

**Kern County Cemetery District**  
Minutes for  
April 16, 2026  
Regular Board Meeting  
Shafter Memorial Park Office  
18662 Santa Fe Way, Shafter, CA

Call to Order: Call to Order at 12:07 pm by Chairman Braun. Chairman Braun led the flag salute.

Roll Call: In attendance was Barry Braun, Chairman of the Board; Carl Olsen, Vice-Chair; Jerry Ezell, Secretary of the Board.

Employees: Eliza Caudillo, District Manager; Lisa Mundis, incoming District Manager; Denton Carender, Superintendent; Alicia Reveles, Secretary.

Visitors: None.

Public Comment: None

Consent Calendar: Minutes of the regular Board meeting for March 2026. The payroll warrants for 26/06 through 26/07 were approved. Vouchers, checks, and financial reports for March 2026 were approved. This was done by approval of the consent calendar by motion of Trustee Ezell and seconded by Trustee Olsen: 3 ayes, unanimous.

Management Update

- We had 11 services in Shafter and 13 services in Wasco for the month of March 2026. This gives us 202 services for the fiscal year to date. We are at a 31% cremation rate.
- Trustee Braun and incoming District Manager Mundis attended CSDA Legislative Days in Sacramento in early April. Potential impacts from AI regulations and California High-Speed rail funding demands.
- The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District has paused their Electric Vehicle Grant program due to lack of funding. Our application will be considered as soon as funding is available. Trustee Braun directed Superintendent Carender to research the cost of replacing the lithium batteries in failed EVs.
- The 2026 CAPC Membership Guide Booklet is available. We receive one with our CAPC membership, and we will order a PDF copy at \$8.00 to forward to Trustees and the Wasco secretary.

1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Review of Investments

The Investment Manager presented the Board with a letter explaining the investments of the District, including the Stifel, the County, and the WestAmerica investments. As of March 31, 2026, the District has \$9,672,481 as a combined investment of all accounts. The District has \$5,518,514 with the County of Kern, \$3,894,272 with Stifel, and \$259,695 with WestAmerica Bank. The investment with Stifel Investments has been made in accordance with the requirements set forth by the State of California and our Investment Policy. Manager Caudillo acknowledged that the District has ample liquidity to meet its obligations for the next 6 months.

The amount that is in each Kern County Cemetery District account is as follows:

• Maintenance and Operation (M&O)	\$1,421,793
• Endowment Care	\$1,599,538
• Contracts	\$2,436,512
• Capital Projects	\$ 60,671
• Stifel	\$3,894,272
• WestAmerica Bank	\$ 259,695

Due to an entry error and a lag in the availability of fund statements from Kern County, the Board asked District Manager Mundis to correct Attachment B, Stifle Contract Fund 2601, and present the updated information to the Board. *See Attachment B - Amended*

*The motion was made to receive and file this information, with corrections, and make it available to any who may wish to review its contents by Trustee Ezell and seconded by Trustee Olsen: 3 ayes, unanimous.*

WestAmerica Bank and County of Kern accounts signatures

Due to staff changes, authorization signature cards to access District funds held in WestAmerica Bank and in County of Kern must be updated to include the incoming District Manager Lisa Mundis and remove retiring District Manager Eliza Caudillo . Per Board suggestion, and in the interest of increased financial security, two current employees were removed as signers – Superintendent Denny Carender and Secretary Alicia Reveles. Only the District Manager and Board of Trustees shall remain as signers.

- Resolution 25/26-4 WestAmerica Bank
- Resolution 25/26-5 County of Kern

*Trustee Braun took a Roll Call Vote to authorize signing resolutions to affect the changes to signers of the bank accounts. Roll Call - Trustee Ezell – Aye; Trustee Olsen – Aye; Trustee Braun – Aye. The authorization was approved with 3 ayes, unanimous.*

Light Pole Replacement – Shafter & Wasco

Two light poles at each cemetery are rusted beyond repair and need immediate replacement to ensure the safety of families and staff, as well as improve aesthetics of the memorial parks. This expense was not included in the Budget, so Board authorization is required for this expenditure.

Two quotes were obtained for the replacement of four light poles.

• Lightning Electric	\$16,743
• Fix It All Electric	\$38,000

*Trustee Ezell moved to accept the quote from Lightning Electric and authorize the installation of the new light poles at a cost of \$16,743, and Trustee Olsen seconded the motion. 3 ayes, unanimous.*

### Memorial Wall – Concrete Resurfacing

The concrete areas around the Veteran’s Memorial Wall areas at each cemetery are cracked and damaged and need immediate repair to ensure the safety of families and staff, as well as improve aesthetics of the memorial parks. This expense was not included in the Budget, so Board authorization is required for this expenditure.

Two quotes were obtained for the concrete resurfacing.

- Floors Reborn \$19,975
- Cisneros Decorative Concrete \$25,200

*Trustee Olsen moved to accept the quote from Floor Reborn and authorize the repair and resurfacing of the concrete areas described at a cost of \$19,975, and Trustee Ezell seconded the motion. 3 ayes, unanimous.*

### Partnership with CalWORKs

Kern County Department of Human Services invited the District to participate in their Employment Preparation Program by “employing” two participants as grounds crew, to train and develop them to be eligible for future employment with our agency or any other organization. There is no cost to the District, as all expenses are paid by the County, including Workers' Compensation.

*Trustee Olsen has moved to engage in a contract with the County as a participant. Trustee Ezell seconded the motion. 3 ayes, unanimous.*

### District Manager Retirement

Chairman Braun read aloud Resolution 25/26-6, honoring the distinguished service of District Manager Eliza Caudillo, at her last meeting before retiring from the District with nearly 17 of seniority. She has been a driving force in securing the financial future of the District and embodies the values of good stewardship, dedication, and integrity when serving families and the District.

*Trustee Braun took a Roll Call Vote to authorize the signing of a resolution honoring retiring District Manager Eliza Caudillo. Roll Call - Trustee Ezell – Aye; Trustee Olsen – Aye; Trustee Braun – Aye. The authorization was approved with 3 ayes, unanimous.*

### Trustees’ Comments

- Trustee Braun: Stated how grateful he is to have worked with Manager Caudillo and thanked her for her service. Asked incoming Manager Mundis to create and distribute Memorial Day flyers advertising events in both cemeteries. Invited Manager Mundis to attend Wasco Community Coalition meetings in the future; requested she issue a press release regarding Manager Caudillo’s retirement; requested she create a PowerPoint presentation for Rotary, Kiwanis, Lion’s Club, etc.
- Trustee Ezell: Personally thanked Manager Caudillo for her service to the District
- Trustee Olsen: Thanked Manager Caudillo for her service. He asked her to contact the City of Shafter in regard to the poor road condition at the entrance to Shafter Memorial Park.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 pm by Chairman Braun. The next regular meeting is scheduled for May 21, 2026 at 12:00 pm.

Signed,

Lisa Mundis  
District Manager