

P7436

Constitution and By-Laws

OF THE

Benevolent and Protective
Order of Elks

Reunion Association of
West Virginia



OFFICERS

- Chas. C. Schmidt.....President
Wheeling No. 28
- D. O. Baldwin.....First Vice-President
Bluefield No. 269
- Lynn Kirtland.....Second Vice-President
Sistersville No. 333
- R. T. Cunningham.....Third Vice-President
Fairmont No. 294
- Jay Reefer.....Secretary
Clarksburg No. 482
- Harry L. Biddle.....Treasurer
Parkersburg No. 198
- Dr. O. W. Burdats.....Chaplain
Wheeling No. 28
- Percival L. Dye.....Inner Guard
Elkins No. 1135
- A. A. Crawford.....Sergeant-at-Arms
Clarksburg No. 482

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West Virginia

1910/1911

Adopted May 26th, 1909.

First Meeting and Organization

OF THE

Benevolent and Protective
Order of Elks

Reunion Association of West
Virginia.

On the 26th day of May, 1909, a meeting was held at the Traders Grand Opera House, Clarksburg, West Virginia, pursuant to a call sent out by Clarksburg Lodge No. 482, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, to organize this Association.

The meeting was called to order by Bro. S. R. Bentley, of Clarksburg No. 482, who called to the chair Bro. John W. Davis, of Clarksburg No. 482, as temporary Chairman, and Bro. Will H. Cole, of Clarksburg No. 482, as temporary Secretary. Upon motion, duly adopted, the temporary organization was made permanent.

Upon motion of Bro. Scherr, of Charleston No. 202, duly adopted, the Chairman appointed the following committees:

Order of Business—Bro. Sherr, Charleston No. 202; Bro. Black, Fairmont No. 294; Bro. McEldowney, Sistersville, No. 333.

Credentials—Bro. Leonard, Parkersburg, No. 198; Bro. McCue, Bluefield, No. 269; Bro. Reefer, Clarksburg, No. 482.

State Organization—Bro. Bentley, Clarksburg, No. 482; Bro. McGregor, Parkersburg, No. 198; Bro. Harrison, Wheeling, No. 28.

The following report of the Committee on Order of Business, was read and adopted:

1. Adoption of By-Laws and Constitution.
2. Election of Officers of the Association.
3. Place of holding next meeting.

The Committee on Credentials offered the following, and upon motion, carried, same was adopted

“We, the Committee on Credentials, report the following Lodges represented in this Association and entitled to the number of votes following their names, based upon their membership, one vote for every fifty members, or major portion of same:

Wheeling No. 28	12 votes
Parkersburg No. 198	11 votes
Charleston No. 202	6 votes
Bluefield No. 269	14 votes
Fairmont No. 294	4 votes
Mannington No. 388	4 votes
Morgantown No. 411	4 votes
* Moundsville No. 282	
Sistersville No. 333	6 votes
* Huntington No. 313	
Hinton No. 821	8 votes
Clarksburg No. 482	9 votes
Martinsburg No. 778	4 votes
Grafton No. 308	4 votes
Elkins No. 1135	2 votes

* Lodges not represented.

The following report of the Committee on Organization was presented, and upon motion carried, same was adopted:

"Your Committee, to whom was referred the matter of drafting a basis for forming a State Organization of the Lodges of the B. P. O. Elks of West Virginia, would suggest:

"That the Organization should declare first of all its fealty to the Grand Lodge; which is recognized as the source of all authority in this Order; that the idea should be conveyed that this Association is solely for the purpose of bringing together at least once each year, with a view to closer fellowship, and to the upbuilding of this beneficial order by a more thorough dissemination of the principles thereof, with a view to more closely cementing the ties of friendship and fraternal love; and to provide a means for greater sociability among the members and their families.

"Your Committee beg leave to recommend: (Here the By-Laws and Constitution as prepared was read in full by Bro. McGregor, Parkersburg No. 198, and unanimously adopted; and said By-Laws and Constitution as herein printed, are a part of these proceedings.)

Under the head of 'Election of Officers' the following were elected to serve the ensuing year:

President—Charles C. Schmidt, of Wheeling No. 28.

First Vice-President—D. O. Baldwin, of Bluefield No. 269.

Second Vice-President—Lynn Kirtland, of Sistersville No. 333.

Third Vice-President—R. T. Cunningham, of Fairmont No. 294.

Secretary—Jay Reefer, of Clarksburg No. 482.

Treasurer—Harry L. Biddle, of Parkersburg No. 198.

Upon motion of Bro. Anderson, Charleston No. 202; seconded by Bro. Baldwin, Bluefield No. 269, carried, Charleston was selected as the next place of meeting.

Upon motion of Bro. McEldowney, of Sistersville No. 333, carried, the Secretary was instructed to make call of ten cents per capita tax from each Lodge, said tax to be based on membership of the various Lodges, as reported to Grand Secretary, March 31, 1909.

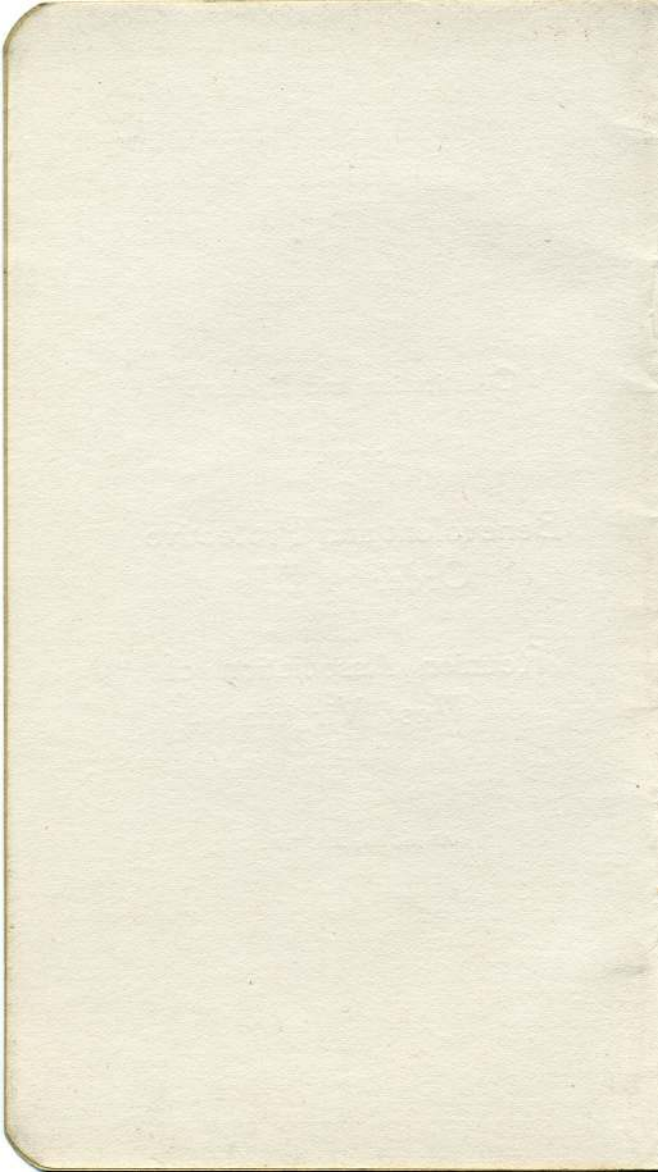
No further business, a motion to adjourn carried.

WILL H. COLE,
Secretary.

JOHN W. DAVIS,
Chairman.

PREAMBLE.

The purpose and object of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks Reunion Association of West Virginia is and shall be to unite all Elks of West Virginia in closer bonds of fraternity, to promote the interests of the Order throughout the State, and to discourage all things tending to injure the progress of the Order of Elks, by assisting in carrying out and enforcing the Constitution, By-Laws and orders of the Grand Lodge and its officers.



CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS.

ARTICLE I.

NAME.

Section 1. This Association shall be known as the B. P. O. Elks Reunion Association of West Virginia.

ARTICLE II

MEMBERSHIP.

Section 1. Every Lodge in the state of West Virginia, shall be eligible to membership upon compliance with the provisions of the Constitution and Laws hereinafter expressed.

Section 2. Each Lodge in the State having complied with Sec. 1, of this Article shall be entitled to representation at all meetings whether regular or special, as follows:

One delegate and one alternate for each fifty of its members in good standing, or major portion thereof, in whom shall be vested the right and authority to participate in and vote upon the business that may come before the Association; also the Past Presidents of this Associaton, and all Grand Lodge members affiliated with the subordinate Lodges of West Virginia.

Section 3. The delegates and alternates shall be elected at the last regular meeting of each Lodge in the month of March of each year.

Section 4. TO OBTAIN THE REVENUES NECESSARY FOR DEFRAYING THE EXPENSES OF THIS ASSOCIATION, EACH LODGE SHALL CONTRIBUTE AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO TEN CENTS FOR EACH MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING ACCORDING TO ITS LAST REPORT TO THE GRAND LODGE.

Section 5. On or before the last meeting in March of each year, the various Lodges in the State desiring to become members of the Association, shall remit such amount to the Secretary of the Association.

ARTICLE III.

OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION AND DUTIES OF THE SAME.

Section 1. The officers of the Association shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Second Vice-President, a Third Vice-President, a Secretary and a Treasurer. All of said officers shall be elected annually by ballot on the.....day of the meeting, but they shall not assume the duties of their respective offices until the session is ready to adjourn. The last order of business at each annual meeting shall be the induction into office of the officers elected at said meeting.

Section 2. The President, shall appoint annually, an Executive Committee, consisting of five members, a Chaplain, an Inner Guard, a Sergeant-at-Arms, and, at the discretion of the President, District Presidents.

(a) The President shall be the chief executive officer of the Association. He shall preside at all meetings, preserve order, appoint all committees not otherwise provided for, decide all questions of order subject to the appeal to the Association, fill all vacancies in office occurring while the Association is not in session, and perform all other duties that may be imposed upon him, and such as are customary to be performed by the presiding officer of similar organizations. During his absence the Vice-President highest in rank present at the session shall preside. And in case of vacancy in the office of President, the First Vice-President shall succeed to the office. The Second and Third Vice-Presidents, shall, in like manner, succeed to the offices of First and Second Vice-Presidents, respectively. The office of Third Vice-President shall be filled as hereinbefore provided for the filling of vacancies in office.

(b) The Secretary shall attend all meetings of the Association, keep a true record of the proceedings of the same, preserve all books and documents, attend to all correspondence, prepare and submit an annual report to the Association showing the condition of the Order in the State, so far as he is able to ascertain, receive all money paid into the Association, turning the same over to the Treasurer, taking a receipt thereof, and perform such other duties as may be properly required of him.

(c) The Treasurer shall attend all meetings of the Association, receive and be the custodian of all money and other property belonging to the Association, pay out money on the order of the President and Secretary, and render a correct account of the same to the Association at each annual meeting.

(d) The Secretary and Treasurer of the Association, before assuming their respective offices, shall duly execute and deliver their joint bonds, conditioned upon the faithful performance of their duties as such officers, in the sum of one thousand dollars each, with corporate surety for the use of this Association, the cost of such bonds to be paid by the Association.

(e) The Sergeant-at-Arms shall execute the orders of the President, assist in preserving order, act as Marshal on public occasions, and in any case of a secret session, shall, with such assistants as he may select, examine all present as to their qualifications to remain.

(f) The Executive Committee with the President, Secretary and Treasurer of the Association, who shall be ex-officio members of said committee during vacation shall take general charge and direction of affairs of the Association and perform such duties as are necessary to protect its interests and promote the objects of this organization. It shall have control of the finances of the Association, and set apart the same to the payment of such demands as are properly chargeable to it. Said Committee shall at each annual meeting submit to the Association a report in writing of its acts since the last annual meeting. The President shall be Chairman ex-officio of the Executive Committee. During the interim between the meetings of the Association, two members of the Executive Committee, together with the President, Secretary and Treasurer of the Association shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business by such Committee.

(g) The District President shall be a representative of the President in his lodge,

and shall from time to time report to the President such information as may come to his notice of interest to the Order in general, and shall personally use and exert his influence to bring into closer relations of good fellowship the members of the Order.

Section 3. The Association may provide for the appointment of such standing committees and other officers as may from time to time be deemed advisable. The President shall appoint annually a Committee on Law, an Auditing Committee, a Distribution and Ritual Committee, and a Committee on credentials, consisting of three members each. The duties of these committees shall be such as pertain to the work of such committees.

Section 4. The Secretary shall receive a salary of fifty dollars per annum. The President, Treasurer and Members of the Executive Committee shall be paid their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performances of their duties.

ARTICLE IV.

MEETINGS.

Section 1. Annual meetings shall be held by this Association. The place of such meeting of the Association shall be determined by the Association in convention assembled. The date of same to be fixed by the Executive Committee. Special meetings, may be called by the President of the Association, when deemed necessary by a majority of the Executive Committee, upon thirty days' notice to the Subordinate Lodges, the Secretary of each Lodge being requested to read such notice at a regular meeting of the Lodge for the information of the members.

If from any cause the city selected by the Convention is unable to entertain the Association after such selection, authority is hereby vested in the President and Executive Committee to select another place.

QUORUM.

Section 2. Fifteen duly accredited delegates shall constitute a quorum, provided that at least a majority of the Lodges shall be represented.

The regular meetings of this Association shall be held annually on the, in the month of....., at such place as may be designated by the vote of the Association at its annual meeting.

RULES OF ORDER

Section 3. The Association while in session shall be governed by rules of the order adopted from time to time by the Grand Lodge in so far as they can be made applicable. The order of business shall be as follows, unless changed or temporarily suspended by a vote of the Association:

1. Call to order.
2. Invocation.
3. Roll call of officers.
4. Report of Committee on Credentials.
5. Reading minutes of last meeting.
6. Report of officers.
7. Report of Committees.
8. Unfinished business.
9. New business.
10. Good of the Order.
11. Election of Officers.
12. Selection of location of next annual reunion.

13. Induction of Officers.

14. Adjournment.

Section 4. All Past Presidents of the Association and Grand Lodge Members, in good standing in their respective Lodges shall be life members of this Association.

Section 5. In all cases where subjects are not covered by this Constitution, the Grand Lodge Laws shall govern.

Section 6. All amendments to the Constitution shall be presented in writing at the annual meeting, when the same shall be considered under the head of new business, and it shall require a two-thirds majority of the members to amend this Constitution.

ARTICLE V

This Constitution and By-Laws shall take effect and be in force from and after its adoption by the Association at its meeting at Clarksburg, May 26th., 1909.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

C. M. Seibert.....	Martinsburg, No. 778
Dr. T. O. Flannagan... ..	Hinton, No. 821
S. B. Harrison.....	Wheeling, No. 28
Herschel Rose.....	Mannington, No. 388
Will H. Cole.....	Clarksburg, No. 482

COMMITTEE ON LAWS

Jno. L. Hatfield.....	Morgantown, No. 411
F. H. McGregor.....	Parkersburg, No. 198
B. F. Bailey.....	Grafton, No. 308

CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE

Daniel Leonard.....	Parkersburg, No. 198
Harry McEldowney.....	Sistersville, No. 333
A. E. Scherr.....	Charleston, No. 202

DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

A. G. Martin.....	Fairmont, No. 294
T. S. Riggs.....	Moundsville, No. 282
Wm. Seiber.....	Huntington, No. 313

AUDITING COMMITTEE

J. D. McGue.....	Bluefield, No. 269
Daniel Matthews.....	Charleston, No. 202
Robert Burt.....	Mannington, No. 388

