

Minutes of East Bay Lodge #264

Regular Communication of May 12, 2026

At the Regular/Special Communication of East Bay Masonic Lodge #264, Free and Accepted Masons, held on the above date, those Present

Officers

Anthony Lake, PM – Worshipful Master
Guy Tysick – Senior Warden
~~Logan Suttman – Junior Warden~~
~~Max Anderson, PM – Treasurer~~
Jeffery (Hawk) Hawkins - Secretary
James Gaskin, PM – Senior Deacon
~~Ed Storch, PM – Junior Deacon~~

Tracy Mariage, PM – Chaplain
Dean Reid - Tiler
Larry Albert – Senior Steward
~~Taylor Ellenberger – Junior Steward~~
~~Guy Hissong, PM – Marshall, Education Officer~~
William Weiss – Musician

Lodge was opened under the Entered Apprentice degree in Due Form by Worshipful Master at 7:10 PM

Members, Officers, and Visitors Present: 19

Recognition of Life Members, Past Masters, and Visiting Brethren:

- Life Members; Skip Lake, PM, Tracy Mariage, PM, William Weiss
- Past Masters; Anthony Lake, James Gaskin, Brandon Darin, Burt Stambaugh, Tim Tilley
- Visitors:
 - Jez Alindayu

Sick and Distressed:

- Victor Hernandez underwent back surgery and is recovering at home.
- WB Tim Tilley reported that the Bellaire Lodge Secretary is in Munson Hospital
- SD James Gaskin, PM, stated that his wife is scheduled for cataract surgery
- Tiler Dean Read spoke about his wife's surgery – and, while there is an infection, this is being managed
- Ed Storch continues to aid his struggling mother

Reading of the Minutes of: April 14, 2026

Motion by: SD James Gaskin, PM, and seconded by Steward Larry Albert to accept the minutes as submitted. There being no discussion on the motion or corrections to the minutes, this motion was passed.

Communications:

- Communications from Grand Lodge were conveyed to the Lodge. These included:
 - Master Mason Degree to be conducted by the Oklahoma Indian Degree Team on 5/17.
 - 200th Anniversary of the GL of Michigan events
 - Fellowcraft at the Fort on 8/1
 - GL Announcement of MWB Leonard Davis as Director of Corporate Operations
 - Child ID program materials are available to Lodges that wish to participate

(Communications, continued)

- Veritas in Traverse City has invited our Lodge to sponsor a Blood Drive if interested
- Secretary has sent out the following communications
 - Thank you to Floor Covering Brokers for the vinyl flooring use as kitchen shelf lining
 - Thank you to a local couple, the Costa's, for a \$100 donation to the Lodge
 - Final delinquency notices were sent to those Brethren who still have not paid dues

Treasurer's Report: See Attached

Motion by Secretary Hawkins, seconded by SD James Gaskin, PM, to approve the Treasurer's report as submitted. There being no discussion on the motion, it was passed

Presentation of Bills

- Secretary Honorarium: \$100
- SD James Gaskin: \$64 for Spaghetti Dinner supplies

Motion to pay the Bills by: WB Brandon Darin, seconded by Chaplain, Tracy Mariage, PM, to pay the bills as listed. There being no discussion on the motion, it was passed

Reading and Referral of Petitions: None

Reports of Investigation Committee:

- WB Brandon Darin and Bro. David Lock offered a report on behalf of the committee investigating Jez Alindayu. They gave a very favorable report.

Balloting of Petitions

- Transfer Petition for Jez Alindayu: Petition was unanimously approved.

Reports of Standing and Special Committees:

- Masonic Home and Affairs Committee: No Report
- Sick and Distressed/Visitation: No Report
- Auditing Committee: No Report
- Committee on Delinquent Dues: No Report
- Investment Committee: No Report
 - It was noted that according to the current Bylaws the committee is to meet quarterly and report back to the Lodge with any recommended changes. WM Anthony Lake, PM will convene the committee.
- Almoners Committee:
 - WM Anthony Lake appointed Secretary Hawkins to serve as Treasurer of the Almoner's Fund. Secretary Hawkins will follow up with the Treasurer to gain access to the Almoner's Fund Checking Account and obtain the ledger and any cash-on-hand from WM Anthony Lake
- Dues Committee: No Report
- Charity Committee: No Report
- Temple Board:
 - Temple Board Treasurer, WB Brandon Darin, PM stated that the account balance is currently \$326, and that the electric bill is running about \$200/month. He requested a transfer of \$1,000 to cover bills through the summer.
 - Motion by Secretary Hawkins, seconded by SD James Gaskin, PM, to transfer \$1,000 from Lodge Checking to Temple checking
 - Discussion ensued about the likely need for additional funds for any summer taxes and/or other needs besides covering the minimum for bills.
 - Motion by Chaplain Tracy Mariage and supported by Secretary Hawkins to amend the previous motion and increase the amount to be transferred

from Lodge checking to Temple checking to a total of \$2,000. There being no further discussion, the amended motion passed.

Old Business:

- Lodge Clean-up and Adopt-A-Highway
 - The Lodge Clean-up was completed by WB Brandon Darin, PM, Steward Larry Albert, and Bro. David Lock
 - The Adopt-A-Highway is rescheduled for Wednesday, May 13 at 5:30 PM.
- Spaghetti Dinner
 - SD James Gaskin, PM reported that he is coordinating the Health Inspection. The fee for this is \$130. He offered to pay this out-of-pocket but requested reimbursement as soon as possible.
 - Motion by WB Brandon Darin, PM, and seconded by WB Timothy Tilley to reimburse SD James Gaskin, PM in the amount of \$130.00 for the inspection. There being no further discussion on the motion, it passed unanimously.
 - Secretary Hawkins noted a need for petty cash at the door.
 - Motion by Secretary Hawkins and seconded by WB Brandon Darin, PM, to obtain \$500 cash from the Almoner's fund for petty cash and to reimburse the Almoner's Fund as quickly as possible after the event. There being no further discussion on the motion, it was passed unanimously.
 - Secretary Hawkins inquired about raffle tickets, and SD James Gaskin, PM reported there was a roll of suitable raffle tickets in the kitchen.
 - Chaplain Tracy Mariage, PM, reported that we currently have very few door prizes, which is a significant draw for attendees. He requested that each Brother obtain at least one door prize and bring these to the Lodge. He reported that he's never been refused when asking for a donated raffle prize. SD James Gaskin, PM, informed the Lodge that Secretary Hawkins has letters authorizing Brothers to seek donations if needed.
- Replacement of Lesser Lights with candles:
 - WB Skip Lake, PM, stated that due to the age of the building and the potential for fire, as well as the clean-up needed for wax candles, that he was not in support of such a change. This sentiment was echoed by several Brethren.
 - Secretary Hawkins introduced a motion to not switch to candles but to keep using our electronic Lesser Lights. This motion was seconded by WB Skip Lake.
 - Discussion focused on different types of light bulbs, and that the Temple Board could research and obtain alternate electric bulbs if desired. There being no further discussion or amendments to the original motion, it passed unanimously.
- Fellowcraft Degrees:
 - Practice will be held on Tuesday, May 19th.
 - Degree will be held on Tuesday, May 26th.
 - Both events will begin at 6:30 PM, with light refreshments provided at 5:30 PM before the degree on the 26th.
- Chair Lift
 - Guy Hissong is in possession of a Chair Lift.
 - WB Skip Lake, PM brought up a concern about the width of the stairway if a chair lift was installed, and that this may not meet fire safety or ADA standards
 - The issue of possible installation of a chair lift and concerns about insurance, fire safety, and ADA compliance was referred to the Temple Board as this is a physical infrastructure issue.

New Business

- Draping of the Altar and Charter:
 - WM Tony Lake read a communication from Grand Lodge of the passing of MWB Donald Carman.
 - The Deacons draped the altar and charter, and a prayer was said for the deceased and his family.
- Grand Lodge Annual Communication Amendments:
 - WM Anthony Lake, PM, after conferring with BGP Bert Stambaugh, PM, reported that most of the seven potential amendments were submitted out of order. He did read the one amendment 6-2026 regarding changes to ballot procedures, requiring an additional black ball/cube to reject a candidate. The resulting discussion concluded that this should not be adopted.
- Formation of a Bylaws Revision Committee:
 - WM Anthony Lake, PM, assigned WB Brandon Darin, PM, SD James Gaskin, PM, and Secretary Hawkins to this committee
- Consideration of Post Office Box relocation
 - Secretary Hawkins reported that he inquired about the cost of a PO Box at the Williamsburg Post Office, and the cost was \$60/year, and the current one in Acme is \$160/year. He will confirm these rates with both Post Office locations and report a definitive annual rate for each at the June Regular Communication
- Masonic Funeral Report
 - WM Anthony Lake, PM, gave a report of the funeral conducted in Kalkaska this past weekend. Several Brethren from our lodge participated and the family was grateful.
- Good of the Lodge
 - SD James Gaskin, PM, inquired about the GL Grant. WM Anthony Lake, PM, will follow up with MWB Guy Hissong.
 - WB Skip Lake expressed his gratitude to the officers of the Lodge for their memory work
- Upcoming Birthdays
 - John Klumpp (5/12)
 - WB Robert Meyer (5/22)
 - SD James Gaskin, PM (5/23)
 - Michael Sheffer (5/23)
 - Simon Ross (5/26)

Upcoming Dates

- May 13, Adopt-A-Highway road cleanup, meet at 5:30 at the Lodge
- May 16, Annual Spaghetti Dinner
- May 19, Fellowcraft Practice at 6:30 PM
- May 26, Fellowcraft Degrees at 6:30 PM
- June 27: TENTATIVE - HOLD THE DATE, Master Mason Degrees

There being no further business, this Lodge was closed in Due Form by Worshipful Master Anthony Lake at 8:25 PM

Worshipful Master, Anthony L. Lake, PM

Jeffery L. Hawkins, Secretary