

1 **AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

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3 **Resolution #1 - Dairy Transparency Bill 2016**
4 **Berks County Pomona Grange #43**
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6 **WHEREAS**, a Dairy Transparency Bill has passed the House and has moved to the Senate Agriculture
7 & Rural Affairs Committee, and
8 **WHEREAS**, the bill concerns the farmer fair share of the over order premiums, and
9 **WHEREAS**, over order premiums are in place to help dairy farmers, especially when milk prices are
10 low, therefore be it
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12 **RESOLVED**, that the Pennsylvania General Assembly be asked to vote on the Dairy Transparency
13 bill.
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	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		X			
DELEGATES		X			

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19 **Resolution #2 – Coyotes Policy 2016**
20 **Watson Grange #1068, Warren County**
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22 **WHEREAS**, currently the PA State Grange policy supports the eradication of coyotes within the state
23 of Pennsylvania, and
24 **WHEREAS**, coyotes are an integral part of the ecological food web, and
25 **WHEREAS**, their eradication would have adverse effects on all other organisms within the food web.
26 Therefore, be it
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28 **RESOLVED**, that the Pennsylvania State Grange change their current policy to state “The Grange
29 encourages the PA Department of Agriculture, the PA Game Commission and USDA/APHIS Wildlife
30 Services to manage coyotes and other predator, pests, nuisance and vector species.”
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	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		X			
DELEGATES		X			

1 **Resolution #3 – Game Commission License Increase 2016**
2 **Bradford-Sullivan Grange #23**

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4 **WHEREAS**, we are aware that the PA Game Commission receives monetary compensation from gas
5 leases and timber sales and
6 **WHEREAS**, the PA Game Commission should learn to live within its means, and
7 **WHEREAS**, they (natural gas companies and timber interests) only pay a fraction of what the normal
8 landowner pays in real estate taxes. Therefore, be it

9
10 **RESOLVED**, that the PA Game Commission should not get a hunting license increase any time in the
11 near future.

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	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE	X				
DELEGATES			X		

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17 **Resolution #4 –Water Resources Act 2016**
18 **Plumsteadville Grange #1738, Bucks County**

20 **WHEREAS** ,the Pennsylvania State Constitution (Article 1, 27 titled NATURAL RESOURCES AND
21 THE PUBLIC ESTATE) states: “The people have a right to clean air, pure water, and to the
22 preservation of the natural, scenic, historic and esthetic values of the environment. Pennsylvania’s
23 natural resources are the common property of all the people, including generations yet to come. As
24 trustees of these resources, the Commonwealth shall conserve and maintain them for the benefit of all
25 the people.” (May 18, 1971, PL 769, JR 3) Source: Article 1, Section 27, Pennsylvania Constitution,
26 and

27 **WHEREAS**, Legislation (HB 2114 in 2015-16 legislative session) has been proposed in the PA House
28 to address excessive water usage in the State and impose withdrawal fees on non-commercial and non-
29 agricultural entities, and

30 **WHEREAS**, surveys received by Grange members raise concerns that proposed withdrawal fees may
31 be extended to apply to homeowners’ and farmers’ private wells. Therefore, be it

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33 **RESOLVED**, that the PA State Grange support legislation to ensure fair, equitable water usage among
34 citizens, agriculture and industry, and be it further

35 **RESOLVED**, the PA State Grange support legislation to ensure that industry pays its fair share in
36 ensuring the continuing quality of the Commonwealth’s water supply, through compliance with clean
37 water regulations and payment of taxes and fees. And, be it further

1 **RESOLVED** that the PA State Grange oppose action that would impose water fees on agricultural
2 water use and household wells.

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	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		X			
DELEGATES		X			

5 **Resolution #5 - Oppose Waters of the United States (WOTUS) New Rule**
6 **National Grange 2016**

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8 **WHEREAS**, the EPA and the Corps of Engineers (Corps) have drafted their ‘Final Guidance’ on
9 identifying Waters protected by the Clean Water Act and want to make it law, and

10 **WHEREAS**, the Final Guidance in effect eliminates the term ‘navigable’ from the Clean Water Act
11 and improperly increases the scope of Federal jurisdiction under the Act, and

12 **WHEREAS**, the Final Guidance also ignores the fundamental premise in the Clean Water Act that
13 there are waters subject to the exclusive regulatory jurisdiction of the states. The Final Regulation is
14 overly broad and expands Federal jurisdiction well beyond the intent of Congress and the limitations
15 recognized in recent Supreme Court decisions, and

16 **WHEREAS**, it would be a burden both financially and related to time resources to farmers, to be
17 required to submit a permit during the planting/growing season in order to use irrigation ponds,
18 ditches, etc., and

19 **WHEREAS**, costs to regulated entities and governments are likely to increase. Direct and indirect
20 costs would result from additional permit application expenses (for Clean Water Act Section 404
21 permitting storm water permitting for construction and development activities and confined animal
22 feeding operations (CAFOs) for discharges to waters that would now be determined jurisdictional.) and
23 additional requirements for oil storage and production facilities needing to develop and implement spill
24 prevention, control and countermeasure (SPCC) plans. Federal and state governments would likely
25 experience costs to administer and process additional permits. Other costs would likely include
26 compensatory mitigation requirements for permit impacts (if applicable), affecting land developers and
27 state and local governments. In all, the estimated incremental costs associated with the Rule range
28 from \$162 million to \$279 million per year. Therefore, be it

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30 **RESOLVED**, the PA State Grange joins the National Grange in opposing the expansion of the
31 regulatory authority of the EPA and the Corps concerning the Clean Water Act including the definition
32 of ‘navigable waters’.

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	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		X			
DELEGATES		X			

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1 **Resolution #6 - US Clean Water Rules 2016**
 2 **Berks County Pomona Grange #43**
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4 **WHEREAS**, the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, EPA and the U S Army Corps of Engineers
 5 proposed rule defining Waters of the United States under the clean water act, it appears as drafted, to
 6 substantially expand the laws' jurisdiction; and

7 **WHEREAS**, the amount of expansion is difficult to predict with any meaningful precision, however,
 8 if the rule were to encompass all adjacent waters and most isolated wetlands and ditches, it could be
 9 significant; and

10 **WHEREAS**, EPA's efforts to preserve the Agricultural exemptions are critical and well intentional,
 11 the new proposed framework creates a number of legal uncertainties and risks; Therefore Be It
 12

13 **RESOLVED**, that the decisions of the Supreme Court to leave the management of non-navigable
 14 waters in the hands of landowners and local government be adhered to; and Be It Further

15 **RESOLVED**, that an expansion of clean water act jurisdiction should be subject to local input in order
 16 to develop effective parameters, criteria, and standards that meet specific local needs.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE			X		
DELEGATES			X		

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21 **Resolution #7 – Fair Grange Inclusion 2016**
 22 **Agriculture & Environmental Issues Committee**

24 **WHEREAS**, in some County Fairs, Junior Granges are not included where FFA and 4-H are
 25 highlighted. Therefore, be it

27 **RESOLVED**, that the Grange urges Agricultural Fairs and the PA Department of Agriculture to
 28 include Junior Granges in activities related to promoting agricultural programs and visibility.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		X			
DELEGATES		X			

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1 **Resolution #8 - Green Buildings**
 2 **Agriculture & Environmental Issues Committee**

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 4 **WHEREAS**, it is easy to pass laws mandated building requirements to comply with so-called “Green”
 5 standards, and

6 **WHEREAS**, retrofitting existing structures can be very costly to meet new “Green” building
 7 standards. Therefore, be it

8
 9 **RESOLVED**, that the Grange encourages voluntary “Green” construction initiatives for new
 10 construction without mandating retrofitting existing structures.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE	X				
DELEGATES	X				

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18 **Resolution #9 - Hemp Production**
 19 **Agriculture & Environmental Issues Committee**

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21 **WHEREAS**, the current Farm Bill allows for pilot hemp production programs, and

22 **WHEREAS**, Pennsylvania enacted a statute allowing this research take place, and

23 **WHEREAS**, Pennsylvania once had significant hemp production sustaining many family farms.

24 Therefore, be it

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26 **RESOLVED**, that The PA State Grange supports full scale production of industrial hemp.

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	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		X			
DELEGATES		X			

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1 **Resolution #10 - Conservation of Water Used for Fracking**
 2 **Agriculture & Environmental Issues Committee**

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 4 **WHEREAS**, there has been much controversy concerning use of fresh water in fracking, and
 5 **WHEREAS**, Pennsylvania’s abundant supply of this natural resource should not be jeopardized by
 6 over-utilization by companies engaged in natural gas extraction, and
 7 **WHEREAS**, Pennsylvania confronts another problem in dealing with contaminated mine water.
 8 Therefore, be it

9
 10 **RESOLVED**, that the Grange supports efforts to reduce use of clean water use for fracking and
 11 encourages use of alternatives such as mine waste water.
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	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE	X				
DELEGATES			X		

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18 **Resolution #11 - Conservation Districts**
 19 **Agriculture & Environmental Issues Committee**

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 21 **WHEREAS**, conservation districts perform vital work in educating farmers about environmentally
 22 appropriate farming practices, and
 23 **WHEREAS**, recent legislation adds a compliance responsibility to their traditional educational role,
 24 and

25 **WHEREAS**, some conservation districts are concerned that farmers will be resistant to compliance
 26 with Chesapeake Bay Total Daily Load Limit EPA rules if they see conservation districts as an
 27 enforcer rather than an educator. Therefore, be it

28
 29 **RESOLVED**, that the Grange opposes compulsory imposition of Chesapeake Bay pollution
 30 compliance enforcement on the conservation districts.
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	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		X			
DELEGATES		X			

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1 **Resolution #12 – Application of Biosolids**
 2 **Agriculture & Environmental Issues Committee**
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4 **WHEREAS**, application of biosolids is a farming practice used by many as an alternative to chemical
 5 fertilizers, and

6 **WHEREAS**, standards for application of biosolids is regulated by the PA department of
 7 Environmental Protection (DEP) through a permitting process which includes concerns for consumer
 8 safety, and

9 **WHEREAS**, some municipalities have sought to restrict or prohibit this practice even though it has
 10 been vetted by DEP and ample research as safe and effective. Therefore, be it

11
 12 **RESOLVED**, that the Pennsylvania State Grange supports maintaining DEP authority over the
 13 application of biosolids and rejects giving municipalities a veto or imposing restrictions on biosolid
 14 application.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		X			
DELEGATES		X			

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21 **Resolution #13: Sight View Clearances**
 22 **Agriculture & Environmental Issues Committee**
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24 **WHEREAS**, side effects of herbicide and defoliants reduce the esthetic beauty of Pennsylvania’s
 25 countryside, and

26 **WHEREAS**, too much application of herbicide and defoliants can adversely affect the environment
 27 with runoff into various watersheds as well as affecting water quality in the Commonwealth.
 28 Therefore, be it

29
 30 **RESOLVED**, that the Grange supports exploring mechanical and biological alternatives for vegetation
 31 maintenance.

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	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE	X				
DELEGATES	X				

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1 **Resolution #14 : Telecommunications Access for Rural Pennsylvanians**
2 **Agriculture & Environmental Issues Committee**

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4 **WHEREAS**, parts of Pennsylvania continue to have inadequate access to the Internet, and
5 **WHEREAS**, parts of Pennsylvania do not have adequate cell phone access and are forced to rely on
6 land lines. Therefore, be it

7

8 **RESOLVED** that the Grange supports legislation requiring utilities provide land line services at a
9 reasonable rate for remote rural areas until there is full access to other means of telephonic
10 communication. Be it further

11

12 **RESOLVED**, that the Grange advocate parity in Broadband access for rural areas generally and
13 specifically for rural schools.

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	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		X			
DELEGATES		X			

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18 **Resolution #15: AGRICULTURAL GROUP FUNDING**
19 **Agriculture & Environmental Issues Committee**

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21 **WHEREAS**, groups such as 4-H, FFA, and the County Fairs all face funding problems given the
22 state's budget process, and

23 **WHEREAS**, this uncertain leads to curtailment of activities benefiting youth and reduces the ability of
24 the County Fairs to familiarize the public with PA Agriculture. Therefore, be it

25

26 **RESOLVED** that the Grange supports a dependable and reliable dedicated source of funding to
27 support youth, 4-H, FFA, county fairs and other agriculture-related organizations.

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	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		X			
DELEGATES		X			

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FAMILY ISSUES

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**Resolution #16 – Common Core 2016
Bradford-Sullivan Pomona Grange #23**

WHEREAS, common core is detrimental to the education of our children. Therefore, be it
RESOLVED, that the PA State Grange go on record as being opposed to the common core curriculum.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE				X	
DELEGATES					

**Resolution #17 – Charity Donation Requests 2016
Watson Grange #1068, Warren County**

WHEREAS the quantity of donation requests received from charitable organizations through the mail such as the American Heart Association, American Cancer Society and others is extensive, and
WHEREAS the funds used for postage, mailings, and free gifts could be used to aid their charitable causes. Therefore, be it
RESOLVED, that the Pennsylvania State Grange AND THE National Grange make it known that they oppose more frequent than bi-annual mail solicitations from charitable organizations.,

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		X			
DELEGATES			X		

1 **Resolution #18 – Standardizing the Start of School in Pennsylvania**
 2 **Beaver County Pomona Grange #66**

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 4 **WHEREAS** Labor Day is the unofficial end of summer, and
 5 **WHEREAS** families still take vacation over Labor Day, and
 6 **WHEREAS** people like to and need to plan their vacations a year in advance. Therefore, be it
 7
 8 **RESOLVED** that the Pennsylvania State Grange support standardizing the start of school in
 9 Pennsylvania to the first Wednesday after Labor Day.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE			X		
DELEGATES			X		

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17 **Resolution #19 – School District Consolidation**
 18 **Family Issues Committee**

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 20 **WHEREAS**, school districts represent education provided on a local level, and
 21 **WHEREAS**, some rural school districts have merged administrative and physical building/equipment
 22 operations to save taxpayer dollars since they have limited resources, and
 23 **WHEREAS**, many school districts have joined Consortia to better coordinate health benefit claims
 24 and promote wellness as a move to save taxpayer dollars and improve labor-management relations on
 25 health care benefits, and
 26 **WHEREAS**, some state policymakers are suggesting that there be compulsory consolidation of school
 27 districts, reducing their number, and consolidation of school benefit programs into a state-run entity.
 28 Therefore, be it
 29
 30 **RESOLVED** that the Pennsylvania State Grange oppose compulsory school district consolidation
 31 and/or school district benefits consolidation.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE	X				
DELEGATES	X				

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1 **Resolution #20 Arts and Music**
2 **Family Issues Committee**

3
4 **WHEREAS** arts and music make a huge cultural contribution to our society, and
5 **WHEREAS** these means of expression are stimulated by music and arts programs in schools.
6 Therefore, be it

7
8 **RESOLVED** that the Grange support adequate resources given to arts and music programs in our
9 schools.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE				X	
DELEGATES					

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19 **Resolution #21: Opioid and Heroin Crisis**
20 **Family Issues Committee**

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22 **WHEREAS**, the problem of deaths attributed to overdoses form drugs has reached a critical level with
23 ten or Pennsylvanians dying each day, and
24 **WHEREAS**, the state’s Governor, Physician General, and General Assembly have made addressing
25 this crisis as a clear and present danger that must be confronted. Therefore, be it

26
27 **RESOLVED**, that the Pennsylvania State Grange supports actions that confront the opioid and heroin
28 crisis.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		X			
DELEGATES		X			

1 **Resolution #22: Long-Term Care**
 2 **Family Issues Committee**

3
 4 **WHEREAS**, as Pennsylvania’s population ages, the need for citizens to receive long-term care is
 5 increasing, and

6 **WHEREAS**, financial costs are staggering and represent a huge burden on individuals and taxpayers
 7 under the Medicaid Program, and

8 **WHEREAS**, private sector long-term insurance is a positive, yet expensive, way for families to
 9 receive long-term care without sacrificing core family resources by ‘self-insuring’ or by spending
 10 down to meet Medicaid eligibility levels. Therefore, be it

11
 12 **RESOLVED**, that the PA State Grange recognizes the tremendous cost to taxpayers from expanded
 13 long-term care costs to Pennsylvania taxpayers and urges state promotion of Qualified Long-Term
 14 Care Partnerships as an alternative to Medicaid as well as legislative consideration of legislation to
 15 increase incentives for people to purchase private sector insurance, and let it be further

16
 17 **RESOLVED** that the PA State Grange commends the newly formed PA Long-Term Care Council
 18 inclusion of financial strategies to afford long-term care as part of its mission.

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	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE	X				
DELEGATES	X				

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 22 **Resolution #23 – Expand Flood Insurance Coverage**
 23 **Family Issues Committee**

24
 25 **WHEREAS**, the National Flood insurance Program as now structured requires a separate Flood
 26 Insurance policy on each covered structure, and

27 **WHEREAS**, this has caused consumer disappointment and outrage when there is an assumption that
 28 other structures are covered when it turns out that the loss is not covered. Therefore, be it

29
 30 **RESOLVED**, that the PA State Grange urges the National Flood Insurance Program to change policy
 31 provisions to allow umbrella coverage over multiple structures on a property.

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	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		X			
DELEGATES		X			

1 **Resolution #24 – Property Owner Rights Under the NFIP**
 2 **Family Issues Committee**

3
 4 **WHEREAS**, 2014 Federal law strengthens the rights of property owners to appeal a flood map
 5 reclassification putting them in a higher flood risk zone and increase their National Flood Insurance
 6 Program (NFIP) premium, and

7 **WHEREAS**, NFIP and PA Emergency Preparedness Agency (PEMA) have not mounted a consumer
 8 awareness campaign to inform policyholders of their appeal rights. Therefore, be it \

9
 10 **RESOLVED**, that PA State Grange urges that the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and PA
 11 Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) conduct a public awareness campaign to help property
 12 owners understand their rights when there is a flood map reclassification.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		X			
DELEGATES		X			

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20 **Resolution #25 –Flood Insurance**
 21 **Family Issues Committee**

23 **WHEREAS**, understanding provisions of Federal Flood Insurance is difficult for many property
 24 owners, and

25 **WHEREAS**, local insurance agents provide the best resource in providing guidance on coverage and
 26 exclusions in Flood Insurance policies issued by the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).
 27 Therefore, be it

28
 29 **RESOLVED**, that the PA State Grange supports continuation of the ‘Write Your Own’ (local
 30 insurance agent) model of securing Flood Insurance.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE	X				
DELEGATES	X				

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1 **Resolution #26 – Workers Compensation/Health Insurance**
 2 **Family Issues Committee**

3
 4 **WHEREAS**, Workers Compensation is required by law for most employers, and
 5 **WHEREAS**, there is a Federal Individual Mandate for citizens to purchase health insurance or pay a
 6 fine, and
 7 **WHEREAS**, health insurance premium costs have and will continue to skyrocket, making it
 8 financially difficult to obtain. Therefore, be it
 9
 10 **RESOLVED**, that the Pennsylvania State Grange recommends to the General Assembly that a study
 11 be done as to the feasibility of developing a hybrid Workers Compensation/health policy.
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	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		X			
DELEGATES		X			

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17 **Resolution #27: Hunger**
 18 **Family Issues Committee**

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 20 **WHEREAS**, without fresh food from food banks and in school meal programs, needy families may
 21 not receive a nutritionally balanced diet. Therefore, be it
 22
 23 **RESOLVED**, that the Grange supports inclusion of fresh farm products into schools and public-
 24 private efforts to assist food banks in meeting recipients’ needs for fresh produce and other farm
 25 products, and let it be further
 26
 27 **RESOLVED**, that Grange members be encouraged to support and volunteer to assist local food banks
 28 in achieving their mission.
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	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE	X				
DELEGATES	X				

1 **GOVERNMENTAL ISSUES**

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3 **Resolution #28 - PA Sales Tax for Granges.2016**
4 **Berks County Pomona Grange #43**

5 **WHEREAS**, Granges are required to submit PA Sales Tax depending on their fundraising efforts, and
6 **WHEREAS**, Granges improve their communities by providing service work and/or financial
7 assistance, and
8 **WHEREAS**, Granges have to raise their prices, which affects individuals who may want to participate
9 with fundraisers, thus affecting the amount of money that is raised, therefore be it

10
11 **RESOLVED** that the Pennsylvania State Grange propose legislation to exempt Granges from paying
12 sales tax on items sold as fundraisers due to their status as a community service organization that
13 financially supports their local community.

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	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		X			
DELEGATES			X		

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17 **Resolution #29 – Annotation of Disability in Vehicle Registration Database 2016**
18 **Goshen Pomona Grange #121**

19
20 **WHEREAS**, in today’s culture, police officers continue to be on edge due to increased targeting and
21 random shootings, and
22 **WHEREAS**, many local police units do not always have the opportunity or funds for specialized
23 training for how to handle people with disabilities, and
24 **WHEREAS**, traffic stops for people with disabilities may not be conducted as a typical traffic stop
25 causing additional stress and confusion on the police officer and the disabled individual and
26 unfortunately ending in death, and
27 **WHEREAS**, a note or remark in a vehicle’s registration record may be helpful to indicate that the
28 vehicle could be driven by a disabled person (such as deaf, hard of hearing, autism, amputee, etc.).
29 Therefore be it

30
31 **RESOLVED**, that the Pennsylvania State Grange actively lobby for revisions in the vehicle
32 registration program to include a note or remark to indicate that a vehicle might have a disabled driver
33 operating it.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE	X				
DELEGATES			X		

1 **Resolution #30 – PA State Budget 2016**
 2 **Watson Grange #1068, Warren County**

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 4 **WHEREAS**, there are thousands of state employees affected by a budget impasse, and
 5 **WHEREAS**, numerous state-funded institutions rely on funds provided to them from the State Budget,
 6 and
 7 **WHEREAS**, numerous nonprofits and service providers are severely harmed by a budget impasse
 8 because of their limited abilities to sustain a needed cash flow without state funding, and
 9 **WHEREAS**, the General Assembly and the Governor have twelve months to create and approve a
 10 State Budget. Therefore, be it
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 12 **RESOLVED**, that the Pennsylvania State Grange push for legislation that supports the withholding of
 13 pay for the Governor and all Pennsylvania Members of the General Assembly until the State Budget is
 14 passed if action is not completed by June 30, the end of the current fiscal year.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE	X				
DELEGATES			X		

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 19 **Resolution #31 – Payment of Legislature and Executive Branches 2016**
 20 **Hayfield Grange #800 Crawford County**

21
 22 **WHEREAS**, the State Budget is to be passed and signed into law by June 30th each year. Therefore,
 23 be it
 24
 25 **RESOLVED** that members of the legislature and executive branches not be paid if the State Budget is
 26 not completed and passed by that date.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE			X		
DELEGATES			X		

1 **Resolution #32 – Cell Phone Usage by State Employees 2016**

2 **Bradford-Sullivan Pomona Grange #23**

3
4 **WHEREAS** cell phone usage while driving is proven dangerous. Therefore be it
5

6 **RESOLVED** that the Grange is opposed to drivers using hand-held cell phones while operating state
7 vehicles, and be it further

8 **RESOLVED** that the PA State Grange should propose legislation banning the use of cell phones while
9 operating any vehicle on public roads.

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	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		X			
DELEGATES		X			

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19 **Resolution #33 – Clarity of Republican Delegate Voting Intention 2016**

20 **Bradford-Sullivan Pomona Grange # 23**

21
22 **WHEREAS**, in the recent 2016 Republican Primary, candidates for convention delegates were listed
23 on the ballot but not their potential preferred candidates to vote for at the convention, and
24 **WHEREAS**, this lack of information about voting preference could have an impact on voting for a
25 delegate candidate. Therefore, be it
26

27 **RESOLVED**, that the PA State Grange ask all Pennsylvania Political Party Committees consider
28 changing their primary rules to list national convention delegate candidates on the primary ballot along
29 with their convention voting preference or if they are undecided.

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	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE	X				
DELEGATES		X			

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1 **Resolution #34 – Legal Announcements 2016**

2 **Bradford-Sullivan Pomona Grange # 23**

3
4 **WHEREAS** all legal announcements from local governments need to be advertised, and
5 **WHEREAS** these announcements should be seen by all. Therefore, be it
6

7 **RESOLVED** that the Grange urges that all legal announcements from local governments be published
8 in the newspaper of the widest circulation in that area as well as the municipalities’ website.

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	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		X			
DELEGATES		X			

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16 **Resolution #35 – Voter Fraud 2016**
17 **Bradford-Sullivan Pomona Grange # 23**

18
19 **WHEREAS**, voter fraud occurs and this ultimately can affect an election outcome. Therefore, be it
20
21 **RESOLVED**, that some sort of voter identification be required so that no one can vote more than
22 once, Therefore, be it further

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24 **RESOLVED** that if a person is not registered in that area, then that person will not be allowed to vote.

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	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE			X		
DELEGATES			X		

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1 **Resolution #36 - Political Campaign Sign Removal**
 2 **Watson Grange #1068, Warren County**

3
 4 **WHEREAS**, political campaign signs are often not removed in a timely manner following an election,
 5 and
 6 **WHEREAS**, New York State requires removal of such signs within three days of an election, and
 7 **WHEREAS**, littering in Pennsylvania is punishable by a \$300.00 fine. Therefore, be it
 8
 9 **RESOLVED**, that the Pennsylvania State Grange urge the General Assembly to enact a law requiring
 10 political campaign sign removal within seven days post election or a littering fine of \$300.00 per sign
 11 shall be imposed upon the candidate.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE			X		
DELEGATES			X		

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 15 **Resolution #37 – Reduction of the Size of the PA State Legislature 2016**
 16 **Venango County Pomona Grange #57**

17
 18 **WHEREAS**, legislation has been introduced in Pennsylvania proposing an amendment to the
 19 Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, reducing the number of State Representative
 20 districts from the current 203 to 151 representative districts, and
 21 **WHEREAS**, legislation to achieve this has been passed by both the Pennsylvania House of
 22 Representatives and the Pennsylvania State Senate, and
 23 **WHEREAS**, there are numerous arguments both supporting and opposing the reduction of the size of
 24 the legislature. Therefore, be it
 25
 26 **RESOLVED**, that the Pennsylvania State Grange establish a committee to examine the proposed reduction of
 27 the Pennsylvania State legislature that said committee is to make its report to the PA State Grange Executive
 28 Committee on or before October 31, 2017, and be it further
 29 **RESOLVED** that the Pennsylvania State Grange provide written and oral testimony to the Pennsylvania
 30 General Assembly regarding the committee’s findings.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		X			
DELEGATES		X			

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1 **Resolution #38 – School Meal Programs**
 2 **Governmental Issues Committee**

3
 4 **WHEREAS**, Federal nutrition rules are well-intentioned but result in limiting health options for
 5 students, and

6 **WHEREAS**, specific agricultural commodities such as grapes, whole milk, and white potatoes are
 7 precluded because of bureaucratic rules. Therefore, be it

8
 9 **RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Congress be urged to direct the USDA Food and Nutrition Service to
 10 amend their rules to allow consumption of grapes, whole milk and white potato agricultural products
 11 by students in school meal programs and that language to that effect be inserted into the 2018 Farm
 12 Bill.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE	X				
DELEGATES	X				

14
 15 **Resolution #52 PA State Budget 2016**
 16 **Government Issues Committee**

17
 18 **WHEREAS**, there are thousands of state employees affected by a budget impasse, and
 19 **WHEREAS**, numerous state-funded institutions rely on funds provided to them from the State Budget,
 20 and

21 **WHEREAS**, numerous nonprofits and service providers are severely harmed by a budget impasse
 22 because of their limited abilities to sustain a needed cash flow without state funding, and

23 **WHEREAS**, the General Assembly and the Governor have twelve months to create and approve a
 24 State Budget. Therefore, be it

25
 26 **RESOLVED** that the Pennsylvania State Grange go on record with the Governor and
 27 Legislatures saying that we expect our State Government to act in the spirit of cooperation, for
 28 the good of the Commonwealth and the protection of its financial integrity, and as required by
 29 our constitution and have in place an enacted budget by June 30 of each year.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE	X				
DELEGATES		X			

1 **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

2
3 **Resolution #39 – Caucuses for Pennsylvania State University Trustees 2016**
4 **Ontelaunee Community Grange #1617**

5
6 **WHEREAS** The Pennsylvania State University elects Agricultural Trustees annually, and
7 **WHEREAS** the process of selection of these Trustees begins on the county level with caucuses
8 amongst the various agricultural organizations within the county, and
9 **WHEREAS** the County Extension Service provides information to the various agricultural
10 organizations in the county referencing a date for all agricultural organizations to gather to select
11 candidate(s) for the Trustee election process, and
12 **WHEREAS**, some agricultural organizations do not attend these county caucuses when called, but do
13 go to the official trustee election and want to caucus on the date of voting, therefore be it
14
15 **RESOLVED** a one-time caucus session at the home county level shall be sufficient to select voting
16 delegates for the Penn State University Agricultural Trustees. This decision should be final, and be it
17 further
18 **RESOLVED**, to stop and abolish all caucusing on the date of voting at the Pennsylvania State
19 University voting site for Trustees.

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	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		X			
DELEGATES		X			

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1 **Resolution #40 – Make the Annual Password Permanent**
 2 **Hookstown Grange #1980 Beaver County**

3
 4 **WHEREAS** the Grange has moved into a new century, and
 5 **WHEREAS** the sixth and seventh degrees have set passwords, and
 6 **WHEREAS** the fourth and fifth degree passwords are chosen annually, and
 7 **WHEREAS**, the fourth and fifth degree passwords are only forwarded to the Granges that request
 8 them, and
 9 **WHEREAS**, passwords should be consistent across all seven degrees. Therefore, be it

10
 11 **RESOLVED** that the Pennsylvania State Grange request that the National Grange discontinue the use
 12 of a changing annual word at the fourth and fifth degree levels and establish a permanent password for
 13 each degree.
 14

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		X			
DELEGATES		X			

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16 **Resolution #41 – Expansion of the National Grange Patriot Program**
 17 **Plumsteadville Grange #1738, Bucks County**

18
 19 **WHEREAS**, the National Grange Patriot Program currently only recognizes veterans who served
 20 during World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam Conflict, and
 21 **WHEREAS**, all men and women serving in the military, whether in peacetime or conflict, have made
 22 sacrifices in service to our country, and
 23 **WHEREAS**, all individuals who have honorably served our country deserve recognition for their
 24 service. Therefore, be it

25
 26 **RESOLVED**, that the Pennsylvania State Grange recommends that the National Grange expand its
 27 Patriot Program to include recognition for all honorably discharged veterans, regardless of their time of
 28 service.
 29

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		X			
DELEGATES		X			

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1 **Resolution #42 - Pennsylvania State Grange Executive Committee**
 2 **Pennsylvania State Grange Executive Committee**

3
 4 **WHEREAS**, there is nothing specific in the Pennsylvania State Grange Bylaws regarding the
 5 announcement of the count for an election, and
 6 **WHEREAS**, confusion exists among the membership regarding the count reporting methodology.
 7 Therefore, be it
 8

9 **RESOLVED**, that the Pennsylvania State Grange revise Section 1.6.4 to read: All elections authorized
 10 by the Bylaws of the State Grange shall be by ballot, and a majority of all votes cast shall be necessary
 11 to constitute **an election. The results of the ballots shall be read as “the majority of the ballots**
 12 **cast were received by (that person’s name would then be read) and no numbers will be read. If**
 13 **more than two candidates’ names are on the ballot** and if no candidate receives the necessary
 14 majority, only the names of the two candidates receiving the most votes will be considered for the
 15 second ballot. (Changes in Section 1.6.4 are underlined and are in bold.) Printing Error

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		X			Ruled out of
DELEGATES					Order by NG Pres

16 **Resolution #43 – Restore “The Yellow Corn” to the Grange Songbook**
 17 **Valley Grange #1360, York County**

18
 19 **WHEREAS**, the Grange Songbook is the modern version of the ‘Patron’, last revised in 1983, and
 20 **WHEREAS**, a song befitting of inclusion has been lost for 143 years, and
 21 **WHEREAS**, “The Yellow Corn” has realized a resurgence of popularity among Grange youth
 22 members, as a result of the exemplification of the 1873 Degrees at the O. H. Kelly Farm in Elk River,
 23 Minnesota. Therefore, be it
 24

25 **RESOLVED**, that “The Yellow Corn” be recognized as a suitable song for the first four Degrees of
 26 the Order, and be it further

27 **RESOLVED**, that “The Yellow Corn” be included in the next revision of the Grange Songbook, and,
 28 be it further

29 **RESOLVED**, that until such time as a revision to the Grange Songbook is undertaken, the sheet music
 30 for “The Yellow Corn” be made available in digital format on the National Grange website.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE	X				
DELEGATES	X				

1 **Resolution #44 - Property Tax Paid by Local/Subordinate Granges**
 2 **Liberty Grange #1780, Lawrence County**

3
 4 **WHEREAS**, Granges are non-profit organizations. Grange buildings are not exempt from paying
 5 taxes due to a law that prohibits organizations that lobby for political reasons from being exempt, and
 6 **WHEREAS**, State and national Grange lobbies on behalf of local/Subordinate Granges, and
 7 **WHEREAS**, many of the Granges in Pennsylvania are selling their Grange buildings because they are
 8 unable to pay the taxes, and
 9 **WHEREAS**, local/Subordinate Granges dues money is sent to PA State Grange and National Grange.
 10 Therefore, be it

11
 12 **RESOLVED**, that Subordinate Granges should be able to receive funds from State Granges to help
 13 pay for property taxes.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE			X		
DELEGATES			X		

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16 **Resolution #45: Funding for Grange Museum**
 17 **Good of the Order Committee**

18
 19 **WHEREAS**, the Pennsylvania State Grange has a proud heritage spanning over a century of providing
 20 services to and enriching the lives of Pennsylvania’s rural residents, and
 21 **WHEREAS**, efforts are under way to display this Grange heritage to the public through a museum or
 22 heritage center, and
 23 **WHEREAS**, funding resources for this effort may include monies from public resources. Therefore,
 24 be it

25 **RESOLVED** that the Pennsylvania State Grange seek public as well as private funding for the
 26 Pennsylvania State Grange Museum, and, be it further

27
 28 **RESOLVED**, that legislation passed by the General Assembly providing aid to museums contain a
 29 provision making funds available to smaller or newly-established museums and heritage centers.

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	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		X			
DELEGATES		X			

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1 **Resolution # 46 Lecturer's Honorarium**
 2 **PA State Grange Executive Committee**

3
 4 **WHEREAS** the 2015 PA Grange Salary Committee set the Program Director/Lecturer's salary at
 5 \$2,000 beginning 11/1/ 2016 and \$2,000 beginning in 11/1/2017, and
 6 **WHEREAS** the PA State Grange is presently operating with a deficit budget, and
 7 **WHEREAS** the Family Activities and Deaf and Community Services Department Directors are each
 8 receiving their pay honorariums of \$1,000 beginning 11/1/2016 and \$1,000 beginning 11/1/2017,
 9 therefore be it
 10 **RESOLVED**, that the Program Director/Lecturer's salary be reduced to \$1,000 beginning 11/1/16 and
 11 \$1,000 beginning on 11/1/2017, and be it further
 12 **RESOLVED** that from this day forward the Program Director/Lecturer's monetary remittance be
 13 considered an honorarium which will be set by the Executive Committee as are the other Department
 14 Directors in the PA State Grange.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE	X				
DELEGATES	X				

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 17 **Resolution # 47 Master/President's Salary**
 18 **PA State Grange Executive Committee**

19
 20 **WHEREAS** the PA Grange Salary Committee set the Master/President's salary at \$45,500 beginning
 21 11/1/ 2016 and \$46,500 beginning in 11/1/2017, and
 22 **WHEREAS** under the USA Department of Labor, Fair Labor Standards Act Law which goes into
 23 effect on 12/1/16, employees must be paid a minimum yearly salary of \$47,476 or paid overtime for all
 24 hours worked over 40 hours in one work week. The mandated overtime rate is one and one half of an
 25 employee's regular rate, therefore be it
 26 **RESOLVED** that the Master/President of the PA State Grange be provided a salary of \$47,500
 27 beginning on 11/1/ 2016 and continuing 11/1/ 2017 to be in compliance with Federal Law and to avoid
 28 paying overtime wages.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE	X				
DELEGATES		X			

1 **Resolution #48 Article VII 1.8.3, Changing Duties of Salary Committee**
 2 **PA State Grange Executive Committee**

3
 4 **WHEREAS** under the PA State Grange By-Laws, Article 1.8.3 it states: “ A salary Committee of
 5 three members appointed by the President/Master (P/M) and Vice President/Overseer shall review the
 6 salaries of the P/M, Secretary and Treasurer, and Lecturer, and recommend to the delegate body each
 7 odd numbered year such adjustments which may be appropriate. They shall consult with the Treasurer
 8 and Executive Committee.” and

9 **WHEREAS** the Lecturer/Program Director performs duties very similar to the Family Activities
 10 Department Chair and the Deaf/Community Service Chair whose honorariums are set by the Executive
 11 Committee of which the P/M is a member, therefore

12 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Lecturer/Program Directors honorarium be set yearly by the P/M and the
 13 Executive Committee, and

14 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Article 1.8.3 of the PA State Grange By-Laws read: “A salary
 15 Committee of three members appointed by the President/Master (P/M) and Vice President/Overseer
 16 shall review the salaries of the P/M, Secretary and Treasurer and recommend to the delegate body each
 17 odd numbered year such adjustments which may be appropriate. They shall consult with the Treasurer
 18 and Executive Committee.”

19

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE	X				
DELEGATES		X			

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 24 **Resolution #49 Article VII 1.7.1.2, Restrictions to President/Master Duties**
 25 **PA State Grange Executive Committee**

26
 27 **WHEREAS** under the PA State Grange By-Laws, Article 1.7.1.2 it states: “The President/Master of
 28 the Pennsylvania State Grange shall be responsible for the hiring of staff and maintenance of the State
 29 Grange Office at 20 Erford Rd., Suite 216 Lemoyne, PA under the guidelines established by the
 30 delegate body and monitored by the State Grange Executive Committee.”

31 **WHEREAS** in all likely hood the President/Master and the Executive Committee working together as
 32 a team could better share the responsibility for the hiring and firing of full time and part time staff and
 33 office maintenance thus better serving the membership, therefore

34 **BE IT RESOLVED** that Article 1.7.1.2 of the PA State Grange By-Laws be amended to read: “The
 35 President/Master of the PA State Grange in conjunction with the PA State Grange Executive
 36 Committee shall be responsible for the hiring and firing of all full time and part time staff. The

1 President/Master should be responsible for the maintenance of the State Grange Office under the
 2 guidelines established by the delegate body and monitored by the State Grange Executive Committee.”

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE	X				
DELEGATES			X		

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**Resolution #50 Long-Term Grange Fiduciary Responsibility
 PA State Grange Executive Committee**

Whereas, the PA State Grange has a proud legacy of service to rural Pennsylvanians since 1873, and

Whereas, PA State Grange has a fiduciary responsibility to its members to ensure long-term financial revenues in order to continue and expand Grange Services to rural Pennsylvania in the future.

Therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the PA State Grange initiate a campaign educating members to consider naming PA State Grange as beneficiary when planning their estates.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE	X				
DELEGATES	X				

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**Resolution #51 Article VII 1.8.3 – Limitations to Master/President Duties
 PA State Grange Executive Committee**

WHEREAS under the PA State Grange By-Laws, Article 1.8.2 it states: The PA State Grange Executive Committee “...shall have authority to act on matters of interest to the order when State Grange is not in session, shall provide for the welfare or the Order in business matters, and shall report their acts in detail to the State Grange at each session.” and

WHEREAS in all likely hood the President/Master and the Executive Committee working together as a team could best share the responsibility for the hiring salaries of full time and part time staff and awarding of raises and bonuses. Therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that Article 1.8.3 of the PA State Grange By-Laws read: “The PA State Grange President/Master in conjunction with the Executive Committee be responsible for the setting of full time and part time staff salaries before any hiring is approved. The President/Master in conjunctions

1 with the Executive Committee must also approve any raises or bonuses of any type before they are
 2 awarded to an employee.”

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE	X				
DELEGATES			X		

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Resolution #53 Legislative Issues Arising Between Annual Sessions of the PA State Grange Good of the Order Committee

WHEREAS, multiple legislative and regulatory issues arise between regular meetings of the Pennsylvania State Grange, and

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania State Grange may not have current policy regarding these issues, and

WHEREAS, the issues may require a timely Grange response, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Pennsylvania State Grange membership gives the State Master/President the authority to consult the Executive Committee regarding the Grange position on urgent legislative or regulatory issues, and be it further

RESOLVED, that after this consultation, the State Master/President can speak on behalf of the Pennsylvania State Grange on these issues that do not have current policy, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the State Executive Committee should introduce a resolution at the next regular meeting of the Pennsylvania State Grange introducing any decisions by the State Master/President and Executive Committee, so that the delegate body can form appropriate Pennsylvania State Grange policy.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE	X				
DELEGATES			X		

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