

BL #2: Update Deaf Awareness/Family Health Committee Name

Whereas: Deaf Awareness/Family Health is recognized as a committee of the Oregon State Grange; and

Whereas: The By-laws of the Oregon State Grange are inconsistent on the committee name, using both Deaf Activities and Deaf Awareness in describing it; and

Whereas: The work of the committee is to foster awareness and consideration of the needs of deaf and hard of hearing people, but not generally to provide deaf activities.

Therefore be it

Resolved: Oregon State Grange change "Deaf Activities" to "Deaf Awareness" in the following sections:

1.13.10(d)(2)

1.15.1(a)

1.15.5

3.8.3

4.15.2

BL #3: Election Board for Preferential Election

Whereas: The election board for the Preferential Election for the Oregon State Grange officers requires "six Pomona Masters and other members as needed"; and

Whereas: There are often not enough current Pomona Masters available to fill the requirements, especially since those that have been nominated for State office cannot serve on the election board. Therefore be it

Resolved: **Article 1 Section 9, Preferential Election 1.9.1** be changed to read:

"Not later than April 1 of the year in which a Preferential Election is to be held as herein provided, the Master of the Oregon State Grange shall appoint an

Election Board, consisting of six Pomona Masters, **Past Pomona Masters, County Deputies, and/or past state officers** and other members as needed. The Board shall canvass the reported ballots of Preferential Election and report its findings to the State Master. "

BL #4: Nomination Deadlines for State Officers

Whereas: Currently nominations for state office must happen in January; and

Whereas: They must be reported to the state office by February 5 and printed in the February Bulletin; and

Whereas: Many Subordinate/Community Granges miss either their December or January meeting because of weather; and

Whereas: The February Bulletin is scheduled to go to print no later than February 1st.
Therefore be it

Resolved: **Article 1 Section 8, Officer Nominations 1.8.1 (a)** be changed to read:

"At any regular meeting **in November or December of odd years or** January of even years, Subordinate/ Community Granges may, by majority vote, present the names of members to become candidates for the offices of the Oregon State Grange. The names of such members must be presented by a minimum of one Subordinate/Community Grange before their names can be entered on the Preferential Election ballot." And be it further

Resolved: **Article 1 Section 8, Officer Nominations 1.8.1 (c)** be changed to read: "The names presented shall be filed by mail or electronic means with the State Office not later than 5:00 p.m. **January 25**. Results of the nominations listing all members receiving one or more nominations and the Granges from which they were received shall be published in the February issue of the Grange Bulletin."

BL #5: Life Membership Minimum Fee

- Whereas: The current minimum fee for a Life Membership is \$250.00; and
- Whereas: It has been that price for many, many years; and
- Whereas: The interest return amount does not come close to paying the minimum annual dues of \$45.00; and
- Whereas: Subordinate Grange can set a higher price but most don't; and
- Whereas: As a State Grange we are charged with taking care of our subordinate chapters and by not setting a reasonable price for a life membership, the delegate body is setting up the Subordinate Granges to fail financially. Therefore be it
- Resolved: The Oregon State Grange raise the minimum fee for a Life Membership to ten times the minimum annual dues and rewrite **Article 4, Section 7.2 Life Membership** of the By-laws to read:

(a) The minimum fee for a Life Membership for a current member shall not be less than **ten times the minimum annual dues**. A Grange may increase the minimum fee charged for such Life Memberships by making a provision in its by-Laws.

BL #6: Life Membership Interest Returns

- Whereas: The OSG Life Membership interest payments are now sent back to each Subordinate/Community Grange; and
- Whereas: The Subordinate/Community Grange deposits the check in the bank. That is if the check has not been lost in the mail causing Oregon State Grange to pay for stop payment on the check and issue new one; and
- Whereas: The Subordinate/Community Grange then writes a check for its quarterly dues back to Oregon State Grange. Therefore be it

Resolved: The Oregon State Grange shall credit the interest return from the annual Life Membership return for each Subordinate/Community Grange from the second quarter report bill before being sent. And be it further

Resolved: Oregon State Grange By-Laws section of Life Membership, sub-section **4.7.10**

Investment Income Return, section (a) be rewritten to read:

“(a) By the fifteenth (15th) day of **May** the income generated by the investment of the Life Membership Fund be credited to the participating Subordinate/Community Granges. This income shall be paid on a pro-rata basis determined by the balance of the Life Membership Fund at the beginning of the previous year. **No later than the second quarterly report, the income generated by the investments of the Life Membership shall be credited against the amount of dues to be paid by the Subordinate/Community Grange for the second quarter.**”

BL #7: Pomona Grange Dues

Whereas: Several Granges in Oregon are not part of a Pomona district; and

Whereas: The Oregon State Grange has continued to collect dues on these members for Pomona when no Pomona exists; and

Whereas: The hosting of the annual Oregon State Grange convention is now assigned on a rotating basis to districts usually made of up of several Pomonas. Therefore be it

Resolved: **Article 3 (Pomona Grange) Section 4 Dues** have the following added:

“**3.4.4** If a Subordinate/Community Grange is not part of an organized Pomona district, then the Pomona dues collected shall be held in trust for the district that Grange is a member of and then forwarded to the State Grange hosting district that Grange is part of instead of being paid to a Pomona Grange. These funds shall be forwarded in February of the year that district is hosting State Grange.”

BL #8: State Executive Committee Members

Whereas: Currently the elected members of the Oregon State Grange Executive Committee represent a district made up of specific Pomonas; and

Whereas: Many Granges in Oregon are no longer even assigned to a Pomona Grange; and

Whereas: Said Executive Committee members must reside in one of those Pomonas; and

Whereas: Many Granges/Grangers get confused between standing committee districts and Executive Committee districts when nominating members for the Executive Committee offices; and

Whereas: This confusion often renders their nominations invalid. Therefore be it

Resolved: **Section 8, Officer Nominations 1.8.1(b)** be changed to read:

“Nominees for the offices of Executive Committee shall be a member of a Grange within the counties assigned to the position and shall be nominated and elected by the state at large. These positions to be as follows: Position 1- Benton, Coos, Curry, Douglas, Jackson, Josephine, Lane, Lincoln, Linn, Marion, and Polk counties. Position 2 -Clackamas, Clatsop, Columbia, Hood River, Multnomah, Sherman, Tillamook, Wasco, Washington and Yamhill counties. Position 3 -Baker, Crook, Deschutes, Gilliam, Grant, Harney, Jefferson, Klamath, Lake, Malheur, Morrow, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, and Wheeler counties.

BL #9: Lower Mileage Reimbursement Rate

Whereas: The Oregon State Grange provides a reimbursement rate of \$0.40 a mile for those who travel on official Oregon State Grange business: and

Whereas: The Oregon State Grange is a non-profit volunteer organization that must closely monitor how funds are spent: and

Whereas: Automobiles are averaging 20 miles per gallon or more; the current rate of reimbursement of \$0.40 a mile is excessive: and

Whereas: The IRS recognizes a lower reimbursement of \$0.14 per mile driven in service to charitable organizations starting Jan. 1, 2017: and

Whereas: For example: a 1000 mile trip at 20 mpg would require 50 gallons of fuel at \$3.00 a gallon would equal \$150.00 in fuel: and

Whereas: The reimbursement at \$0.40 a mile would be \$400.00, which is more than needed. Therefore be it

Resolved: The reimbursement rate for the Oregon State Grange be lowered to \$0.30 mile effective July 1, 2017.

GO #1: Oregon State Grange Lobbyist

Whereas: The Oregon State Grange has worked for years to make sure our organization is represented at the Oregon Legislature; and

Whereas: This past year the Oregon State Grange had no representation at the Oregon Legislature for our policies and issues. Therefore be it

Resolved: Oregon State Grange hire a lobbyist to make sure our voice is heard at the Oregon Legislature every legislative session.

GO #6: Translating Brochures

Whereas: Our communities are being inhabited with more and more ethnic peoples, mostly Latinos, yet we received information from the National Grange and Oregon State Grange that is all written in the English language. The National Grange and Oregon State Grange encourage an increase in membership, but we need to encourage these peoples to become members in our Subordinate/Community Granges. Therefore be it

Resolved: The Oregon State Grange shall at the request of any Oregon Subordinate/Community or Pomona Grange produce foreign language recruitment/membership application brochures electronically as budget and skills allow.

GPA #1: Adopt the Youth Fair Program

Whereas: The Grange Youth Fair Program is a National Grange Program; and

Whereas: The California State Grange has been using the Youth Fair Program for years as a successful part of the Youth and Junior programs; and

Whereas: The Grange Youth Fair Program would benefit both the Grange and children in counties where the 4-H program is struggling or non-existent. Therefore be it

Resolved: The Oregon State Grange adopt the Grange Youth Fair Program. And be it further

Resolved: The Oregon State Grange appoint a committee to work with the Youth and Junior Grange programs and with State and County Fair authorities to implement this program. This committee will also oversee the rules and ethics requirements for participants in this program.

GPA #3: Change in Roster Requirements

Whereas: The State Master in her Good of the Order Address brought to our attention problems with the current Roster. Therefore be it

Resolved: The County Deputies be notified and requested to get the information for all Granges that have not sent their information in by December 1.