

Board of Trustees

Mark Franey  
Tanya Gordon  
Mark Vasquez  
Victor Keaton

**Barstow Cemetery District**  
**Mtn. View Memorial Park**  
37067 Irwin Rd.  
P.O. Box 1033 Barstow, CA 92312  
www.mountainviewmemorial.specialdistrict.org  
(760) 256-2797

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**  
**Emily Barry Helm**  
**Interim General Manager**

**Board of Trustees**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
Thursday, August 9, 2023, 1:00 PM

**Call To Order:**

1. The Board of Trustees Chairperson, Mark Franey, called the Regular meeting of the Barstow Cemetery District to order at 1:00 PM on Wednesday, August 9, 2023. Board Members present at roll call were Vice-Chairperson Tanya Gordon, Trustees Mark Vasquez, and Victor Keaton.
2. All present stood and recited the pledge of allegiance.
3. Notice of changes to Agenda items: None

**Presentation:**

1. Introduction of Emily Helm, Consultant

**Public Comments:**

1. David Maya, representing the Public/Friends of the Barstow Cemetery Facebook group; Comments were as noted: Happy with the Board's decision to hire an Interim General Manager, concerns about Board members and Staff attending conference in Monterey, CA, Jeannette Hayhurst stated that there was \$302,000.00 left in the grant for ongoing landscape project but would like to know where the \$58,000.00 difference went from the accounting of the balance in previous meetings, when the Board was heading into its Executive Session it was overheard that there were 7 lawsuits against the Cemetery but no explanation as to what was involved.
2. Cecelia Cordova, representing the Public/Friends of the Barstow Cemetery Facebook group; Comments were as noted: Welcome to the new Interim General Manager, Concerns of why the "Friends of the Barstow Cemetery were not a standing agenda items at this meeting, Minutes noting business at the Board meetings are requested to be written with greater accuracy.
3. Peter Castillo, representing the Public/Friends of the Barstow Cemetery Facebook group; Comments are as follows: Welcome to the new, Interim General Manager, clarification on the transportation of the DG that was donated by Brubaker Granite, request for more transparency, address cash flow and focus on revenue.

**General Manager Reports:**

1. None

**Consent Calendar:**

1. Approval of the agenda; adding items to or removing items from the agenda; or removing items from the Consent Calendar for discussion and/or separate action.

Motion: Tanya Gordon, Vice Chairperson

2<sup>nd</sup>: Victor Keaton, Trustee

Vote: Unanimous

2. Approval of the July 12, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes and Approval of the July 28, 2023, Special Meeting Minutes

Discussion: None

Recommended action: Approve all as presented.

Motion: Tanya Gordon, Vice Chairperson

2<sup>nd</sup> Mark Vasquez, Trustee

All In Favor: Unanimous

#### **Action and Information Items:**

1. Unfinished Business: None
  
2. New Business: None

#### **Items for Future Agenda:**

- a. Look into contracting some positions for the Cemetery grounds maintenance.

#### **Cemetery Board and Employee Comments:**

1. Mark Franey: Chairperson Franey addressed the conference attendance in Monterey for California Association of Special Districts. The sessions were informative, meeting new Vendors, including the CFF Endowment Investment group, which our Cemetery had no issues with when making the decision to close our account with them. We are utilizing those funds to shore up the County accounts and other much needed items at the Cemetery. He also stated that the Cemetery did not pay for his portion of the trip or conference.
2. Tanya Gordon: Vice Chair Gordon addressed a post on the Facebook page, "Friends of the Barstow Cemetery" where questions of compliance with the Brown Act were questioned. Vice Chair Gordon stated that the Regular Meeting Agenda should be posted within 72 hours of the meeting and that a Special meeting should be posted no later than 24 hours prior to the meeting both of which have been complied with concerning the Cemetery's meetings. Additionally stated was encouraging the public to review the Bown Act which is available on the internet. Anyone may request that the agenda be emailed prior to the meeting.
3. Mark Vasquez: Trustee Vasquez inquired about stated that the rock transportation is proving to be expensive but currently working on alternative measures. Volunteers are key to include in the aiding of the groundskeeping.
4. Victor Keaton: Trustee Keaton stated that at the previous meeting that Julie Clemmer was selling the company, Brubaker Mann, but that is not the case at present. Mr. Keaton felt that someone in the public circumvented the Board in contacting Ms. Clemmer concerning the possible sale and the company's involvement with the Cemetery. Trustee Keaton also inquired about how the cash deposits will be handled in the future.

#### **Announcements:**

1. None

**Closed Session:**

1. None

**Adjournment:**

1. Motion to Adjourn at 1:40 PM: Victor Keaton  
Second: Mark Vasquez  
All In Favor: Unanimous
2. The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will take place on September 13, 2023, in the Community Room of the Cemetery at 1:00 PM.

Minutes submitted by:

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Emily Barry Helm, Interim General Manager, Barstow Cemetery District

Accepted after Board Approval by:

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Mark Franey, Chairperson  
Barstow Cemetery District