

2025 RESOLUTION NO. 1
Amendment to the Constitution of the Grand Lodge
Legislation for the creation of the District Deputies

Whereas currently, the Code requires that Area Deputies and District Representatives be appointed each year by the Grand Master; and

Whereas the reduction in the number of Lodges in the Grand Lodge of Minnesota, AF&AM has made the additional overhead of two levels of Lodge oversight redundant; and

Whereas the Grand Lodge of Minnesota, AF&AM desires to ensure that all constituent Lodges are well served by Grand Lodge liaisons in the future; **therefore, let it be resolved** that the Constitution, Article III, Section C3.01 shall be amended to the following language:

SECTION C3.01

The Grand Lodge shall be composed of its Grand Officers, together with the Master and Wardens of its chartered Lodges or their proxies and all Past Grand Masters, Past Deputy Grand Masters and Past Grand Wardens, the Chief Trial Commissioner, **all District Deputies**, and all members of the Board of Custodians; and all Past Grand Treasurers and Past Grand Secretaries who have served the Grand Lodge for ten (10) consecutive years as Grand Treasurer or Grand Secretary, respectively, and all Past Area Deputies all Past District Representatives, and all Past Members of the Board of Custodians who have served the Grand Lodge for ten (10) years as Area Deputies, District Representatives, **District Deputy** or as members of the Board of Custodians, respectively or have served the Grand Lodge for ten (10) years in total service as Area Deputy, District Representative, **District Deputy**, or member of the Board of Custodians, and Chairmen of Grand Lodge Standing Committees who are not otherwise members of the Grand Lodge. All the aforesaid members of the Grand Lodge shall be entitled to one (1) vote each.

And that the General Regulations shall be amended to delete the current language contained in Article II Section G2.01 and replace it with the following:

ARTICLE II. Committees and Duties

SECTION G2.01 Committee Regulations

(a) Those members of a Constituent Lodge of the Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Minnesota who shall have attained the rank of Master shall be eligible to appointment on any committee. The aforementioned requirement shall be waived for Special Committees or Committees handling programs and projects set forth by the Grand Master or the Grand Lodge. The members of these committees shall be Master Masons of this Jurisdiction.

(b) A majority of the members of each committee of the Grand Lodge shall be appointed from the constituent membership. No elective officer of the Grand Lodge shall be appointed or serve

as a member of any one of the following committees while he is an elective officer: Appeals and Grievances.

~~(c) Grand Lodge District Representatives and members of the Board of Custodians should not be requested to serve on committees that are active during the Annual Communication~~

And that the General Regulations shall be amended to delete the current language contained in Article III Section G3.12 and replace it with the following:

SECTION G3.12 Each officer, each District Representative **Deputy**, each Custodian, all permanent members of the Grand Lodge present, each member of a committee authorized to meet and attend at or before any communication thereof, and the superior officer present, or, if no officer is present, the proxy present of the superior officer of each Lodge, shall be paid at such per diem and travel expense allowance as shall be established by the Corporate Board of Trustees annually for the succeeding year no later than three months prior to the next annual Grand Lodge Communication, provided such per diem shall not be paid except at Annual Communications and Annual Monitor schools unless by reason of distance or time the above mentioned shall be required to stay over night. Provided he registers his attendance and attends the several sessions of the Communication until its close unless excused sooner by the Grand Master, and provided, further, that no Representative from a Lodge shall be paid per diem and mileage when such Lodge has failed to file its return or pay Grand Lodge per capita, within the time required by law, except that where there is only a shortage of Grand Lodge per capita, the shortage shall be deducted from the amount otherwise payable to the Representative; and provided, further, that no mileage or per diem shall be paid any one who fails to present his card, properly signed, and requests payment, within thirty (30) days after the close of the Communication. The provisions of this section shall not apply to Educational Lodges. The Grand Secretary shall make provision for and register the attendance of such Representative at each session of the Communication.

And that the General Regulations shall be amended to delete the current language contained in Article IV Sections G4.02 and G4.03 and replace it with the following:

SECTION G4.02

The Grand Secretary shall have printed the annual proceedings and make distribution free of charge each year, as follows:

- One (1) copy to each officer and permanent member of the Grand Lodge;
- One (1) copy to each Constituent Lodge of this Jurisdiction;
- Two (2) copies to each Grand Lodge which includes the Grand Lodges Representative;
- One (1) copy to each District **Deputy** Representative;
- One (1) copy to each member of the Board of Custodians;
- One (1) copy to each other Grand Masonic Body which reciprocates.

SECTION G4.03 The proceedings of the Grand Lodge shall include but not limited to:

- (a) All of the transactions of the last Annual Communication by sessions and intervening communications.
- (b) The addresses of the Grand Master and Grand Orator. 32
- (c) The annual reports of the Grand Secretary and the Grand Treasurer as well as the annual reports of the President of the Board of Trustees of Minnesota Masonic Home, and the President of the Masonic Cancer Center Fund, Inc. and the President of the Minnesota Masonic Foundation.
- (d) A list of Grand Lodge officers, living Past Grand Masters, Past Grand Treasurers, Past Grand Secretaries, and other permanent members.
- (e) Committee reports from all standing committees.
- (f) Resolutions presented and acted upon.
- (g) As an appendix to these proceedings there shall be printed:
 - 1.) The elective Grand officers since the organization of the Grand Lodge.
 - 2.) Statistical information concerning Constituent Lodges.
 - 3.) Alphabetical list of Lodges.
 - 4.) Alphabetical list of Lodges by location.
 - 5.) List of Grand Secretaries of other Grand Lodges.
 - 6.) List of Representatives to and from Grand Lodges.
 - 7.) Member death roll in numerical order of Lodges.
 - 8.) Distinguished dead from other jurisdictions.
 - 9.) The various Lodges by districts with the names of the District Representatives and their addresses **Deputy**.
 - 10.) The names of the members of the Board of Custodians, and their addresses together with the Lodges in their ~~region~~ **area**.
 - 11.) The names of the Trial Commissioners with the regions they represent.
 - 12.) The report of the Certified Public Accountant and the report of the Committee on External Relations.
 - 13.) Emeritus Custodians, Monitors, and other members.
 - 14.) Honorary Past Grand Officers.

And that the General Regulations shall be amended to delete the current language contained in Article XVII Sections G17.01, G17.02, G17.05, G17.06, G17.07, G17.08, and G17.09 and replace them with the following:

ARTICLE XVII. District Representative **Deputy**

SECTION G17.01 The Grand Master, upon installation, is authorized to divide this Grand Jurisdiction into ~~six (6) Areas and not less than twenty (20) nor more than forty (40) districts,~~ which shall be composed of not more than ten (10) Lodges each.

SECTION G17.02 The Grand Master as soon as practicable after installation, ~~shall appoint or~~ **reappoint a Brother member with the rank of Master or Past Master who shall be known as an**

Area Deputy / District Representative Chairman, Area Deputy at Large; and shall appoint or reappoint a Brother member with the rank of Master or Past Master who shall be known as an Area Deputy for each Area designated in Section G17.01, and shall appoint or reappoint a Brother member with the rank of Master or Past Master who shall be known as District Representative for **shall appoint or reappoint a Brother member with the rank of Master or Past Master to administer** each District designated in Section ~~G17.91~~ **G17.01, and whose official title shall be District Deputy.** The Masters and Wardens of the district may recommend a Brother by January 1st of each year. If no recommendation is so made by then, the Grand Master shall make the appointment without the aid of the recommendation from the district. An appointment shall be for a one (1) year period. Should a vacancy exist in a district, at any time, for any reason, the ~~Area Deputy shall be notified at once.~~ Said Area Deputy and shall **Grand Master may** then call a meeting of the Masters and Wardens of ~~those~~ **that** districts within thirty (30) days for the purpose of recommending a suitable and acceptable replacement to the Grand Master, who shall make the final appointment.

~~SECTION G17.03 Area Deputy / District Representative Chairman Duties~~

- ~~(a) The Area Deputy / District Representative Chairman shall be the liaison between the Grand Master and Corporate Board and the Area Deputies and District Representatives across the jurisdiction, in all matters concerning the Lodges in the Jurisdiction.~~
- ~~(b) The Area Deputy / District Representative Chairman shall work with and coordinate the activities of the Area Deputies and District Representatives across the Jurisdiction.~~
- ~~(c) The Area Deputy / District Representative Chairman shall serve as the back-up for the Area Deputies as needed.~~
- ~~(d) The Area Deputy / District Representative Chairman shall make regular reports to the Corporate Board concerning the activities and state of the Lodges within the Jurisdiction.~~

~~SECTION G17.04 Area Deputy Duties~~

- ~~(e) The Area Deputy shall be the liaison between the Grand Master and the District Representatives within his Area in all matters concerning the Lodges within his assigned Area.~~
- ~~(f) The Area Deputy shall work with and coordinate the District Representatives in his Area.~~
- ~~(g) The Area Deputy shall serve as the back-up for the District Representative as needed.~~

SECTION G17.05 District ~~Representative~~ Deputy Visitations

- (a)** It shall be the duty of the District Representative **Deputy** to visit each Lodge in his district at least once each year and at such visitation examine all the books and records of the Lodge and of the officers thereof, the finances, of the Lodge **quarter** and to ascertain the facts as to the growth of the membership of the Lodge, or lack of such growth and the reasons therefor, to inquire into and get the facts as to attendance by the officers and members of the Lodge at the communications thereof, ~~to inspect the Lodge hall and properties of the Lodge to ascertain whether suitable, and to perform~~

such other and additional duties as the Grand Master may from time to time impose. **He shall also, on an annual basis, examine all the books and records of the Lodge and of the officers thereof, the finances of the Lodge and to inspect the Lodge hall and properties of the Lodge to ascertain whether suitable.**

(b) Within two (2) weeks after the visitation of a Lodge, the District Representative **Deputy** shall report in writing as to such visitation, in such form as the Grand Master shall prescribe. ~~The District Representative shall retain the copy for his file and mail, the original to the Office of the Grand Secretary, for duplication to the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Senior Grand Warden, and Junior Grand Warden.~~ The District Representative **Deputy** shall include comments and recommendations relative to the condition and in the best interest of the Lodge visited.

SECTION G17.06 ~~The Grand Master, or at his direction, the Area Deputy may call the District Representative, or any thereof~~ **Deputies** together at such time and place as he may designate for the purpose of consultation and instructions as to their duties.

SECTION G17.07 ~~The Area Deputy and District Representative~~ **Deputies** shall be reimbursed for expenses necessarily incurred by them in the performance of their duties, such reimbursements to be made out of such funds as may be appropriated for the purpose from time to time by the Grand Lodge.

Mileage for official visitations to Lodges and Schools of Instructions, shall be at the rate established by the Corporate Board of Trustees annually for the succeeding year no later than three months prior to the next annual Grand Lodge Communication.

SECTION G17.08 It is not intended that the said ~~Area Deputy or District Representative~~ **Deputy** shall have authority to render decisions as to Masonic jurisprudence, which, if they should arise, must be referred to the Grand Master, nor as to esoteric work, the same being under the control of the Board of Custodians.

SECTION G17.09 (a) ~~The Area Deputy or District Representative~~ **Deputy** shall, at the end of his term of office, return to the Grand Secretary his Grand Lodge apron and case.

~~(b)~~ **(a)** ~~An Area Deputy or A District Representative~~ **Deputy** who has served three (3) or more years shall be entitled to the return of his apron and case by the Grand Secretary with the wording "Past Area Deputy" or "Past District Representative" **his past title** embroidered or sewed thereon, provided, the Grand Master deems the award and distinction earned.

~~(c) The return of the Past Area Deputy or District Representative apron by the Grand Secretary to the Past Area Deputy or District Representative shall not entitle him to any voting privileges as provided by Section C3.01, Constitution of Grand Lodge.~~

~~(d) The return of a deceased Area Deputy or District Representative's apron shall not be requested.~~

And that none of these changes to the General Regulations shall take place unless and until the final approval for the constitutional changes noted shall have received final approval from the Grand Lodge.

Charles S. Brust
Junior Grand Warden

Shawn R. Carrick
Senior Grand Warden

Keith W. Reiersen
Grand Secretary