



GRAND CHAPTER OF TEXAS  
ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING  
JANUARY 13, 2024

The Regular meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order at 9:00am at the Lauro G. DeLeon Floresville Event Center, Floresville, TX by Vice-Chairman Joe Gilmore. The Vice-Chairman welcomed all present and those members attending by Zoom. A quote by Martha Stewart was shared.

Board Members present: Vice Chairman, Joe Gilmore, District 1; Rick Taylor, District 1; Beverly Plante, District 3; Donna Noe, District 3; Oscar Hairell, District 5; and Karen Wright, District 5.

Board Members Attending by Zoom: Mary Medford, District 2; and Bill Henry, District 4.

Board Members Absent: Tamela Henington, District 2; and Brenda McDaniel, District 4.

Others present for the meeting were: Worthy Grand Matron, Susan Dormady; Worthy Grand Patron; Mark Dieckmann; Grand Secretary, Ellen Pickrell; Grand Treasurer, Greta Spradling; Grand Conductress, Glenda Klemm; Associate Grand Conductress, Kathy Paschal; Past Grand Matron, Carolyn Martin; Past Grand Matron, Terri Rozell; Past Grand Matron Phyllis Macon; Past Grand Patron, Trey Smith; Chris Elliott, Lou Anne Elliott, Maverick Murray, Caron Joseph, Kate Cecil, Ashu Kurkreja, Suzanne Devine, Tammy Andricak, Pat Callahan, Jane Pyle and Janet Travers.

Beverly Plante presented a devotional based on being worthy in the site of God. A prayer was given by Beverly Plante.

Birthdays and Anniversaries:

The following January Birthdays were recognized: Janet Travers, Bill Henry, Wayne Henington, and Beverly Plante.

The following February Birthdays were recognized: Melanie Raynor, Joe Gilmore, Oscar Hairell, and Donna Noe.

The following January Anniversary was recognized Joe and Kay Gilmore.

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 November 18, 2023, Regular Board of Directors Meeting in Arlington, Texas were presented.

Oscar Hairell moved that the minutes of the November 18, 2023, Regular Board of Directors Meeting be approved as corrected. The motion was seconded by Karen Wright. A roll call vote was taken. The motion was adopted.

Email Vote Ratification:

The next item of business was ratification of email votes conducted in December and January.

December 19, 2023 – Vote to approve the request of \$100.00 from the Worthy Grand Matron to purchase safety pins and charms for the Ritualistic Achievement.

January 9, 2024 – Vote to approve the request of the Worthy Grand Matron to purchase 200 Ritualistic Certificates at the approximate cost of \$60.00.

Donna Noe moved to ratify the email votes. The motion was seconded by Oscar Hairell. A roll call vote was taken. The motion was adopted.

Correspondence: None

Cards sent by the Secretary, Brenda McDaniel, included: 29 Birthday Cards, 2 Anniversary Cards, 6 Get Well Cards, 3 Thinking of You Cards, 10 Sympathy Cards, and 103 Christmas Cards for a total of 155 cards.

Grand Secretary's Report:

The Proceedings for Past Grand Matron Phyllis Macon and Past Grand Patron James Parker almost done and should be completed in February.

The Grand Chapter Audit has been completed.

The February Bulletin is ready to be printed.

Print approximately 1,200 Bulletins hardcopy

The Purposes and Policy meeting for Associate Grand Matron, Glenda Murphy, is today.

Grand Treasurer's Report:

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

Total Accounts/Assets in the amount of \$23,875,276.23.

Profit/Loss \$172,343.07

Board was provided with a mid-year funds comparison for Grand Chapter.

A monthly comparison will be provided every month as requested by the Board.

Unfinished Business:

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.

The amount of \$80.00 has been received.

The remaining items of the November Bulletin listing will be listed on E-bay for sale.

The second set of the non-OES items for sale will be listed in the February Bulletin.

Financial Reports – the Mid-year comparison was presented by the Grand Treasurer, Greta Spradling.

The Past Grand Matron's report has been postponed until the February Board Meeting.

**New Business:**

Donna Noe moved to approve the request of the Worthy Grand Matron to reduce to half price the following items: Who's Who, Worthy Grand Matron's Interpretations, and printed music. The motion was seconded by Oscar Hairell. A role call vote was taken. The motion was adopted.

The new pricing will take effect on January 15, 2024.

Donna Noe moved to approve the request of the Worthy Grand Matron to reduce to half price the Charms being sold. The motion was seconded by Karen Wright. A role call vote was taken. The motion was adopted.

The new pricing will take effect on January 15, 2024

**Committee Reports:**

**Benevolent Aid:** Beverly Plante reported on Benevolent Aid for December 2023 and January 2024.

For the month of December, 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	\$1,500.00	1 Chapter

A total of \$5,400.00.

For the month of January, 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.

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

Grand Secretary Ellen Pickrell, reported on first group of non-OES items.

Second group of non-OES items will be posted in the February Bulletin.

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

Production of oil wells remains the same. Awaiting some new information from lawyers.

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

All projects except one are showing a profit. Rob Morris auctions are bringing in a profit.

TMRC Lady: Donna Noe reported on our TMRC Lady.  
Our TMRC precious lady is doing well. Suzanne Walters had a fall recently and has recovered.

Miscellaneous:

Oscar Hairell and Karen Wright have received the 6 Hotel contracts for the 2024 Grand Chapter Session from Deborah Land. They are currently reviewing these contracts.

The February 17, 2024, Board Meeting will be held at the Grand Chapter office in Arlington, TX. Bankers will be present.

The Audit Report will be given.

Finance Chairman, Past Grand Matron Carolyn Martin, and her committee will be present.

Past Grand Patron, Paul Garner, and the Charities Foundation committee will be present.

Oscar Hairell will give the devotional.

District Reports:

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

Chapters have been having initiations.

Sojourner Group will have a Tribute Program on January 30<sup>th</sup>.

Suzanne DeVine had provided a list of accomplishments to be presented at the February meeting.

District 2: Mary Medford reported on the following happenings:

Schools will be starting in March.

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

Schools of Instruction have been completed.

Chapters have been having initiations.

Past Board member Darrell Albrecht had surgery and is doing well.

Handley Chapter #617 is having a Fraternal Visit on January 23<sup>rd</sup>.

District 4: Bill Henry reported on the following happenings:

Schools of Instruction will be resuming in February.

There are several interesting programs that have been posted in the Bulletin will be happening.

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

Schools of Instruction are underway and doing well.

Attendance in Chapters has been good and a number of initiations are happening.

Past Grand Matron Betty Friend's husband is in hospice.

100<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party for Aunt Dorothy has been cancelled.

Worthy Grand Matron Remarks:

The Worthy Grand Matron, Susan Dormady, welcomed everyone and thanked the Board for conducting the business of Grand Chapter. Thank you to the Board for handling her requests in an efficient and timely manner.

Worthy Grand Patron Remarks:

The Worthy Grand Patron, Mark Dieckmann, welcomed everyone. He thanked the Board for all that they were doing for Grand Chapter membership. The Schools of Instruction are having

great attendance. He is seeing a lot of positive things from members.

Sugar Land #1107 initiated 6 people and will be having 4 more.

Providing Rainbow Assemblies with information on obtaining membership in Eastern Star.

Executive Session Report: The Chairman reported on items discussed in the Executive Session: Ratified Benevolent Aid requests.

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 9:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Travers

Recording Secretary