

Minutes of East Bay Lodge #264

Regular Communication of June 9, 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
William Weiss, PM – Musician

Lodge was opened under the Fellowcraft Degree in Due Form by Worshipful Master at 7:12 PM

Members, Officers, and Visitors Present: 22

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

- Life Members; Skip Lake, PM, Tracy Mariage, PM, William Weiss
- Past Masters; Steven Wheelock, Anthony Lake, James Gaskin, Guy Hissong, Brandon Darin, Victor Hernandez, Tim Tilley, Tracy Mariage, Burt Stambaugh
- Visitors:
 - Jim Seamon, Sr., PM, Traverse City #222
 - Jim Seamon, Jr., PM, Traverse City #222

Sick and Distressed:

- JW Logan Suttman's wife's sister-in-law is having significant health issues
- MWB Guy Hissong reported that his brother-in-law is in hospice and not expected to live beyond two weeks
- WB Tim Tilley stated that the Bellaire Lodge Secretary, Guy, was in the hospital and subsequently rehab, but is now recovering at home. Guy's wife is also in rehab suffering from dementia
- SD James Gaskin, PM, reported that his wife is recovering from her second cataract surgery.

Reading of the Minutes of: May 12, 2026 (Regular Communication) and May 26th (Special Communication).

Motion by JW Logan Suttman and seconded by SD James Gaskin, PM, to accept the minutes as submitted. There being no discussion on the motion, it passed unanimously.

Communications:

- Passing of PGM Kenneth Bolton
- Grand Secretary's Annual Communication Recap
- Grand Master Michael Roberts' reception: Saturday, June 13th in Troy, Michigan

- 200th Anniversary of the GL of Michigan events
- Fellowcraft at the Fort on 8/1

Treasurer's Report: See Attached

Motion by Secretary Hawkins and seconded by MWB Guy Hissong to approve the Treasurer's report as submitted.

There being no discussion on the motion, it was passed unanimously

Presentation of Bills

- Secretary Honorarium: \$100
- JP Luther: Four Masonic Bibles: \$225.00
- Pending bill for fire extinguisher repair maintenance, amount yet unknown.

Motion to pay the Bills as submitted by: SW Logan Suttman and seconded by Chaplain Tracy Mariage, PM.

There being no discussion on the motion, it passed unanimously

Reading and Referral of Petitions: None

Reports of Investigation Committee: None

Balloting of Petitions: None

Reports of Standing and Special Committees:

- Almoner's Committee: (WM Anthony Lake, PM)
 - Secretary Hawkins gave a financial report of the Almoner's Fund, noting that all cash had been deposited into the Almoner's TBA Checking Account
 - Secretary Hawkins reported that the Almoner's Committee voted unanimously to offer \$30 to one member in need, and also to pay the remaining balance of annual Lodge dues for four members who are experiencing hardship.
 - Chaplain Tracy Mariage, PM spoke of a past practice of having the Almoner's Committee Treasurer keep at least \$500 cash in case of emergencies. Worshipful Master Anthony Lake reminded the Lodge that under the current Bylaws, the most we could offer a Brother in need was \$150, so there wasn't a need to hold more than that in cash. However, the Bylaws Revision Committee would take this matter up and make Bylaws revisions specific to the Almoner's Committee.
- Auditing Committee: (Brandon Darin, PM) No Report
- Charity Committee: (Tiler Dean Reid)
 - Tiler Dean Reid reported that a modest charitable donation was made to Prayer Friar.
- Committee on Delinquent Dues: (JW Logan Suttman)
 - The Committee has been given eight Form 52's to pursue this Summer.
- Dues Committee: (SD James Gaskin, PM) No Report
- Investment Committee: (Treasurer Max Anderson, PM) No Report
- Masonic Home and Affairs Committee: (SD James Gaskin, PM) No Report
- Sick and Distressed/Visitation: (WM Anthony Lake, PM) No Report
- Temple Board: (SW Guy Tysick)
 - The Temple Board feels they have sufficient funds to pay bills through the Summer.
 - SD James Gaskin reported on several projects in progress, including; the back room (old men's lavatory) in the upstairs hallway, several painting projects, sprucing up the sign on the South side of the building exterior and replacing two overgrown trees there. He also has obtained an estimate for air conditioning.

- There was a spirited discussion about air conditioning, and there was a motion by Secretary Hawkins, seconded by JW Logan Suttman, to direct the Temple Board to obtain a minimum of three competitive bids for an air conditioning solution for the Lodge.

Old Business:

- Spaghetti Dinner
 - Secretary Hawkins reported on the final financials of the Spaghetti dinner, noting that the net profit was a record for the Lodge.

	2025	2026	YOY
Income	\$2,838.00	\$2,257.75	-20%
Expenses	(\$915.00)	(\$87.96)	90%
Net Profit	\$1,923.00	\$2,169.79	13%

- Post Office Box Relocation
 - Secretary Hawkins reported that the Acme Post Office box rental is \$166/year, while the Williamsburg Post Office would only charge \$60/year. He also noted that the Williamsburg Post Office is in a more convenient location for several of the Lodge Officer. He made a motion that the Lodge apply for a Post Office Box at the Williamsburg Post Office as soon as possible, and to close the Acme Post Office box rental at the end of September, and to approve the purchase of a return address stamp for outgoing mail as soon as the new PO Box rental was secured. This motion was seconded by Skip Lake, PM. There being no discussion on the motion it passed unanimously. Secretary Hawkins noted that he would update Grand View and also send a note to Grand Lodge informing them of the mailing address change.
- Grand Lodge Building Grant (MWB Guy Hissong)
 - MWB Guy Hissong noted there had been no progress on the Grant information, and deferred to MWB Burt Stambaugh. MWB Stambaugh said that we should be able to apply via Grand View, and if that doesn't work to contact WB Darren Thompson at Grand Lodge.
- Fellowcraft Proficiency
 - The following Fellowcrafts gave their Proficiency; Zach Biehl, Timothy Byard, David Lock, and Elvis Thao
 - Chaplain Tracy Mariage, PM, acting in the Master's Chair, proclaimed these brothers Proficient.

New Business

- Suspension for Non-Payment of Dues
 - Secretary moved that the following Brothers are delinquent in their dues and shall be acted upon for Non-Payment at the September Regular Communication; Rolland Boller III, Hal Deal, Sam Fikes, Dan Griffith, Joseph Lake, Benjamin Marshall, Breck Martin, and Jack Savage. Secretary informed the Lodge that the Form 52's had been given to the Delinquent Dues Committee prior to this Regular Communication being convened.
- Master Mason Degrees
 - WM Anthony Lake, PM, announced that the Master Mason Degree will be conferred on Saturday, September 19th, with a breakfast at 9:00 AM and a gavel at 10:00 AM
- Possible RV Campground Dinner

- WM Anthony Lake, PM, reported that the residents of the RV Campground on M-72 East would like the Lodge to provide a Spaghetti Dinner specifically for them. They have cooking facilities on-site. He will follow up with them.
- Fire Extinguisher Report
 - SD James Gaskin, PM, reported on the fire extinguisher inspection, and that all extinguishers are compliant.
- Upstairs Men's Bathroom clean-out
 - SD James Gaskin, PM, reported that he is removing all the old Christmas decorations and will be working with Chaplain Tracy Mariage to assess the physical space for any needed repairs.
- Exterior Improvements
 - SD James Gaskin, PM, stated that he is working with others to repaint the signage on the South side of the building and removing/replacing the overgrown trees as well.
 - 60-Year award for Brother Patrick Collins. MWB mentioned that this could be incorporated in the Awards Dinner planned for September.
- Upcoming Birthdays
 - Patrick Collins (June 7)
 - Paul Kropf (June 8)
 - Elvis Thao (June 10)
 - David Sikkema (June 27)
 - Dan Griffith (June 29)
 - Steven P. Wheelock, PM (June 30)

Good of the Lodge

- WB Tim Tilley, PM, mentioned that the Village Market in Elk Rapids is willing to set up an account for the Lodge and offer discounted food and goods for future fundraisers.
- A discussion of the former Junior Warden's fund ensued, noting that the JW's fund account was closed with monies deposited into the Lodge Checking Account approximately a year ago.
- SD James Gaskin, PM, stood to recognize the elders of the Lodge and their contributions, as well as commending the newer, younger members as the "future of the Lodge."
- MWB Guy Hissong recognized Brother Timothy Byard for his exceptional customer service at our recent Spaghetti Dinner.
- WM Anthony Lake, PM, thanked WB Bill Weiss for playing the organ at Lodge Communications

Upcoming Events

- Bellaire Lodge; breakfast on the last Saturday of the month (6/27) and a Swiss Steak dinner on 6/28.
- Traverse City Lodge will be holding a candlelight memorial service for Dale Lighter on 6/28, members are asked to arrive by 12:30 PM. They are having a "Fun-raising" dinner on 6/29. They also will be opening their beachfront for the Cherry Festival air show on 7/4, with food and parking on-site available.

There being no further business, this Lodge was closed in Due Form by Worshipful Master Anthony Lake at 8:52 PM.

Worshipful Master, Anthony L. Lake, PM

Jeffery L. Hawkins, Secretary