

GRAND CHAPTER OF TEXAS
ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING
NOVEMBER 18, 2023

The Regular meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order at 9:00am at the Grand Chapter Office in Arlington, TX by Chairman Tamela Henington. The Chairman welcomed all present and those members attending by Zoom. A quote by John F. Kennedy was shared.

Board Members present: Chairman, Tamela Henington, District 2; Vice Chairman, Joe Gilmore, District 1; Secretary, Brenda McDaniel, District 4; Rick Taylor, District 1; Mary Medford, District 2; Beverly Plante, District 3; Donna Noe, District 3; Bill Henry, District 4; Oscar Hairell, District 5; and Karen Wright, District 5.

Attending by Zoom: Worthy Grand Matron, Susan Dormady; Worthy Grand Patron, Mark Dieckmann; Grand Conductress, Glenda Klemm; Associate Grand Conductress, Kathy Paschal; Past Grand Matron, Terri Rozell; Past Grand Patron, Tom Brisko; Marlene Scholari, Pat Callahan, Ashu Kukreja; and Tammy Andricak.

Others present for the meeting were: Grand Secretary, Ellen Pickrell; Grand Treasurer, Greta Spradling; Past Grand Patron, Bill Wyatt; Chris Elliott, Lou Anne Elliott, Cassie Hobbins, Maverick Murray, Keith Nix, Laura Nix, Bob Royall, Jane Pyle and Janet Travers.

Rick Taylor presented a devotional based on John 8: 25-32.

Birthdays and Anniversaries:

The following December Birthdays were recognized: Susan Smith, Malinda Hairell and Pat Callahan.

The following December Anniversary was recognized Greta Spradling.

The Chairman presented the following Housekeeping Rules for the meeting:

- Only Board Members speak during discussions.
- If a guest has a question, the guest should present the question to a Board Member so it may be brought before the Board.
- If a virtual guest has a question, the guest should text the question to a Board Member so it may be brought before the Board.
- Make eye contact with members in the room during the Mizpah Benediction.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of the October 21, 2023 Regular Board of Directors Meeting in Arlington, Texas were presented.

Brenda McDaniel moved that the minutes of the October 21, 2023 Regular Board of Directors Meeting be approved as presented. The motion was seconded by Rick Taylor and adopted.

Email Vote Ratification:

The next item of business was ratification of email votes conducted in October and November.

October 30, 2023 – Vote to approve the purchase a trailer from Trailers Plus for \$4,625.64 after securing 4 bids to be paid from the General Fund.

November 4, 2023 - Vote to approve the request by the Worthy Grand Matron to purchase 100-year bones and 100 blue bones.

November 9, 2023 – Vote to approve the hotel contract of the Hampton Inn for the 2024 Grand Chapter Session.

November 9, 2023 – Vote to grant permission for the Worthy Grand Matron to take the van to the Arkansas Grand Chapter in December.

Joe Gilmore moved to ratify the email votes. The motion was seconded by Oscar Hairell and adopted.

Correspondence: None

Cards sent by the Secretary, Brenda McDaniel, included: 13 Birthday Cards, 4 Get Well Card, 3 Sympathy Cards, and 103 Thanksgiving Cards for a total of 123 cards.

Grand Secretary's Report:

The new trailer for Grand Chapter has been purchased.

The Hampton Inn contact for the 2024 Grand Chapter Session has been signed. (Oscar Hairell and Karen Wright requested a copy of the contract.)

Proficiency Cards for 2024-2025 have been purchased.

The Grand Chapter Office has received the Annual Audit from TMRC. The total spent for last year was \$1,669.87

Grand Treasurer's Report:

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

Total Accounts/Assets in the amount of \$22,987,149.74

Board requested a mid-year funds comparison for the Board meeting in January.

Unfinished Business:

Top Hat Account – Information was presented by Past Grand Patron Bill Wyatt.

The Top Hat Officers are finalizing the closing of the corporation. All Top Hat accounts have been closed.

Past Grand Patron Bill Wyatt presented the Board with a check in the amount of \$44,934.49 to be placed in the General Fund.

The Board members thanked him for the check.

Website – Information was presented by Tamela Henington.

The Grand Chapter website is continually being updated. A lot of corrections have been made.

The calendar on the website is the next item that will be updated.

The Worthy Grand Matron has oversight of the website.

Purchase of Trailer – Information was presented by Grand Secretary Ellen Pickrell. Trailer has been purchase and is currently in the back parking lot.

Auction Items – Information was presented by Grand Secretary Ellen Pickrell. Non-OES related items from the Grand Chapter Museum were listed in the November OES Bulletin for sale to the membership. Very few bids were received. The end of November is the last day for bids. What is not sold to the membership by the end of November will be listed on E-bay for sale.

Sound System – Information was presented by Oscar Hairell. Grand Chapter Mobile Sound system was returned to the Grand Chapter Office last month. The sound system is no longer functional and cannot be repaired. The system will be disposed as a past Board of Directors voted on its disposal.

Worthy Grand Matron Remarks:

The Worthy Grand Matron, Susan Dormady, welcomed everyone and thanked the Board for conducting the business of Grand Chapter.

Worthy Grand Patron Remarks:

The Worthy Grand Patron, Mark Dieckmann, welcomed everyone. He thanked the Board for the all that they were doing for Grand Chapter membership. The School in Forth Worth has approximately 200 in attendance.

New Business:

Parliamentary Procedure Presentation was given by Janet Travers, Grand Chapter Parliamentarian.

She was asked by the Board to submit a summary of the presentation for the next OES Bulletin.

Upcoming Budget:

Joe Gilmore will be working with the Associate Grand Matron and the Associate Grand Patron on the budget for the 2024-2025 year. It has been asked that the budget be submitted early.

Reduction in Price of Calendars and Travel Books

The Worthy Grand Matron requested a reduction in price of the Calendars and Travel Books to \$5.00 apiece.

Brenda McDaniel moved for a reduction in price of the Calendars and Travel Books to \$5.00 apiece. The motion was seconded by Joe Gilmore and adopted.

Committee Reports:

Benevolent Aid: Beverly Plante reported on Benevolent Aid for November 2023.

For the month of October, the Grand Chapter issued checks in the amounts of:

Long Term Aid	\$3,400.00	7 Chapters
Temporary Aid	\$ 1,000.00	2 Chapters
Emergency Aid	\$ 0.00	

A total of \$4,400.00.

An application for Temporary Aid was denied.

Museum and Facilities: Mary Medford reported on Museum and Facilities.

Non-OES related items from the Grand Chapter Museum were listed in the November OES Bulletin for sale to the membership.

What is not sold to the membership by the end of November will be listed on E-bay for sale.

Mary thanked Grand Chapter Secretary Ellen Pickrell for the work that was done.

Titles, Deeds, & Properties: Rick Taylor reported on the Titles, Deeds and Properties.

Production of oil wells remains the same. There have not been any new offers.

Worthy Grand Matron's Special Projects: Karen Wright reported on the Worthy Grand Matron's Special Projects.

All projects are showing a profit. Current profit is \$2,650.69

TMRC Lady: Donna Noe reported on our TMRC Lady.

Our TMRC precious lady is doing well. A birthday party was held for Suzanne at TMRC.

The party was wonderful and Suzanne was thankful for the party, cards and clothing.

Miscellaneous:

The January 13, 2024 Board Meetings will be held in Floresville, TX.

Beverly Plante will have the devotional.

District Reports:

District 1: Joe Gilmore and Rick Taylor reported on the following happenings:

Chapters have been having initiations.

Some members have had surgery.

District 2: Tamela Henington and Mary Bedford reported on the following happenings:

Chapters have been having initiations.

Several members have passed away.

District 3: Beverly Plante and Donna Noe reported on the following happenings:

Schools of Instruction are underway.

Chapters have been having initiations.

Past Board member Darrell Albrecht to have surgery.

Beverly Plante has changed her Board of Directors email address.

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

The Deputies are making their official visits.

The Chapters are having quite a number of fundraisers.

Bill Henry suggested that a Best Practices for Fundraisers document be created.

District 5: Oscar Hairell and Karen Wright reported on the following happenings:

Chapter have been having initiations.

Chapters are conducting study groups and holding fundraisers.

Past Grand Patron Kenneth Gregory's is 95 and attended the Georgetown School of Instruction.

Executive Session Report: The Chairman reported on items discussed in the Executive Session: Benevolent Aid, Investments, discussed the upcoming budget, and the rescheduled Charities Foundation informal meeting.

All the visitors were thanked for attending the meeting.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 10:17 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Travers
Recording Secretary