

# **2023 Grand Council Proposed Legislation**

## PROPOSAL 1

### PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE BY-LAWS OF THE GRAND COUNCIL OF CRYPTIC MASONS OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

(Deletions appear in ~~strike through~~, additions appear underlined)

**ARTICLE IX., Dues, SEC. 111. *Dues, Non-Payment of.*** ~~Whenever a member fails to pay his dues on or before March 1 of each year, the recorder must notify the member in writing of his delinquency on or before March 11. If, after notice, the member fails to pay his dues on or before April 1, he is automatically suspended for non-payment of dues. The suspension should be recorded by the recorder in the minutes of the first meeting of the council thereafter. See *SEC 141A. Duties of Council Recorders and of the Grand Recorder.*~~

~~—A companion remaining in arrears for more than one year after suspension for non-payment of dues may be restored to membership by making written application, payment of one years dues and receiving a 2/3 favorable vote by paper ballot. (Amended 5/6/94, 6/12/21)~~

To:

**ARTICLE IX., Dues, SEC. 111. *Dues, Non-Payment of.*** Whenever a member fails to pay his dues on or before February 1 of each year:

A. The Master shall appoint a Council Membership Retention Committee, consisting of no less than three (3) members who shall make direct contact with the member in question by phone or in person within thirty (30) days to discuss any potential financial hardships or other issues which may be the member's concern regarding their membership.

B. The Membership Retention Committee shall file a written report within thirty (30) days with the Master and Recorder indicating the contact date(s) and summary of the communication and recommendation, e.g. suspension, remission, or other arrangements to help the member retain and maintain their membership.

C. A Council may not act on any vote to suspend a member until the Membership Retention Committee report has been filed.

D. If, after the Report of the Membership Retention Committee has been filed, the Council may take whatever action is deemed appropriate. The report of the committee and the action of the Council shall be recorded by the recorder in the minutes. A copy of the committee report and the action taken shall be forwarded to the Grand Council Membership Retention Committee.

E. See *SEC 141A. Duties of Council Recorders and of the Grand Recorder.*

G. A companion remaining in arrears for more than one year after suspension for non-payment of dues may be restored to membership by making written application, payment of one year's dues and receiving a 2/3 favorable vote by paper ballot.

**STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:** To establish a more personal communication with our membership in the form of a Masonic helping hand to help retain our members who may be in hardship or have other membership concerns but uncomfortable in voicing those concerns.

Fraternally submitted,

Paul L. Daniels, PM, Carthage Council No. 41

Mark A. Bean, PM, Centralia Council No. 34

Kevin B. Sample, PM, Poplar Bluff Council No. 27

## PROPOSAL 2

### PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE BY-LAWS OF THE GRAND COUNCIL OF CRYPTIC MASONS OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

(Deletions appear in ~~strike-through~~, additions appear underlined)

#### ARTICLE II. SEC. 13. Grand Treasurer, Duties.

~~(7) Investments. A committee consisting of the Grand Treasurer, Grand Recorder, and Chairman of the Committee on Finance for and on behalf of this Grand Council, and in the name of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of the State of Missouri, to invest any surplus funds of the Grand Council. This Committee shall publish an investment policy where no less than one-half of all investments are in government bond, or in the securities or accounts fully insured or per the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of the State of Missouri guaranteed by the United States or an agency of the United States, except for those received by gift or bequest which may be retained in kind. The remainder may be invested in common stock or equal securities in nationally known corporations traded on the New York Stock Exchange, or NASDAQ an "A"[:] or better by Standard and Poor[e]'s or Moody's or some equally well recognized investment rating service. This shall be a separate fund and not commingled with the investment of any non-Grand Council funds. (Added 5/13/04, Amended 7/8/18, ??/??/??)~~

#### Statement of purpose

This is a standing committee. The appropriate place for standing committee information and guidelines is in Section 18. Recommend moving to that Section under additional bullet (11). The original language and changes will be discussed in further legislation submitted as part of this change.

Fraternally submitted,  
Terry D. Coppotelli, PM, Bellefontaine Council No. 25  
Donald MacCormick, PM, Kansas City No. 45

## PROPOSAL 3

### PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE BY-LAWS OF THE GRAND COUNCIL OF CRYPTIC MASONS OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

(Deletions appear in ~~strike-through~~, additions appear underlined)

#### ARTICLE III. SEC. 18. Standing Committees, Duties of.

(4) The Committee on Finance and Accounts shall examine the financial statements of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder together with the report of the Examiner and report upon the same. It shall also report upon all matters touching the finances of the Grand Council, and no appropriation shall be made without having been considered and reported upon by this committee. The committee shall be authorized to determine and identify the surplus funds of the Grand Council. In addition, the committee shall be authorized to move said surplus funds that are available to the Investment Committee for placement in appropriate investments and securities.

The fiscal year of the Grand Council shall end May 31st of each year. (Amended 5/15/03, 6/12/21, ??/??/??)

In addition, in the event of the death or disability of either the Grand Treasurer or Grand Recorder, the Finance and Accounts Committee together with the concurrence of the Grand Master shall have the authority to remove all ledgers and financial records and shall retain a qualified Examiner not previously involved who shall perform a complete examination of such records. These actions shall be conducted with expediency so as not to interfere with operations of the office. (Added 5/2/97, June 12, 2021)

**Grand Council Contracts.** The execution of any contract by any officer or representative of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of Missouri with a duration of more than one (1) year or more or any contract obligating the Grand Council to expend one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) in the aggregate, shall require the written approval by a majority of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Principal Conductor of the Work, Grand Captain of the Guard and Grand Recorder. (Added 5/13/15, 7/8/18)

#### Statement of purpose

There is currently no stipulation of who determines what surplus funds are. The goal of this legislation is to enable the Committee on Finance and Accounts to utilize their in-depth knowledge of current budget and funding needs of the Grand Council, and transfer any surplus funds to the Investment Committee for proper placement. This also corrects the spelling of the word "contract."

Fraternally submitted,  
Terry D. Coppotelli, PM, Bellefontaine Council No. 25  
Donald MacCormick, PM, Kansas City No. 45