

**Board of Trustees**

Mark Franey  
Tanya Gordon  
Mark Vasquez  
Victor Keaton  
Eugene Butticci

**Barstow Cemetery District**

**Mtn. View Memorial Park**

37067 Irwin Rd.  
P.O. Box 1033 Barstow, CA 92312  
[www.mountainviewmemorial.specialdistrict.org](http://www.mountainviewmemorial.specialdistrict.org)  
(760) 256-2797

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Ashley Tarpley  
General Manger

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**Regular Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday April 16, 2025, 4:00 PM

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The Board of Trustees Chairperson, Mark Franey, called the Regular meeting of the Barstow Cemetery District to order at 4:00 PM on Wednesday, April 16, 2025.

**ROLL CALL:**

- ☐ Mark Franey - Present
- ☐ Tanya Gordon- Present
- ☐ Mark Vasquez- Present
- ☐ Victor Keaton- Present
- ☐ Eugene Butticci- Present

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** All present stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PRESENTATIONS:** Antonio Gallo presented for Cooperative Funeral Fund

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** No changes were made at this time.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Tim Sludder- Felt that the cemetery had two separate entities that were working for the same goal but against each other. He feels there should be better communication between the Board and the public. He suggested that the Board allow a "guest board member" who speaks on behalf of the public. The guest member would not be allowed to vote on any matter but would be able to speak and comment as the other members do.

Betty Brock- She requested that the plans for the landscaping including milestones and goals be put on the next agenda to be discussed with the public. She stated that the public may also have some ideas on steps that could be taken to complete the landscaping. She also stated that the flower vases are not secured in the ground so they are being blown around and feels that should be addressed.

**GENERAL MANAGER REPORT:**

Ashley Tarpley reported the landscaping in the 4000 section has continued with the addition of drought tolerant plants and shrubs. She noted that the staff are still working on the section and once it

is completed they will continue with the projects in the upper blocks they were previously working on. The final report for the grant is being worked on at this time and must be completed to use the final grant funds. The funds left in the grant are enough to cover the costs for the labor compliance company, maybe even less at which point the additional funds to pay the bill will come from the cemetery.

## **CONSENT CALENDAR:**

### **1. MINUTES REGULAR MEETING – March 19, 2025, 4:00 P.M**

Meeting minutes for the Board of Trustees Regular Meeting on March 19, 2025, were emailed to the Board of Trustees on Monday, April 7, 2025, for their review.

**Discussion:** None.

**Motion to accept March 19, 2025, Regular Meeting minutes as presented:** Trustee Vasquez

**Second:** Trustee Buttici

**All In Favor:** Aye. Unanimous

## **BUSINESS / ACTION ITEMS:**

### **2. SALE OF LIFE QR PLAQUES.**

The recommendation of Ashley Tarpley, the General Manager, was to sell the Life QR plaques at \$250 per unit. Ashley presented the answers to questions asked at the previous Board meeting. This included that the family could transfer ownership of the page if needed, and that the company does not offer exclusiveness to any one cemetery for sales.

**Discussion:** Trustee Keaton was absent at the last meeting and requested additional information on the product which was provided by the General Manager.

Vice Chair Gordon requested that it be brought to the board at the next meeting if they would be able to purchase fewer quantities at a time after the initial 20 units are sold.

**Motion to approve the sale of Life QR Plaques for \$250 per unit:** Trustee Keaton

**Second:** Trustee Vasquez

**All in favor:** Aye. Unanimous.

### **3. FEE SCHEDULE FY 25/26- DISCUSSION ONLY.**

The recommendation of the General Manager is to increase the prices on the open and close fee as well as add a vault handling fee. These are charges that are comparable to other cemetery districts in the area. The General Manager is not asking for increases on any other fees.

**Discussion:** Trustee Buttici asked what the annual increase amount would be with these price increases. Trustee Vasquez stated he feels the proposed fees are reasonable charges requested.

### **4. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FY 25/26- DISCUSSION ONLY**

The recommendation of the General Manager is to change verbiage on policies and procedures for 4210.4.1 and 3130.5 to make them more clear and precise for the public. An additional request was made by the General Manager to add policies for disinterment's to the Rules and Regulations to make these more thorough and safer for the public and staff.

**Public Comments:** Tim Sludder stated that he feels the Board should allow additional time for individuals to speak during the public comments. If an individual is not done speaking, allowing for an

additional 30 seconds for them to complete their statement would help the public to feel more heard. He also asked to know what takes precedence the Policies and Procedures or the Rules and Regulations?

**Discussion:** Vice Chair Gordon asked for elaboration on the regulation for disinterment's that the staff would be released for the day after the disinterment. She felt that if a member of staff was in the office and did not participate in the disinterment it may not be necessary for them to be dismissed for the day.

Chairperson Franey stated that he felt the releasing of staff should be on a case-by-case basis depending on the extent of the disinterment. He also requested that additional entities, such as the coroner's office, be added to the list of authorities allowed on the premises during the disinterment.

## **BUDGET FY 25/26- DISCUSSION ONLY**

The recommendation of the General Manager is to accept the proposed budget at the next board meeting. The proposed budget is based off a new QuickBooks that is being used and believed to be more accurate for the current actuals and the proposed budget.

**Public Comments:** Betty Brock questioned if it was realistic to be able to double the income for the proposed year. She also questioned why there was no number provided for the category of equipment maintenance and what the interest fees were on the Amex credit card.

**Discussion:** Trustee Buttici advised that he understands due to the type of industry that it would be very hard to project what the income would be for the cemetery. That you can only look at previous sales for a month and try to predict a similar amount.

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORTS / COMMENTS:**

Mark Franey- Advised that he has met with the General Manager to discuss what the next steps would be for the landscaping project. It has been discussed that the curbing around the additional blocks would be the next phase but until there is funding there is no reason to put the subject on the agenda for discussion. He addressed Betty Brock to state that in reference to the budget that just because there is not a number under a specific category does not mean that it is not accounted for under another category name. In reference to Tim Sludder on the Policies and Procedures he advised staff is looking into the conflicting Rules and regulations to see where there need to be changes.

**Tanya Gordon-**None.

Mark Vasquez- Agreed that the cemetery is not in the condition he would like it to be either. That for there to be progress the communities' help is needed also. He knows that the "Friends of the Cemetery" are working on obtaining their 301 C to be able to help and in the meantime, he will also aid with things such as the purchase of at least one new trashcan.

Victor Keaton- Stated that he will be providing an additional canopy to the cemetery for services to help with providing a proper amount of shade.

Eugene Buttici-None.

**CLOSED SESSION:** None.

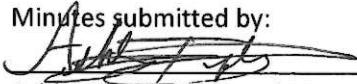
## **ADJOURNMENT:**

**Motion to Adjourn at 5:15 pm:** Trustee Buttici

**Second:** Trustee Keaton  
**All In Favor:** Aye. Unanimous

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will take place on May 21, 2025, 4:00 p.m., in the Community Room of the Barstow Cemetery District, 37067 Irwin Road, Barstow, CA 92311.

Minutes submitted by:



Ashley Tarpley, General Manager, Barstow Cemetery District

Accepted after Board Approval by:



Tanya Gordon, Vice Chairperson  
Barstow Cemetery District