (5) cards were sent this past month. 2 Get well, 2 sympathy and 1 anniversary.

Grand Secretary's Report: Sister Ellen stated that the office received 27 Education Scholarship forms. Deadline was March 1st. The committee will meet this next month to go over them. Received \$366.50 from Amazon Smiles.

Secretary packets with dues cards and information for chapters to be mailed this coming week.

Sister Ellen received an email from the Grand Chapter of Paraguay wanting to purchase some paraphernalia from us. We were able to donate a complete set of badges and all the emblems except the wheat and the veil.

They will be photographing the Past Grand Matron dresses that we have for a virtual photo gallery. The dresses are old, and starting to deteriorate. The goal is to also have a picture of the dress next to the page it belongs to in the Historical Highlights book. Then possibly at a later date to have a fashion show auction with the Rainbow girls for a fundraiser.

Grand Treasurer's Report: Sister Greta sent the reports out earlier in the week. Everyone stated that they received them. She asked if anyone had any questions, no questions were asked.

If a zoom meeting is needed, please let Sister Greta know as she will be setting it up for us.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: The Associate Grand Matron, Phyllis Macon, and the Associate Grand Patron, James Parker, would like to have a Workshop Budget Zoom meeting the last weekend of May. Right now, we have a date of May 30th. Chairman Cindy will get with us on the time of the meeting.

Randy Martin and Darrell Albrecht are working on legislation. It has to be in by May 1st. Randy brought up about the Benevolent Aid forms, temporary and long term. These forms need to be updated and standardized. We need to add a checklist of things that need to be done before it comes to us and what plans they have to improve their financial status. Randy will work on this and bring back to the next meeting.

There was much talk about updating the Zoom rules for quorum meetings for members of the board and when to have zoom meetings and why. We need to try and be in person at all board meetings, especially when the bankers come.

Remember legislation is due May 1st, so please let Randy know if you have any you would like to submit.

Contracts from the Hilton Garden Inn and the Hampton Inn were added due to the fact that we needed more handicap rooms. Hotels must be told that Eastern Star members must go through Housing to reserve their room. August 11th and 14th dates need to be added to contracts, otherwise they look good. Southern Sound contract is for video only, need to check expiration date of February 9, 2022 on that contract. Chairman Cindy will take care of these items and get contracts to the Grand Secretary.

Ray Hargis reminded us we have our own Sound Board that was donated to us.

Committee Reports:**Benevolent Aid:** Report by Randy Martin

For the month of February, we wrote checks in the amount of \$5,450.00 for Long Term Aid and 1 check totaling \$1,500.00 for Emergency Aid and 2 checks totaling \$1,000.00 for Temporary Aid. Total checks \$7,950.00. No pending applications.

Museum and Facilities: Beverly had nothing to report, but is looking for an emblem that belonged to Mary Ruth White.

Titles, Deeds, & Properties: Bill had no report. Darrell said that Rick Taylor asked when we got the OES Home, Darrell told him that we have always owned it. Ellen stated that we own the mineral rights to the land. We never sell our mineral rights.

Worthy Grand Matron's Special Projects: Beverly Plante reported that a few

Snoopy dogs were found and going the last school Have lots of first aid kits and rain coats to sell. They have dropped the prices.

TMRC (Our Precious Ladies): Tamela gave the floor to Barbara Martin. Barbara visited the ladies yesterday. Suzanne has new bottom teeth and is smiling pretty. Lois Pate says hello and she is doing well. Barbara did talk to both ladies about their funerals. Suzanne will be buried in San Saba; Dusty Rhodes will take care of it. Lois will be buried in the cemetery we use. Ellen said both ladies were at the Worthy Grand Matrons Tea and seemed to enjoy themselves. They had their photo taken with her and are waiting on the picture.

Miscellaneous: Next Board meeting is scheduled for April 16, 2022, and will be at the Grand Chapter office in Arlington. Phyllis Wilson has the devotional in April.

The Associate Grand Matron, Phyllis Macon, and the Associate Grand Patron, James Parker, will be at the school on April 9th to present their Purposes and Policies for their year to the Board of Directors.

Reminder that all District Banquets will be May 7th.

District Reports:

District 1: Joe Gilmore and Ray Hargis reported on the following happenings:

Chili bean fundraiser today at Caddo Mills Lodge. Last School in Midlothian on April 8th and 9th. One of the girls killed in that tragic bus accident, her grandparents are members of Eastern Star.

District 2: Tamela Henington and Cindy Echols reported on the following happenings:

They had an initiation and 1 petition pending.

District 3: Darrell Albrecht and Beverly Plante reported on the following happenings:

Beverly reported that the building that North Fort Worth met in has been sold. The chapter does not want to consolidate and have options where to meet, but have not decided. An invitation to Barbara and Doyle Martin's 60th anniversary on March 26th. Darrell reported on a member that we gave aid to; she is now in the Fort Worth area and may join Crescent chapter. She has gotten her CDL and is doing well. Crowley Chapter in talks with South Fort Worth Chapter about consolidating. Heard the Cleburne Chapter building was sold and they may be consolidating with Alvarado Chapter. Eastland members so far have all been ok from the fires in their area.

District 4: Bill Henry and Brenda McDaniel reported on the following happenings:

Bill and Brenda presented the board program at the Port Arthur school. Need to scale down the standardized presentation and make it about 12-15 minutes. Virginia Kiessling's funeral was yesterday and she had a list made out of who was to do what at her funeral. Darrell was Worthy Patron. District 4 banquet date has been changed to May 21st.

District 5: Randy Martin reported on the following happenings:

Joyce Wadle is home, but still unable to walk, but she has adapted and is getting around pretty good. They have 2 funerals this week and Lulling Chapter is really struggling right now with all the deaths and people sick.

Executive Session Report: No Executive Session.

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

The Worthy Grand Matron had a couple of more remarks. She is leaving tomorrow for Louisiana Grand Chapter and will be home Wednesday. She will be taking the Grand Chapter Van.

The Corporate Board is working on the 501C3 to get it all correct. Paul Garner is on this committee. She has appointed Darrell Albrecht to be the board representative on this committee.

She would like the board to talk at the Midlothian school. She thanked the board for letting her tweak the presentation a little.

The budget for the van gas was \$5,500.00 and she is at \$4,000.00 right now. She is trying to be careful and watch the gas prices.

The Worthy Grand Patron was unable to attend in person or zoom and she gave his regrets.

The Worthy Grand Matron is working hard on selling her project items so she will be able to make the donations at Grand Chapter. She thanked us for letting her add these last comments.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Noe
Recording Secretary