

DOUGLAS MASONIC LODGE NO. 153 A.F.&A.M. LODGE BYLAWS

ARTICLE 1 (Name)

Section 1

The name of this Lodge shall be: Douglas Lodge No. 153, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons.

ARTICLE 2 (Communications)

Section 1

The Stated Communication of this Lodge shall be held on the first and third Thursdays in each month, in the Masonic Hall at Castle Rock, Colorado, at the hour of seven-thirty (7:30) P.M., provided that for the purpose of conferring degrees only, the Stated Communication may be held at an earlier hour set in each instance by the Worshipful Master, but in no event shall any business of the Lodge be conducted until the hour above stated: Provided further, that at the pleasure of the Worshipful Master any or all Stated Communications may be dispensed with during the months of July and August.

ARTICLE 3 (Officers)

Section 1

The Officers of this Lodge shall be Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, Secretary, Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon, Senior Steward, Junior Steward, Chaplain, Marshall and Tiler.

Section 2 – Election

The Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer and Secretary shall be elected annually by vote in accordance with the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Colorado Ancient Free and Accepted Masons.

Section 3 – Installation

Previous to installation, the Worshipful Master, after consulting with the Senior and Junior Wardens, shall appoint Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon, Senior Steward, Junior Steward, Chaplain, Marshal, Historian, and Tiler to serve for the ensuing year, provided the appointees, prior to appointment, shall assure the Worshipful Master, Senior Warden and Junior Warden of the certainty to become proficient in their work and of their intention to attend each Stated and Special Communication. The Officers shall be installed at a Stated or Special Communication prior to the ~~Twenty-seventh~~ Twentieth day of ~~December~~ January following their election or appointment.

ARTICLE 4 (Standing Committees)

Section 1

Standing Committees of this Lodge shall be a Committee on Charity, a Committee on Grievance, a Committee on Finance and a Building Committee The Douglas Masonic Temple Association, Incorporated representative.

Section 2

The Worshipful Master and the Wardens shall constitute the Committee on Charity and shall have the power to draw upon the Treasury for money for charitable purposes, but in no case shall the amount so drawn exceed the sum of One-hundred Dollars (\$100.00) per fiscal year, without first having submitted the matter to the Lodge. They shall report to the Lodge all warrants drawn, at the first Stated Communication thereafter.

Section 3

The Committee on Grievance shall be appointed by the Worshipful Master at the time of his installation, and shall consist of the Junior Warden as Chairman, and two other members to whom all matters of differences between Brothers shall be referred.

Section 4

The Committee on Finance shall consist of the Senior Warden as Chairman and two other members, who shall be appointed by the Worshipful Master at the time of his installation, to whom all accounts of the Lodge shall be referred, unless ordered paid at the time of presentation. They shall also examine the reports and books of the Secretary and Treasurer, which shall be at all times open to them, and report in writing the financial condition of the Lodge at the first Stated Communication in December, and at such other times as the Lodge may direct.

Section 5

The board of directors and officers of the Douglas Masonic Temple Association, Incorporated ("Association") shall consist of members of Douglas Lodge in good standing. The board Association shall be responsible for the proper upkeep and maintenance of all Lodge property. All titles, deeds, leases, use agreements, and necessary insurances will be held in the name of the Temple Association.

ARTICLE 5 (Order of Business)

Section 1

The following shall be the suggested order of business, unless altered at the discretion of The Worshipful Master or acting Worshipful Master:

- Introduction of Past Masters
- Introduction of Guests
- Sickness & Distress
- Reading and approving of previous Minutes
- Reading and allowance of Bills
- Treasurer's Report
- Presentation of Communications
- Presentation of Petitions
- Reports of Investigating Committees
- Reports of Standing Committees
- Reports of Special Committees
- Unfinished Business
- New Business
- Balloting

Clear Secretary's Desk
General Remarks
Closing

ARTICLE 6 (Fees)

Section 1

The fees for conferring of the degrees in this Lodge shall be One Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$150.00), to be paid as follows: For the Entered Apprentice Degree, Seventy-five Dollars (\$75.00), which must accompany petition for Degrees: For the Fellow Craft Degree, Fifty Dollars (\$50.00), and for the Master Mason Degree, Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00). The fees for the Fellow Craft and Master Mason Degrees must be paid prior to conferring of the Degree.

Section 2

A petition for membership by affiliation shall be accompanied by a demit, or a Certificate of Good Standing, from the Lodge from which the petitioner was last a member, together with a fee of **Twenty-Five** dollars (\$25.00).

ARTICLE 7 (Dues)

Section 1

Each member, unless excused by this article, or a vote of the Lodge, shall pay annually to the Secretary, on or before the first Stated Communication in January each year, the sum of Sixty-four Dollars (\$64.00), as dues plus the Grand Lodge Per Capita Dues. At the first Stated Communication in March of each year the Secretary shall report the names of all members one or more years in arrears for dues, and unless excused by a vote of the Lodge, as provided in Section 144 of the Book of Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Colorado, action shall be taken.

Section 2

Only when a member shall have attained the age of sixty-five years and paid annual dues to Douglas Lodge for twenty consecutive years by the date of 12-31-97, shall be eligible for exemption from further payment of Blue Lodge Dues for Douglas Lodge, but will be assessed Grand Lodge Per Capita Dues. He still may, if he so desires annually pay his Douglas Lodge Dues.

ARTICLE 8 (Duties of Officers)

Section 1

The Treasurer shall keep a correct account of the funds of the Lodge and render a statement of the receipts and payouts at the first Stated Communication in December and whenever required He shall pay out no Lodge Funds except on a written warrant signed by the Worshipful Master and the Secretary, or a written order from a majority of the Committee on Charity.

Section 2

The Secretary shall perform all the duties specified in his charge at installation. He shall issue summons, demits, certificates, and perform other acts pertaining to His office as directed by the Worshipful Master. He shall make an annual report to Douglas Lodge at the first Stated Communication in December, showing all receipts and disbursements to the Treasurer. He shall be eligible to receive for his services ten percent of all dues and fees.

Section 3

The Treasurer and Secretary shall **at the request of the lodge** give good and sufficient bonds for the faithful discharge of the duties of their offices, to be approved by the Worshipful Master and the Finance Committee. The bonding expense shall be paid by the Lodge.

Section 4

The Tiler shall perform all the duties prescribed in his charge at installation and shall serve all notices and hear all messages for the Lodge when directed.

ARTICLE 9 (General)

Section 1

Depositories for the funds and securities of the Lodge shall be approved each year at the first Stated Communication in December and a record thereof shall be kept in the minutes of the Lodge, provided that the securities, insurance policies and other valuable papers of the Lodge, shall be preserved by the Association.

Section 2 – Insurance

The money, securities, furniture, fixtures and equipment of the Lodge shall be insured for an amount to be determined by the Finance Committee and approved by the Lodge against loss by robbery, burglary or damage to the premises or attempted threat. Such policies will be held in the name of the Association.

Section 3

The Worshipful Master having faithfully performed the duties of his office upon retirement therefrom, shall receive a Past Masters Apron to be paid for by the Lodge. In addition, receive a gift to be chosen by himself, Junior Past Master, and Senior Warden; the expense to the Lodge for this token shall not exceed Fifty Dollars (\$50.00).

ARTICLE 10 (Amendments)

Section 1

These By-laws may be altered, amended or repealed in the following manner: The alteration, amendment or repeal shall be proposed in writing at a Stated Communication of the Lodge. The Secretary shall immediately notify all the members of the Lodge by written **to include electronic communication** or printed notice of such proposal and it shall lay over for thirty days. At the first Stated Communication following the thirty-day period, if it shall be adopted by a two-thirds vote of the members of the Lodge present, it shall become operative and a part of these By-laws when approved by the Most Worshipful Grand Master.

Lodge History

A dispensation was issued on May 5, 1919 to form a lodge at Sedalia, Colorado. This dispensation was granted by MW Brother Clarence M. Kellogg. The Lodge was known as Sedalia Lodge U.D. The Lodge held 12 regular communications before the next Grand Lodge session and was congratulated by the Committee on Returns and Work for the neat and careful

keeping of records.

The Charter was granted October 8, 1919 under the name of Douglas Lodge #153 with 32 charter members.

Constitution of the Lodge was held October 20, 1919 with MW Brother Frank L. Bishop officiating. March 30, 1937, Brother LOUIS R. HIGBY purchased the present Lodge building on the corner of 3rd and Wilcox in Castle Rock as a trustee of Douglas Lodge.

The building was built in 1904 for the First National Bank of Douglas County which occupied the building for 29 years. During the depression in 1933, the bank closed and the building stood vacant until the Lodge purchase in 1937.

Lodge Bylaws approved as amended on June 2, 2011

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