



174th ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

Pendleton, Oregon

June 6 & 7, 2024

This is the amended and complete Legislation for the 2024 Annual Communication. The following proposed Amendments and Resolutions to the Code have been properly received in the Grand Secretary's office, signed by the required number of members of Grand Lodge, duly checked by the Code, Resolutions, and Jurisprudence Committees and are now presented for the preview of the Delegates to the 174th Annual Communication.

I

NOW READS:

Sec. 128. Powers and Duties of the Trustees of the Grand Lodge —

1. Presiding Officer —

The Grand Master shall preside as Chairman, and, in his absence, the Deputy Grand Master shall preside, and, if both are absent, the Senior Grand Warden shall preside.

2. Time and Place of Meetings —

The Trustees shall hold monthly meetings on such dates and at such hours and places as the Grand Master shall order. They may hold special meetings at the order of the Grand Master or on written call of two Trustees. Each Trustee shall have not less than five days written notice of the time and place of each meeting.

3. Supervision of Funds and Properties —

They shall designate one or more banks as depositories for evidence of investments and other valuable papers belonging to the Grand Lodge. Access thereto shall be invested in such persons as may be authorized by the Trustees of the Grand Lodge.

4. Titles to Property —

The Trustees shall take and hold title to all real, personal and mixed property in the name of "The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Oregon."

5. Investment of Funds —

(a) It shall be the duty of the Trustees to supervise the purchase of investments from the funds or trust funds of the Grand Lodge. The purchase of State, County, School and Municipal Warrants shall not be permitted. All investments shall be made, primarily, with a view to the safety of the principal rather than the amount of income. It shall also be the duty of the Trustees to supervise the sales of securities or other properties of the Grand Lodge when deemed advisable or necessary, and the reinvestment of proceeds derived from the sale, payment or redemption of

securities or other properties of the Grand Lodge. The Trustees shall adopt appropriate criteria for the Investments of the Grand Lodge.

(b) Capital gains or losses created in the sales of securities shall be distributed to the principal account of the participating fund on the basis of the percentage of participation of each fund as of the end of each fiscal year.

6. Auditing Bills, Etc. —

The Trustees, during the recess of the Grand Lodge, shall examine all bills and claims against the Grand Lodge, and, if allowed, order checks to be drawn in payment of same.

7. Educational Assistance —

The Trustees shall examine into the merits of any case brought to their attention by the Master of any Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction, or by other Masonic information, in which any resident or nonresident children or grandchildren of a Master Mason of a Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction shall require assistance to obtain an education in public school K through 12, or post high school through age 22. The Trustees shall determine whether such case is proper for assistance, and, if so, shall appropriate from the income of the Educational Fund such amount or amounts as may be necessary and available.

8. Masonic Relief —

The Trustees of the Grand Lodge shall investigate all applications for assistance made to the Grand Master, or the Trustees, and appropriate from the General Fund such amounts as they shall determine to be necessary and proper.

9. Reimbursing Lodges for Relief —

When Masonic relief shall have been afforded by a Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction to a Master Mason in good standing in a Lodge in a Grand Jurisdiction recognized by this Grand Lodge, or to his widow or orphans, the Lodge affording the relief should apply for reimbursement to the Lodge of which the Master Mason is or was a member.

Should reimbursement not be made, the Lodge may present to the Trustees of the Grand Lodge a claim for reimbursement, together with such proofs and correspondence as are available, and certified as correct by the Master and Secretary of the Lodge.

10. To Establish Masonic Service Bureaus —

(a) To provide for the relief of distressed worthy sojourners, to insure proper investigations of requests for relief, and to perform other duties essential to the proper functioning of Freemasonry in the area, the Trustees of the Grand Lodge are empowered to establish a Masonic Service Bureau in any area of this Grand Jurisdiction when requested to do so by a majority of the Lodges in such area; to direct the activities thereof; and to provide such funds for the support thereof as may be determined by the Grand Lodge. The foregoing shall not in any way affect the boundaries of any existing Masonic Service Bureau.

(b) Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws, and regulations of a Bureau so established shall be approved by the Trustees of the Grand Lodge.

11. Reimbursing Boards of Relief or Masonic Service Bureaus —

When Masonic relief shall have been afforded by a Board of Relief or a Masonic Service Bureau

in this Grand Jurisdiction under the conditions set forth in Subdivision 9 of this Section, such Board of Relief or Masonic Service Bureau may present a claim for reimbursement to the Trustees of the Grand Lodge. Such claim shall be certified as correct by the President and Secretary of the Board of Relief or Masonic Service Bureau and shall be supported by such proofs and correspondence as are available, and action thereon shall be as provided in Subdivision 12 of this Section.

12. Claims, Lodges or Boards of Relief —

All claims presented to the Trustees of the Grand Lodge in conformity with Subdivisions 9 and 11 of this Section, shall be audited by them and, if found correct and approved, they shall appropriate from the General Fund such amounts as may be approved by them.

13. Printing Contracts —

The Trustees shall provide for all printing of the Grand Lodge and of the Grand Secretary's office.

14. Masonic and Eastern Star Home —

The Trustees shall be the representatives of this Grand Lodge on the Masonic and Eastern Star Home Board.

15. Annual Report on Management of Funds —

The Trustees shall at each Annual Communication, make a report to the Grand Lodge setting forth in detail all their acts in the management and control of the several funds of the Grand Lodge and of the Masonic and Eastern Star Home.

16. Annual Report on Loans and Investments —

The Trustees shall, at each Annual Communication, report the loans and investments made during the year, and may make suggestions and recommendations relating to the property and financial interests of the Grand Lodge as to them may seem necessary and advantageous.

17. Compensation of Employees —

Compensation for persons employed to perform services in connection with the business of the Grand Lodge shall be paid in the same manner as are other claims against the Grand Lodge.

18. Expenses of Trustees —

The Trustees shall be reimbursed for their actual and necessary expenses incurred in performing their duties as Trustees.

19. Forms —

The Trustees shall examine and approve all forms required for use by Constituent Lodges, or the Grand Lodge, as prescribed in this Code.

20. Appointment of Auditor —

The trustees shall employ a Certified Public Accountant, or Accountants, who shall examine and report upon income, expenditures and all other matters relating to the financial affairs of the Grand Lodge and the Masonic and Eastern Star Home. The report of the Auditor shall be filed with the Grand Secretary, together with a certificate that such audit has been made, and said certificate shall be included in the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge.

21. Blanket Bond —

The Trustees shall procure a blanket bond for the bonding of Secretaries, Treasurers, Trustees and members of Lodges who may have custody of funds or property of Lodges and who are not otherwise bonded as provided in Sec. 213-6.

22. Liability Insurance —

The Trustees shall procure blanket Liability Insurance and Workers' Compensation Insurance for the protection of the Grand Lodge and the Constituent Lodges in such sum and under such conditions as they may determine.

23. Determining Salary of Grand Secretary —

The Trustees shall determine the salary of the Grand Secretary as provided in Sec. 160-1.

24. Expenses —

The Trustees shall provide expenses to the Grand Master, Grand Secretary and the Deputy Grand Master to attend the annual Conference of Grand Masters and the annual Conference of Grand Secretaries.

25. Assistant Grand Secretary —

The Trustees of the Grand Lodge shall appoint an Assistant Grand Secretary, who shall have the full right and authority under the supervision of the Grand Lodge Trustees, to act for or on behalf of the Grand Secretary, in the absence or inability of the Grand Secretary, and shall perform such other duties as may be determined by the Grand Secretary or the Grand Lodge Trustees.

26. Approve Manuscripts —

All manuscripts for publication by Grand Lodge shall be approved by Grand Lodge or the Trustees before publication.

27. Retention of Records —

Operative business records and documents of the Grand Lodge having no historical value and which are no longer useful may be disposed of at the discretion of the Trustees.

28. Retirement Program for Employees —

The Trustees of the Grand Lodge shall establish and fund a pension plan for the Grand Secretary, Assistant Grand Secretary and full time employees of the office of the Grand Secretary, which complies with applicable statutes and administrative rules of the Federal and State governments.

PROPOSED TO READ:

Sec. 128. Powers and Duties of the Trustees of the Grand Lodge —

1. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

2. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

3. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

4. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

5. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

6. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

7. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

8. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

9. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

10. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

11. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

12. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

13. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

14. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

15. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

16. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

17. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

18. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

19. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

20. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

21. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

22. Liability Insurance —

The Trustees shall procure blanket Liability Insurance and Workers' Compensation or Accident Insurance for the protection of the Grand Lodge and the Constituent Lodges in such sum and under such conditions as they may determine.

23. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

24. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

25. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

26. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

27. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

28. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

REASON FOR PROPOSED CHANGE:

There is a possibility that our Workers' Compensation policy might not be renewable at some point. If that was the case, we would need to purchase an Accident Insurance to cover those who volunteer at our Lodges. This amendment would allow the Trustees to provide insurance for our volunteers if we were unable to procure Workers' Compensation insurance. This is something that our current workers' compensation provider suggested we do.

Sponsored by M.W.B. James L. Morgan, Past Grand Master 2018-2019, Past Master of Clatskanie Lodge No. 133; R.W.B. Craig A. Sipp, Deputy Grand Master, Past Master of McEwen Lodge No. 125; and R.W.B. Timothy J. Best, Senior Grand Warden, Past Master of Hermiston Lodge No. 138.

COMPANION LEGISLATION: SECTION 213

NOW READS:

Sec. 213. Lodges — Powers, Duties and Limitations

It shall be the duty of a Lodge:

1. To conduct business in strict accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws of this Grand Lodge and the By-Laws of the Lodge and permit no suspension of any part of its By-Laws, except by Dispensation of the Grand Master.

2. Adopt Uniform By-Laws —

To adopt the Uniform Code of By-Laws in the form prescribed by the Grand Lodge.

3. Stated Communications —

To hold one and not to exceed two Stated Communications in each month, except that a Lodge may call from labor during either or both the months of July and August or January and February.

4. Suitable Lodge Room —

To provide a safe and suitable Lodge Room.

5. Record of Proceedings —

To keep a proper and complete record of its proceedings.

6. Bonding of Officers and Members —

In addition to the bonding of Secretaries and Treasurers of Lodges, as provided in Sec. 220-1 and Section 221-1 of this Code, each other officer, Trustee or member of a Lodge who shall have custody of funds or property of a Lodge, shall file, with the Master of the Lodge, a bond in such sum as the Lodge may direct, conditioned that he will faithfully discharge the duties required, and will deliver to his successor all moneys, books, papers, securities or other property of the Lodge in his possession. Such bond shall be furnished by a surety company qualified to do business in the State of Oregon and approved by the Trustees of the Grand Lodge, or may be by participation in a blanket bond to be procured by the Trustees of the Grand Lodge for such purpose. The cost of such bond, or a proportionate part of such blanket bond, shall be paid out of the funds of the Lodge.

7. No Communication on Sunday, Except —

A Lodge shall not be convened on Sunday except for funeral purposes, for the purpose of celebrating the Festival of St. John the Baptist (June 24) or St. John the Evangelist (December 27) by appropriate ceremonies in the Lodge room or by attending church on those days or on a Sunday preceding or following such days. For the celebration of either St. John's Day the Lodge shall be opened on the Entered Apprentice degree.

8. Annual Returns —

The Grand Secretary shall prepare and transmit to each constituent Lodge an annual return, **to reach constituent Lodge prior to March 31st each year.** The Secretary of each constituent Lodge shall after execution of such return, transmit the same to the Grand Secretary by **April 10th each year.** Such annual returns shall be signed by the Master and attested by the Secretary under seal of the Lodge.

9. Failure to File Annual Returns —

A Lodge, whose annual returns are not in the hands of the Grand Secretary **by April 10th,** shall be assessed one dollar for each day delinquent thereafter. Such penalty shall be added, by the Grand Secretary, to the Annual Returns so delinquent and shall be paid from the funds of the Lodge; and during such delinquency such Lodge shall not be entitled to representation in the Grand Lodge; provided, upon the Lodge presenting a satisfactory reason for failure to file its Annual Returns, the Grand Lodge may remit the penalty and return the Lodge to representation in Grand Lodge.

10. Charter Arrested for Failure to File Returns —

If a Lodge shall fail to file its Annual Returns for two consecutive years, its Charter may be arrested by the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master, and the effects of the Lodge shall be surrendered to the Grand Lodge; provided, that upon such Lodge making full returns and paying all amounts due the Grand Lodge, the Charter and other effects of such Lodge may be restored by the Grand Lodge or Grand Master.

11. Lodge Register —

To keep a Lodge Register, in which shall be entered the names of all members with their Masonic records.

12. Black Book —

To keep in a suitable binder the quarterly reports of the Grand Secretary containing the record of rejections, suspensions, expulsions, withdrawals, dropped from the roll, restorations and reinstatements.

13. Monthly Reports to Grand Secretary —

To make monthly reports to the Grand Secretary, in and on the form prescribed by the Grand Lodge.

14. Communications From Grand Officers and Grand Committees —

(a) To read all communications from the Grand Master, Grand Secretary, other Grand Lodge Officers and Grand Lodge Committees at the Stated Communication next following their receipt, and record of such reading shall be noted in the minutes, except as provided in Sec. 213-14 (b).

(b) **In lieu of reading** the Grand Secretary's Monthly Report of Petitions Received, **it shall** be posted on the Bulletin board of the Lodge, or other space customarily provided for viewing by members of the Lodge.

15. Representation in Grand Lodge —

To be represented at every Annual and Special Communication of the Grand Lodge.

16. Roster of Officers to Grand Secretary —

Each Lodge shall, within five days after the Annual Installation of officers, transmit to the Grand Secretary a list, duly certified under the Seal of the Lodge, containing the names of the newly installed officers, with the dates of their installation, the name and title of the installing officer, and the post office addresses of the Master and Secretary.

17. Adoption of Seal —

To adopt an appropriate Seal.

18. Apron to Entered Apprentices —

To present to each candidate at his initiation a Lambskin or other White Leather Apron as described in Sec. 268-1.

19. Signing of By-Laws —

To require each member to sign the By-Laws of the Lodge immediately after receiving the Master Mason degree, or after affiliation; provided, if a Brother is raised in another Lodge by courtesy, the Secretary of such Lodge shall transmit the signature of the Brother so raised to be attached to the By-Laws of his own Lodge.

20. Certificate of Membership —

To present to each Master Mason, immediately after he shall have been raised and signed the By-Laws of the Lodge, a Certificate of Membership in and on the form prescribed by the Grand Lodge, and also a copy of the Manual of the Lodge.

21. Uniform Receipts —

To use the uniform dues receipts provided by the Grand Lodge for dues paid by members.

22. Funds and Securities —

(a) To select a depository in which all funds of the Lodge shall be promptly deposited.

(b) To keep all its bonds, notes, securities and other instruments of value in a safe deposit box in the name of the Lodge,

(c) Or, a Lodge, by resolution, may direct that such bonds, notes, securities and other instruments of value may be deposited with a bank or trust company for safe keeping.

(d) If no safe deposit company, bank or trust company shall be conveniently accessible to the Lodge, such bonds, notes, securities and other instruments of value may be deposited with the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge for safe keeping.

(e) Access to such bonds, notes, securities and other instruments of value shall be had jointly by two or more officers, Trustees or other members of the Lodge, duly authorized by the Lodge.

23. No Money Loaned to Members —

A Lodge shall not lend money to a member thereof.

24. Clandestine or Irregular Lodges —

A Lodge or member thereof shall not hold Masonic communication within this Grand Jurisdiction with any Lodge or Body claiming to be Masonic (or any member thereof) which has not been recognized by this Grand Lodge. When visiting or sojourning in a Grand Jurisdiction recognized by this Grand Jurisdiction you are subject to the laws and rules of that Grand Jurisdiction while sojourning, provided under no circumstances shall an Oregon Mason visit an irregular or clandestine lodge.

25. To Maintain Membership in Area Service Bureau —

Each and every Lodge located in an area where a Masonic Service Bureau has been established shall maintain membership in such Service Bureau, and abide by the By-Laws and regulations thereof.

26. Removal From One Location to Another —

If a Lodge shall desire to permanently remove from the city, town, village or place named in its Dispensation, Charter or By-Laws, or from one Lodge room to another:

- (a) The proposal shall be submitted to the Lodge at a Stated Communication.
- (b) Further action shall be deferred until a Stated Communication to be held not less than four weeks after the proposal has been submitted.
- (c) Or to a Special Communication authorized by the Grand Master as provided in Sec. 212-2.
- (d) Each member shall be notified of the proposed removal and of the date set for final consideration.
- (e) If, upon final action, two-thirds of the members present shall vote favorably, the Lodge shall then petition the Grand Master for a Dispensation authorizing the removal, and the removal shall not take place until such Dispensation shall have been granted.

27. Special Assessments —

A Lodge cannot levy a special tax or assessment except by authority of the Grand Lodge or Dispensation from the Grand Master. Such levy or assessment can be levied only by a two-thirds vote of the members of the Lodge present, and after due notice has been given to all members.

28. Incorporation of Lodges —

- (a) A Lodge desiring to incorporate shall secure permission of the Grand Lodge or the Trustees of the Grand Lodge.
- (b) Any Lodge which shall be hereafter incorporated shall include, in the articles of incorporation, a clause to provide that, upon arrest, revocation of charter or upon dissolution of the Lodge for any reason, title to all property, of whatsoever kind, of which the Lodge may be possessed, shall vest in the Grand Lodge, subject to all legal and equitable rights of creditors of such demised Lodge in and to such properties.

29. Lodge Building and Indebtedness —

A Lodge shall not undertake the purchase or construction of a Lodge building, or pledge its credit, or issue bonds or debentures or other evidences of indebtedness therefor, or subscribe to or guarantee the stock or bonds of any building association or company, either in the name of the Lodge, or under the name of a building association or company, without the written consent of the Trustees of the Grand Lodge.

30. Certificate to Family of Deceased —

To issue to the family of a deceased Master Mason in good standing at the time of his decease a Certificate showing his Masonic Record, in and on the form prescribed by the Grand Lodge.

31. No Masonic Clothing in Public Except Under Masonic Auspices —

A Mason shall not appear in Masonic Clothing in any public procession, nor in any private or public assembly, unless such is under the auspices of the Grand Lodge or of a Lodge.

32. Appearance in Public —

A Lodge may, with permission of the Grand Master, participate in parades or other public functions of general interest.

33. Lodge to Provide Code —

Each Lodge shall provide its Master, Wardens, Secretary and Senior Deacon with a copy of the Code which shall be transmitted to their successors in office, upon expiration of their terms of office.

34. Liability Insurance —

Each Constituent Lodge shall procure Liability Insurance and Workers' Compensation Insurance by participating in a blanket Liability Insurance policy and Workers' Compensation Insurance policy to be secured by the Trustees of the Grand Lodge as set forth in Sec. 128-21 and Sec. 128-22. The cost of such participation shall be prorated according to the membership of each Lodge and shall be paid out of the funds of the Lodge.

PROPOSED TO READ:

Sec. 213. Lodges — Powers, Duties and Limitations

It shall be the duty of a Lodge:

1. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

2. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

3. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

4. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

5. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

6. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

7. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

8. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

9. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

10. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

11. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

12. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH
13. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH
14. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH
15. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH
16. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH
17. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH
18. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH
19. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH
20. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH
21. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH
22. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH
23. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH
24. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH
25. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH
26. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH
27. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH
28. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH
29. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH
30. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH
31. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH
32. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH
33. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

34. Liability Insurance —

Each Constituent Lodge shall procure Liability Insurance and Workers' Compensation or Accident Insurance by participating in a blanket Liability Insurance policy and Workers' Compensation or Accident Insurance policy to be secured by the Trustees of the Grand Lodge as set forth in Sec. 128-21 and Sec. 128-22. The cost of such participation shall be prorated according to the membership of each Lodge and shall be paid out of the funds of the Lodge.

REASON FOR PROPOSED CHANGE:

There is a possibility that our Workers' Compensation policy might not be renewable at some point. If that was the case, we would need to purchase an Accident Insurance to cover those who volunteer at our Lodges. This amendment would allow the Trustees to provide insurance for our volunteers if we were unable to procure Workers' Compensation insurance. This is something that our current workers' compensation provider suggested we do.

Sponsored by M.W.B. James L. Morgan, Past Grand Master 2018-2019, Past Master of Clatskanie Lodge No. 133; R.W.B. Greg Hinkelman, District Deputy No. 1, Past Master of Clatskanie Lodge No. 133; and W.B. Michael A. Kreger, Past Master of Rainier Lodge No. 24.

II

NOW READS:

Sec. 130A. Committee on the Budget, duties of:

1. To prepare and present to each annual communication of the Grand Lodge, an operating budget covering all proposed expenditures from the General Fund for the ensuing fiscal year.
2. During the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge all proposals for the expenditure of moneys in excess of \$100.00 except the payroll, shall be referred to the Committee on the Budget for report.

PROPOSED TO READ:

Sec. 130A. Committee on the Budget, duties of:

1. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH
2. During the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge all proposals for the expenditure of moneys in excess of ~~\$100.00~~ \$1,000.00 except the payroll, shall be referred to the Committee on the Budget for report.

REASON FOR PROPOSED CHANGE:

This section of the code was originally adopted in 1965 and provided accountability and review of Grand Lodge expenditures. Based on inflation and all our current auditing practices in place it is time to increase this limit. The increase is based on applying an average inflation factor from 1965 to 2022.

Sponsored by R.W.B. Craig A. Sipp, Deputy Grand Master, Past Master of McEwen Lodge No. 125; R.W.B. Richard Southard, District Deputy No. 22, Past Master of Grande Ronde Valley Lodge No. 56; and R.W.B. Brian Lackey, District Deputy No. 21, Past Master of Cove Lodge No. 91.

COMPANION LEGISLATION: SECTION 159

NOW READS:

Sec. 159. Disbursement of Grand Lodge Funds —

1. Disbursement of funds of the Grand Lodge shall be made only by order of the Grand Lodge or the Trustees of the Grand Lodge.

2. Payroll Subject to Approval by Grand Lodge —

The payroll of members and delegates in attendance upon an Annual or Special Communication shall be compiled by the Committee on Mileage and Expense, and by that Committee reported to the Grand Lodge for approval before the Grand Treasurer is authorized to pay the same. The Grand Treasurer shall settle the payroll no earlier than eleven o'clock A.M. of the last day of an Annual or Special Communication and no later than 20 days immediately following any Annual or Special Communication.

3. Payroll —

To pay the mileage and expense of those entitled thereto in attendance at Annual and Special Communications as shown by the report of the Mileage and Expense Committee.

4. Proposed Expenditures Referred —

During an Annual or Special Communication of the Grand Lodge, with the exception of the payroll, every proposal to appropriate or expend money in excess of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) shall be submitted in triplicate and referred to the Committee on the Budget.

5. Form of Claims —

Each claim against the Grand Lodge shall show each item included therein, and by whose authority the indebtedness was incurred.

6. Form of Disbursements —

Each check drawn by the Grand Secretary shall show:

- (a) Date of issue.
- (b) To whom drawn.
- (c) For what amount issued.
- (d) By what authority issued.
- (e) Upon which fund drawn.

PROPOSED TO READ:

Sec. 159. Disbursement of Grand Lodge Funds —

1. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

2. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

3. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

4. Proposed Expenditures Referred —

During an Annual or Special Communication of the Grand Lodge, with the exception of the payroll, every proposal to appropriate or expend money in excess of ~~one hundred~~ One Thousand

dollars (~~\$100.00~~) (\$1,000.00) shall be submitted in triplicate and referred to the Committee on the Budget.

5. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

6. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

REASON FOR PROPOSED CHANGE:

This is companion legislation to Section 130A. This section of the code was originally adopted in 1965 and provided accountability and review of Grand Lodge expenditures. Based on inflation and all our current auditing practices in place it is time to increase this limit. The increase is based on applying an average inflation factor from 1965 to 2022.

Sponsored by R.W.B. Craig A. Sipp, Deputy Grand Master, Past Master of McEwen Lodge No. 125; R.W.B. Timothy J. Best, Senior Grand Warden, Past Master of Hermiston Lodge No. 138; and R.W.B. Marc L. Strong, Junior Grand Warden, Past Master of Blue Mountain Lodge No. 34.

III

NOW READS:

Sec. 269. Jewels —

1. The Jewels of Officers of Lodges shall be as follows:

Master, the Square.

Senior Warden, the Level.

Junior Warden, the Plumb.

Treasurer, the Crossed Keys.

Secretary, the Crossed Quills.

Chaplain, the Open Bible.

Senior Deacon, the Square and Extended Compasses enclosing a Blazing Sun.

Junior Deacon, the Square and Extended Compasses enclosing a Crescent Moon.

Stewards, the Cornucopia.

Marshal, the Baton.

Tyler, the Sword.

Organist, the Lyre.

2. The Jewels shall be of silver.

3. Past Master's Jewel —

The Jewel of a Past Master shall be a pair of Golden Compasses extended to 60 degrees on a Quadrant, and enclosing a Blazing Sun.

PROPOSED TO READ:

Sec. 269. Jewels —

1. The Jewels of Officers of Lodges shall be as follows:

Master, the Square.

Senior Warden, the Level.

Junior Warden, the Plumb.

Treasurer, the Crossed Keys.

Secretary, the Crossed Quills.
Chaplain, the Open Bible.
Senior Deacon, the Square and Extended Compasses enclosing a Blazing Sun.
Junior Deacon, the Square and Extended Compasses enclosing a Crescent Moon.
Stewards, the Cornucopia.
Marshal, the Baton.
Tyler, the Sword.
Organist, the Lyre.
Historian, an Open Book with Quill.

2. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

3. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

REASON FOR PROPOSED CHANGE:

Legislation was presented in 2019 and adopted at the 172nd Annual Communication June 2022 which reads as follows:

“Section 202 The Officers of a Lodge shall be: A Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, Secretary, Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon, Senior Steward, Junior Steward, Tyler, Chaplain, and it may have a Marshal, Organist and Historian”.

Although the legislation was adopted, there was no provision presented at that time that recognized a “Jewel” for the position of Lodge Historian. The Code Committee feels this was an inadvertent oversight.

Section 202. Officers of a Lodge clearly states that a Lodge “...may have a Marshal, Organist, and Historian.” Within the original proposal in 2019, the 3rd paragraph under “REASON FOR PROPOSED CHANGE states follows:

“It seems reasonable therefore, to add a “Lodge Historian” as a third optional officer of a Lodge to afford that office legal or authorized status as an Officer of the Lodge and to recognize the Office as described in The Officers Handbook and our Lodge Floor Plan.”

It seems reasonable to the Code Committee that the adoption of an optional Lodge Historian as a third optional officer of a Lodge who has a legal or authorized status as an Officer of the Lodge recognized as such should have a Jewel.

It is recognized that there is a discrepancy in the description of the Grand Historian Jewel between the Code and the Standard Manual. The description in the Standard Manual on page 102 states “Grand Historian, a Closed Book”, whereas the Code Section 164.3 states “Grand Historian, an Open Book with Quill”.

Research has shown that at the 136th Annual Communication dated June 7, 1986 the Jewel of the Grand Historian was changed from “~~a Closed Book~~” to “an Open Book with Quill” Reference Page 124 Grand Lodge Proceedings Electronic Copy page 7834. The Standard Manual was never changed to reflect the amendment adoption of June 7, 1986.

Sponsored by M.W.B. James L. Morgan, Past Grand Master 2018-2019, Past Master of Clatskanie Lodge No. 133; R.W.B. Timothy J. Best, Senior Grand Warden, Past Master of Hermiston Lodge No. 138; and R.W.B. Marc L. Strong, Junior Grand Warden, Past Master of Blue Mountain Lodge No. 34.

AMENDMENTS PROPOSED LESS THAN 150 DAYS BEFORE GRAND LODGE

I

NOW READS:

Sec. 201. Lodge, Definition —

A Lodge is a certain number of Brethren duly assembled, with the Holy Bible, Square and Compasses, and a Charter or Dispensation authorizing them to do Masonic work.

PROPOSED TO READ:

Sec. 201. Lodge, Definition —

A Lodge is a certain number of Brethren duly assembled, with the Holy Bible, Square and Compasses, and a Charter or Dispensation authorizing them to do Masonic work. In addition, a Volume of the Sacred Law may accompany the Holy Bible.

REASON FOR PROPOSED CHANGE:

As originally submitted:

It is not in the power of any man or body of men to make the least innovation to the 25 Landmarks of Freemasonry, adopted by this Grand jurisdiction in 1851, and dating back to the beginnings of Freemasonry. In the Constitution. Sec. 1.21, which is a Landmark of Freemasonry, it states, “That a Book of the Law of God must constitute an indispensable part of the furniture of every Lodge” and the Resolution adopted June 5, 1998 states “The obligations taken by Freemasons are sworn on the Volume of the Sacred Law” and that “The Volume of the Sacred Law to a Christian is the Bible; to Freemasons of other faiths, it is the book held holy by them”. As Freemasons we accept men of all religions, who profess a belief in a Supreme Deity and an Afterlife, and many religions utilize Books of the Law of God, other than the Christian Holy Bible. Landmark 21 was the only statement on the Holy Book used in Oregon Masonic Lodges from 1851 to 1951. The current Sec. 201 of the By-Laws, was inserted in the 1951 revision, by no more than ten men, without specific notice of that addition, and no vote of the membership; it being enacted by an edict of the Grand Master. The insertion of Sec. 201 in 1951, is an innovation counter to the intentions of Landmark 21, as it implies Masonry only recognizes one Book of the Law of God. The addition of “Volume of the Sacred Law” brings Sec. 201 of the By-Laws into harmony with the Landmarks of Freemasonry, specifically Landmark 21. Restores consistency with Masonic jurisdictions throughout the world who use other Books of the Law of God, and brings the language of Sec. 201 into harmony with the Resolution already adopted in 1998. This will provide clarity and respect for the faith of others when the degrees are conferred upon non-Christian men on the book of their faith, and is a visible manifestation of Freemasonry’s dedication to Religious Liberty.

Sponsored by W.B. Michael D. Robinson, Past Grand Chaplain, Chairman History Committee; W.B. Sergio Perez, Master of Eugene Lodge No. 11; W.B. Christian Garrett, Master of Cottage Grove No. 51.

As submitted by the Code Committee:

The authors originally proposed that: “A Lodge is a certain number of Brethren duly assembled, with the Holy Bible or Volume of the Sacred law, Square and Compasses, and a Charter or Dispensation authorizing the to do Masonic work.”

While the Code Committee found no specific conflict with the Code per se, if the proposal is adopted at Annual Communication, there will be an immediate conflict with the Ritual, Resolution on Statement

on Freemasonry and Religion, as well as the Etiquette Book page 20 “Dignity”. The perceived conflict in these publications is not within the purview of the Code Committee to submit Legislation to remedy the perceived conflict. Rather to resolve the conflict the purview is with the Resolutions Committee as well as the Publication Committee.

The Code Committee provided a “Late Legislation to Section 201” as an offer to remedy, but such a remedy does not comply with Section 24.3(c).

The conflict as seen by the Code Committee is as follows: The original proposal as stated above uses the term “or” between “Holy Bible” and “Volume of the Sacred Law”. It gives Lodges the option to use either the Holy Bible or Volume of the Sacred Law. By not having an “open Holy Bible”, this conflicts with the Ritual and publications as listed.

As suggested, this Legislation will eliminate the conflict, which will happen if the proposal is adopted as is. By changing the wording as proposed above, the conflict is avoided. The Resolutions Committee and Publication Committee could pursue changing as desired.

Sponsored by M.W.B. L.L. “Vern” Beito, Past Grand Master 2003-2004, Past Master of Gresham Lodge No. 152; W.B. Gregory A. Hinkelman, Senior Grand Deacon, Clatskanie Lodge No. 133; R.W.B. Tracy M. Harris, Grand Chaplain, Wasco No.15.

II

NOW READS:

Sec. 203. Eligibility for Office, Constituent Lodges —

1. Office of Master —

The Master of a Constituent Lodge must be a member thereof.

2. The Master of a Constituent Lodge must have been duly elected and installed as Master or Warden in a regularly constituted Lodge of this Grand Jurisdiction; provided in case of emergency, the Lodge may elect a member not so qualified, but no member so elected shall be installed except by authority of a Dispensation issued by the Grand Master.

3. A Master of a Lodge Under Dispensation need not have served as a Master or Warden.

4. Eligibility for Other Offices —

Except as provided in Sec. 224.1 any member of a Lodge shall be eligible to any office in the Lodge except that of Master. The Chaplain, Musician and Tyler need not be members of the Lodge.

5. Limitation of Office of Master and Warden —

The Master or Warden of a Lodge may not be a Master or Warden of another Lodge at the same time.

PROPOSED TO READ:

Sec. 203. Eligibility for Office, Constituent Lodges —

1. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH.

2. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH

3. NO CHANGE TO THIS PARAGRAPH.

4. Eligibility for Other Offices —

Except as provided in Sec. 224.1 and Sec. 203.5, any member of a Lodge shall be eligible to any office in the Lodge except that of Master. The Chaplain, Musician and Tyler need not be members of the Lodge.

5. Limitation of Office of Master and Warden —

The Master ~~or Warden~~ of a Lodge may not be a Master ~~or Warden~~ of another Lodge at the same time. The Warden of a Lodge may only serve as a Master or Warden of one other Lodge at the same time.

REASON FOR PROPOSED CHANGE:

As originally submitted:

This legislation would permit smaller lodges at risk of forced consolidation to have time to rebuild membership in order to maintain its chartered status.

Sponsored by W.B. Randy L. Kent, Master of Belt No. 18; W.B. William J. Rall, District Deputy No. 16, Grants Pass No. 84; W.B. Greg Gilbert, Master of Grants Pass No. 84; W.B. Jon A. Torbert, Master of Rogue River No. 226; W.B. Lewis S. Lyons, Master of Sidney Croft No. 206.

As submitted by the Code Committee:

The authors have proposed that: “The Warden of a Lodge may only serve as a Master or Warden of one other Lodge at the same time”. Section 203.4 states in part that “ ... any member ... shall be eligible to any office ... ”. To avoid this conflict Section 203.4 must now also restrict a Warden of a Lodge to be limited to only being a “Master” or “Warden” of “one other Lodge” and cannot be eligible to any other office in “one other Lodge”.

The Code Committee sought a remedy through “Late Legislation of Sec. 20.3” to strike the word “only” from the Proposal thinking this would improve the reason behind the proposal, that of assisting Lodges at a risk of forced consolidation. This prompted the recommendation to “withdraw” the proposal. However, Section 24.3(c) does not allow either Late Legislation or “withdrawal”. The Code Committee rescinded the recommendation for Section 203.5 to be withdrawn. The new Legislation information is included the Code Committee Report ADDENDUM.

Sponsored by M.W.B. L.L. “Vern” Beito, Past Grand Master 2003-2004, Past Master of Gresham Lodge No. 152; W.B. Gregory A. Hinkelman, Senior Grand Deacon, Clatskanie Lodge No. 133; R.W.B. Tracy M. Harris, Grand Chaplain, Wasco No.15.

RESOLUTIONS

I

Resolution Consolidated and updated guidelines for the Hiram Award

WHEREAS, the Hiram Award is among the highest honors which can be conferred upon a Mason in this Grand Jurisdiction; AND

WHEREAS, Lodges should have access to a reference which clearly articulates the purpose, form, and administration of the Hiram Award; AND

WHEREAS, the current guidelines concerning the Hiram Award are limited in nature and divided into several parts; NOW

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the following guidelines are adopted for governance and administration of the Hiram Award:

- I. PURPOSE – The Hiram Award is to be awarded to members of Oregon Lodges, who by precept and example, have exhibited outstanding qualities of service and leadership to the Craft well above what is considered normal.
2. DESCRIPTION – The Hiram Award shall consist of a Medallion, Lapel Emblem, and Certificate of Award.

The “Hiram Award Medallion” shall be of solid metal, silver in color, circular, 2 inches in diameter. The front of the medallion will feature an emblem containing a Square & Compasses wreathed in Acacia, encircled by the words “HIRAM AWARD” (above) and “Dedicated Service” (below). The emblem will be wreathed in laurel. The reverse of the medallion will contain the Seal of the Grand Lodge of Oregon, sized to fit. The medallion is to be worn around the neck of the recipient, suspended by a blue cord.

A suitable lapel emblem, square in shape, will contain the word “Hiram” above the Square and Compasses, and the word “Award” below the Square and Compasses.

A Certificate of Award shall be designed by the Grand Lodge of Oregon, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, which will accompany the Hiram Award Medallion, signed by the Grand Master and Grand Secretary, with the seal of the Grand Lodge affixed, and countersigned by the Worshipful Master and Secretary of the awarding Lodge, together with the seal of said lodge.

3. WHEN WORN – The medallion is to be worn at official Masonic functions only. The lapel emblem may be worn whenever desired by the recipient so long as the location and occasion for wear do nothing to discredit the fraternity.
4. WHO ELIGIBLE – Members in good standing of Lodges in this Grand Jurisdiction are eligible to receive the Hiram Award subject to a favorable ballot. Previous recipients of a Hiram Award from this Grand Jurisdiction are not eligible for an additional award.

Lodges may apply additional eligibility requirements in accordance with their customs or By-Laws.

5. BALLOTING – Recipients shall be elected by written ballot, without nomination. The written ballots upon the award of the Hiram Award shall be cast at a Stated Communication, in accordance with Section 208 of The Code. Only one Hiram Award may be awarded by any one Lodge in one Masonic year, which begins on December 28th and runs through December 27th of the following year.

In order to preserve the secrecy of the ballot and to maintain a sense of surprise for the eventual recipient, the Master alone is responsible for disposition of the ballots. He may, according to his dictates or Lodge custom, assign the task of counting the ballots to a member of the Lodge or appoint a committee to perform that function.

6. APPLICATION – The application for the Hiram Award will be submitted in the form and manner prescribed by the Grand Secretary.

7. PRESENTATION – The Hiram Award must be presented in person by a Master or Past Master of the Lodge making the award or by an Officer of the Grand Lodge of Oregon. The award may be presented in Open Lodge, at a fitting public event, or in a private ceremony befitting the high honor being bestowed. When appropriate, family and friends of the recipient should be encouraged to participate in the presentation of the award.

If a recipient departs this Grand Jurisdiction before their award can be presented, dispensation may be granted for a courtesy presentation by a Master, Past Master, or Grand Lodge Officer of another Grand Jurisdiction.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, this resolution supersedes the following:

RESOLUTION FOR VOTING ON THE HIRAM AWARD – ADOPTED JUNE 2, 2017

THE “HIRAM AWARD” – ADOPTED JUNE 2, 1995

RESOLUTION THE “HIRAM AWARD” LAPEL EMBLEM – ADOPTED JUNE, 4 1993

Sponsored by R.W.B. Christopher C. Warren, District Deputy, District 21; W.B. Norman “Nod” Palmer, Master of Grand Ronde Valley Lodge No. 56; and W.B. Darrin T. Ward, Master of Hiram Lodge No. 67.

II

Resolution to Confer Honorary Membership

WHEREAS During this, its One Hundred and Seventy-Fourth Annual Communication, The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Oregon is honored by the presence of many distinguished visitors from other Grand Lodge jurisdictions, and it is appropriate that they be accorded distinct recognition,

BE IT RESOLVED:

That during the course of this communication, the distinguished visitors from other Grand Lodge jurisdictions shall have honorary membership in this Grand Lodge.

Sponsored by R.W.B. Richard C. Southard, Chairman on Resolutions, Past Master of Grande Ronde Valley Lodge No. 56; W.B. William T. "Billy" Burns, Past Master of Beaverton Masonic Lodge No. 100; W.B. Ted Crocker III, Past Master of Belt Lodge No. 18; W.B. Brian K. Kaufman, Past Master of Cottage Grove No. 51; and W.B. William R. Williams, Past Master of Joseph Lodge No. 81.