

**APPROVED
AS PRESENTED
By the Board of Directors
On November 18, 2023**

GRAND CHAPTER OF TEXAS
ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 21, 2023

The Regular meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order at 9:05am 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 on Autumn 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; 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; Associate Grand Matron, Glenda Murphy; Grand Secretary, Ellen Pickrell; Past Grand Matron, Jimmie Lee McMahan; Past Grand Matron, Carolyn Martin; Past Grand Matron, Terri Rozell; Past Grand Patron, Bill Wyatt, Past Grand Patron, Tom Brisko; Past Grand Patron, James Parker; Ashu Kukreja; Keith Nix and Tammy Andricak.

Board Members Absent: Mary Medford, District 2

Others present for the meeting were: Grand Treasurer, Greta Spradling; Chris Elliott; Lyndon Westerberg; Jose Guerra and Janet Travers.

Bill Henry presented a devotional based on I Samuel 24:2-7 concerning faith and patience. A prayer was presented by Bill Henry at the end of the devotional.

JP Morgan Chase (Bankers Presentation)

Lyndon Westerberg and Jose Guerra presented a Financial Review and Market Outlook for the Grand Chapter of Texas to the Board of Directors.

They provided copies of a detailed Financial and Investment Review for all Board of Director members and all Corporate Board members.

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.

Birthdays and Anniversaries:

The following November Birthdays were recognized: Kenneth Gregory, Christine Armstrong, Greta Spradling, Karen Wright, and Paul Garner

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 September 16, 2023 Regular Board of Directors Meeting in Houston, Texas were presented.

Oscar Hairell moved that the minutes of the September 16, 2023 Regular Board of Directors Meeting be approved as corrected. The motion was seconded by Joe Gilmore and adopted.

Email Vote Ratification:

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

October 4, 2023 – Vote to approve the renewal of the Konica copier contract after receiving 5 bids.

October 4, 2023 - Vote to approve the request by the Worthy Grand Matron to take the van to the Oklahoma and New Mexico Grand Chapters.

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

Correspondence: None

Cards sent by the Secretary, Brenda McDaniel, included: 21 Birthday Cards, 1 Get Well Card, and 2 Sympathy Cards for a total of 24 cards.

Grand Secretary's Report:

The Grand Chapter Office has sent out the 990's for Chapters.

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

The Grand Chapter Office has received a bid for a new trailer at the cost of \$8,195.00. Bid also includes the trade-in of the two old trailers (one large and one small) that the Grand Chapter Office currently owns.

Joe Gilmore moved to purchase the new trailer at the cost of \$8,195.00 less the trade-in for the two current trailers. The motion was seconded by Brenda McDaniel.

Discussion followed:

Current trailer is 20 years old.

Specifications of new trailer.

Insurance for new trailer.

Electrical connections for new trailer.

Additional information needed: estimate of trade-in value, 3 bids for a new trailer and which account would be used for the purchase of the trailer.

The motion to purchase the new trailer was defeated due to lack of information.

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.

A presentation of the financial reports was given at the Executive Session

Unfinished Business:

Zoom meeting instructions have been printed in the November Bulletin.

Music Scholarship:

The creation of a music scholarship was adopted at the Grand Chapter Session in August 2023.

The Educational Committee is responsible for developing the requirements for the scholarship and the awarding of the scholarship.

Chapters wishing to donate funds to the Music Scholarship should donate the funds to Humanitarian/Education with a notation for Music Scholarship.

New Business:

Finance Committee:

This report has been moved to the November Board meeting.

Copier Agreement:

Grand Chapter Office copier lease was up for renewal.

Five bids were received: Xerox, Ricoh, Brother, Cannon, and Konica.

The most competitive bid was Konica which included a contract price reduction of \$1,000.00.

The contract was awarded to Konica.

The Board thanked Ellen Pickrell and Oscar Hairell for working on this project.

Grand Chapter Website:

At the May 2023 Board of Directors meeting the Associate Grand Patron, Mark Dieckmann, and Ashu Kukreja presented the new Grand Chapter Website.

An increase in the General Budget for the Website was approved at the Board of Directors Budget Meeting. The General Budget which included this increase was approved at the Grand Chapter Session.

The expenses for the new Grand Chapter Website have been met. All time and cost for updating the contents of the website is being donated by committee members.

Information on the Webmaster Committee can be found in the Code of Laws: Article 152-T Webmaster Committee, page 89.

Ashu Kukreja was commended on the getting the new Grand Chapter website up and running.

There still a few quirks to be worked out. Everyone has been asked to be patient and kind as these things are resolved.

Committee Reports:

Benevolent Aid: Beverly Plante reported on Benevolent Aid for October 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	\$ 500.00	1 Chapter
Emergency Aid	\$ 0.00	

A total of \$3,900.00.

An application for Temporary Aid was approved for Bluebell Chapter #856.

Museum and Facilities:

Grand Secretary, Ellen Pickrell, had reported non-OES related items from the Grand Chapter Museum have been listed in the November OES Bulletin for sale to the membership.

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.

TMRC Lady: Donna Noe reported on our TMRC Lady.

Our TMRC precious lady is doing well. Barbara Martin has recently visited with Suzanne and reported on her health.

Suzanne's birthday is November 6th and she will be 87. Her birthday will be celebrated on November 5th. The Board was asked to all send Birthday Cards.

Donna Noe and Barbara Martin will be visiting Suzanne soon.

Miscellaneous:

The November 18th Board Meetings will be held at the Grand Chapter Office. At the conclusion of the Regular Board Meeting, the Board will have an informal Pizza Luncheon with the Eastern Star Charities of Texas.

Rick Taylor will have the devotional.

Fort Worth School Fraternal Visit will be on November 17, 2023.

Oscar Hairell reported today he has returned the old OES Sound System from Randy Martin.

He put it in the Museum Room.

Top Hat Funds:

The Top Hat checking account has been closed. A check will be sent to the Grand Chapter Office. Past Grand Patron Bill Wyatt will present the check to the Board.

Information on Funds: \$204,000.00 to Grand Chapter at Grand Chapter Session

\$ 44,000.00 to General Fund

\$ 20,000.00 to General Fund

District Reports:

District 1: Joe Gilmore and Rick Taylor reported on the following happenings:
Schools of Instruction have been a success. Night schools have gone well.
Chapters have been receiving petitions.

District 2: Tamela Henington reported on the following happenings:
Chapters have been having initiations.

District 3: Beverly Plante and Donna Noe reported on the following happenings:
Schools of Instruction starting in November.
District 3, Section 1 Deputy Grand Matron resigned.
Chapters have been having initiations.
Past Board member Darrell Albrecht to have surgery.

District 4: Brenda McDaniel and Bill Henry reported on the following happenings:
Two Schools of Instruction were held in late September.
On September 25th Past Grand Patron Nelson Campbell's 90th birthday was celebrated.

District 5: Oscar Hairell and Karen Wright reported on the following happenings:
Deputies visits are going well.
Chapter have been having initiations.

Executive Session Report: The Chairman reported on items discussed in the Executive Session: Benevolent Aid, Grand Chapter Website and presentation on financial reports by Grand Treasurer, Greta Spradling.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 11:04 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Travers
Recording Secretary