

Kern County Cemetery District **Minutes for**

January 16, 2025

Regular Board Meeting
Shafter Memorial Park Office
18662 Santa Fe Way, Shafter, CA

Call to Order: Call to Order at 12:00 pm by Chairman Braun, Chairman Braun led the flag salute and invocation.

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

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

Visitors: Courtney Moreno

Public Comment: Courtney Moreno and via phone Tony Marion

Consent Calendar: Includes the approval of the agenda for the current meeting and minutes of the regular Board meeting for December 2024. The payroll warrants for 24-25 through 24-26 were approved. Vouchers, checks, and financial reports for December 2024 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 10 services in Shafter and 5 services in Wasco for the month of December 2024. This gives us 129 for the fiscal year to date. We are at a 16% cremation rate.
- California Association of Public Cemeteries will have the 67th Annual Conference on March 13th – 15th, 2025, at the Embassy Suites in Seaside, CA. Rooms have been reserved for the 3 Board Members to attend and 3 cemetery staff members. It is advisable to attend and fulfill the required Harassment Prevention Training. Confirmation of attendance by Tuesday, January 21, 2025, would be appreciated.
- SDRMA Spring Education Day will be held at the Hilton Sacramento West Inn on March 20th – 21st, 2025, at the. This event will earn the District CPI credits. The approximate cost will be \$1,050.00.
- CSDA Legislative Days will be held at the Sheraton Grand Sacramento Hotel on May 21st – and 22nd, 2025. This is an excellent event to meet and interact with State Legislators. The approximate cost will be \$3,580.00 for two attendees. It is advisable for the Manager and a Trustee to attend.
- Manager Caudillo provided an update on the status of the Shafter Rent House. PG&E has removed the electrical panels for complete demolition. An asbestos survey has been completed, and asbestos was found within the house and roof. Quotes have been obtained, and asbestos remediation will begin as soon as possible to expedite the demolition of the house.

Election of Officers

Each January, the Health and Safety Code section 9028 requires the Board of Trustees to elect officers for the Board for the upcoming fiscal year. The Board reviewed the positions and discussed the candidates for the upcoming 2025 year.

The motion was made by Trustee Olsen and seconded by Trustee Ezell to have Barry Braun as President/Chairman, Carl Olsen as Vice-President/Vice-Chairman, and Jerry Ezell as Secretary; 3 ayes, unanimous.

4th Quarter Review of Investments Election of Officers

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 December 31, 2024, the District has \$9,110,175.00 as a combined investment of all accounts. The District has \$5,282,405 with the County of Kern, \$157,064 with WestAmerica Bank, and a combined total of \$3,670,166.00 with Stifel.

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

- Maintenance and Operation (M&O) \$1,927,097
- Endowment Care \$1,461,950
- Contracts \$1,815,039
- Capital Projects \$ 78,319
- Stifel \$3,670,166
- WestAmerica Bank \$ 215,528

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

Trustees' Comments

Trustee Braun: Shared possible Ossuary information.

Trustee Ezell: None

Trustee Olsen: Requested Manager Caudillo research upgrading Wasco Cemetery's office furniture, desk, carpet, and paint. Recommended researching Stinson's or Sierra Business Interior.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:36 pm by Chairman Braun. The next regular meeting is scheduled for February 20, 2025.

Signed,

Eliza Caudillo
District Manager