



MERGE OR DEMISE



CONSOLIDATION



CONSOLIDATION

- * SPELLED OUT STEP BY STEP
- * CHAPTER 8 – TITLE II
- * GRAND LODGE CONSTITUTION & LAWS



- * THE CONSOLIDATION OF ONE LODGE TO ANOTHER IS A POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVE TO DEMISING AND TURNING IN A CHARTER.
- * HOWEVER, IT SHOULD BE APPROACHED WITH CLEAR MINDS AND A GREAT DEAL OF CAUTION.



* NOT UNDERSTANDING AND FOLLOWING PROPER PROCEDURES CAN CREATE BAD FEELINGS AND DELAY OR STOP THE PROCESS OF SAVING A LODGE THROUGH CONSOLIDATION.



- * WHEN CONSIDERING CONSOLIDATION, KEEP IN MIND THAT IT CAN CAUSE EXTREME AND SOMETIMES UNREASONABLE EMOTIONS.
- * THE TIME ELAPSED BETWEEN MAKING THE DECISION, AND ACTUALLY IMPLEMENTING IT, COULD BE MONTHS OR EVEN YEARS.
- * PATIENCE, PREPARATION, AND UNDERSTANDING ARE ALL KEY TO A SUCCESSFUL CONSOLIDATION.



STEPS FOR CONSOLIDATION

- * A MAJORITY OF MEMBERS OF LODGE (A) MUST SIGN A WRITTEN DECLARATION AND PRESENT IT TO THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER AT A STATED MEETING AND ENTERED INTO THE MINUTES OF LODGE (A)
- * A DECLARATION MUST CONTAIN THE NAME OF THE LODGE (B) YOU ARE WISHING TO CONSOLIDATE, AND (MUST HAVE CONCURRENT OR ADJOINING JURISDICTION)



STEPS FOR CONSOLIDATION

- * THE DECLARATION MUST BE READ AT THREE CONSECUTIVE STATED MEETINGS OF LODGE (A) BEFORE VOTING
- * WHEN THE VOTE IS TAKEN IT MUST BE A 2/3 OF THOSE MEMBERS PRESENT OF LODGE (A) IN FAVOR TO PASS



STEPS FOR CONSOLIDATION

IF THE CONSOLIDATION VOTE PASSES, THE SECRETARY OF LODGE (A) SHALL IMMEDIATELY SEND TO LODGE (B):

- * THE ORIGINAL DECLARATION AND A CERTIFIED COPY OF THE PROCEEDINGS IN HIS LODGE (A)
- * AN INVOICE OF ALL PROPERTY AND EFFECTS
- * A LIST OF ALL MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING
- * ALL MEMBERS WHO ARE IN ARREARS OF DUES AND AMOUNT DUE
- * ALL ENTERED APPRENTICE AND FELLOWCRAFT MASONS AND THE DATES INITIATED OR PASSED



STEPS FOR CONSOLIDATION

- * UPON RECEIPT OF PAPERS BY THE PETITIONED LODGE (B) ALL INFORMATION WILL BE READ AT THE NEXT STATED MEETING AND ENTERED INTO THE MINUTES
- * A VOTE ON PETITION BY LODGE (A) WILL BE TAKEN BY LODGE (B) AT A FIXED DATE SET BY THE LODGE (B) AFTER THE FIRST READING AND HAS TO LAY OVER AT LEAST TO THE SECOND STATED MEETING AFTER READ
- * IF LODGE (B) DESIRES BY A MAJORITY VOTE THE DATE OF THE VOTE ON THE PETITION CAN BE FIXED AT A LATER DATE



STEPS FOR CONSOLIDATION

- * WHEN THE VOTE IS TAKEN BY BALLOT A 2/3 VOTE IS NEEDED TO ACCEPT THE PETITION FOR CONSOLIDATION BY LODGE (B)
- * CERTIFIED COPIES OF ALL MINUTES OF BOTH LODGES INVOLVED SHALL TO BE SENT TO THE GRAND MASTER FOR APPROVAL
- * WITH THE GRAND MASTER'S APPROVAL THE LODGES DESIRING CONSOLIDATION SHALL BE DEEMED AND HELD TO BE ONE LODGE (B) EXISTING UNDER THE CHARTER AND GOVERNED BY THE BY-LAWS OF THE LODGE PETITIONED LODGE (B)
- * BOOKS AND RECORDS OF FORMER LODGE SHALL BE DELIVERED TO THE LATTER LODGE FOR SAFE KEEPING AND PRESERVATION.
- * CHARTER AND SEAL OF LODGE (A) SENT TO THE GRAND SECRETARY



DEMISE

DEMISED LODGES

- * THE TERM DEMISED SHALL APPLY TO LODGES WHOSE CHARTERS HAVE BEEN REVOKED BY FINAL ACTION OF THE GRAND LODGE
- * WHEN A LODGE IS SUSPENDED OR ITS CHARTER ARRESTED BY THE GRAND MASTER OR A LODGE CEASES TO FUNCTION AS REQUIRED BY THE LAWS OF THE GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS
- * MEMBERS OF SAID LODGE ARE CONSIDERED NONAFFILIATED MASONS EXCEPT THOSE WHO ARE PLURAL MEMBERS OF OTHER LODGES.
- * MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING AT THE TIME OF THE DEMISE MUST OBTAIN FROM THE GRAND SECRETARY A CERTIFICATE OF GOOD STANDING TO APPLY FOR AFFILIATION IN ANOTHER LODGE OR IF A PLURAL MEMBER SHALL OBTAIN A CERTIFICATE OF DISMISSAL FROM THE DEMISED LODGE AS AN UNAFFILIATED MASON



DEMISE

ACTION BY MEMBERS

- * A PROPOSITION IS MADE AT A STATED MEETING OF A LODGE TO RETURN ITS CHARTER TO THIS GRAND LODGE.
- * THE MEMBERS SHALL BE NOTIFIED OF SUCH PROPOSITION IN WRITING AND SUMMONED TO ATTEND THE NEXT STATED MEETING.
- * IF A MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS THEN PRESENT VOTE FOR THE PROPOSITION THE VOTE SHALL BE ENTERED OF RECORD AND THE PROPOSITION LIE OVER UNTIL THE NEXT STATED MEETING.
- * IF, AT SUCH MEETING, TWO-THIRDS OF THE MEMBERS PRESENT VOTE FOR THE PROPOSITION, A BRIEF STATEMENT OF THE REASONS THEREFORE SHALL BE ENTERED IN THE MINUTES; AND THE LODGE SHALL CEASE ITS LABORS.



DEMISE

PROPERTY OF THE DEMISED LODGE

- * DURING THE RECESS OF THE GRAND LODGE, UPON WRITTEN RECOMMENDATION OF THE GRAND TREASURER AND THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, THE GRAND MASTER SHALL HAVE AUTHORITY TO SELL ANY PROPERTY, REAL OR PERSONAL, THAT HAS REVERTED TO THIS GRAND LODGE BY THE DEMISE OF A SUBORDINATE LODGE AND PROMPTLY TURN OVER TO THE GRAND TREASURER THE PROCEEDS.