

LINDSAY-STRATMORE PUBLIC CEMETERY DISTRICT
639 S. FOOTHILL- LINDSAY, CA 93247
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August 19, 2020

The meeting was called to order on August 19, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. in the Lindsay-Strathmore Cemetery District office by Director Dennis Medders. In addition to Director Medders, in attendance were Directors Jeff Tienken and Dale Rains, Mr. Seth Brown from California Turf and Cemetery Manager Brenda Altermatt.

Mower Purchase - Director Medders welcomed Mr. Brown to the meeting and, in respect for his time, allowed him to share information on the Exmark mower which would be addressed as the fourth item under Old Business. After answering questions from the members concerning his presentation about this piece of equipment, he invited them outside to personally see the mower. After inspecting the Exmark, the board members and Mrs. Altermatt thanked Mr. Brown for coming and he excused himself.

The meeting resumed:

Director Rains made the motion that the July 15, 2020 minutes be approved.

Director Tienken seconded the motion. With all in favor, the minutes were approved.

There were no Public Comments.

The directors reviewed and paid the current bills. Also examined were the ones that had required payment prior to the meeting. The total bills for July 2020 were: Salaries \$17,614.93; Water/Grove Care \$14,519.50; Medical Insurance \$2,770.16; Remaining expenses \$14,172.84. Cemetery income for July was \$44,123.52. (\$12,175.00 was citrus proceeds). The Tritten account balance was \$65,377.12.

Accessible at the meeting for the Board members to review were the June and July county balance sheets for the Pre-Need, Endowment and General Accounts (June's reports had not been processed at the time of last month's meeting). The second quarter Tulare County Quarterly Treasurer's Report was also available.

Mrs. Altermatt presented the August Cemetery Manager's Report (attached to the minutes).

Interments for July were: at Lindsay (11) full and (2) cremations and no burials at Frazier Valley.

Old Business:

Addition 15 - Manager Altermatt reported that compost and lime were applied to this Addition on July 23rd by Mike Brownfield's employees. The next day they disked the area incorporating the mixture into the soil. As there has been a problem with water leakage in some of the lines, and because Mr. Garza has been extremely busy he has not been able to seed the "test plot" to see if grass will indeed grow now. This must be done before the entire area is replanted.

COVID -19 - The district employees continue doing the necessary safety measures to protect our staff and the family members/friends, who come into the office, to cemetery grounds, or to services. Mrs. Altermatt said when Eddie Smith from Webb Sanders had ordered free standing hand sanitizers for his funeral home, she had asked him to order one for our cemetery also (which he did). It should be coming in soon.

Grounds Policy Issues – Manager Altermatt shared that members from one particular family had approached Director Tienken and her recently about replacing flat markers, which had been placed on gravesites at our cemetery a number of years ago, with upright markers. She said that since these gravesites were originally sold as flat marker locations (she had the family member's signed interment paperwork for the board members to review), that our policy has always been that they must remain as they had been originally sold. Throughout the years this has been the cemetery policy and families have always been denied a marker change when it has been proposed to the staff. The Board members agreed that the policy should remain unchanged so that there is consistency and fairness for all concerned. Mrs. Altermatt also reported that at this time compliance with the pop-up tent policy on the grounds, for the most part, is being followed.

Mower Purchase – As mentioned previously, Seth Brown had already presented California Turf's proposal for the Exmark mower. Other company's mower proposals were also looked at and considered. The board members requested that Mrs. Altermatt get one additional proposal before a decision is made. As the last mower our district purchased was a Kubota, they wanted to compare the price and description of another Kubota, and to talk with the grounds men to see if they liked working with this particular mower. The mower purchase was tabled until the September meeting.

New Business:

2019-2020 – David Farnsworth, C.P.A., the accountant who did last year's audit, had sent copies to Mrs. Altermatt of his 2019-20 audit proposal. The board members reviewed Mr. Farnsworth's report. They expressed that they had been pleased with the work and his presentation that he had done for the 2018-19 audit. Mr. Farnsworth submitted his cost proposal for (1) year, (3) years & (5) years. After some discussion, and as it was 10% lower than the other proposals, Director Rains moved that the (5) year proposal be accepted. Director Tienken seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor. A copy of the proposal is filed with the minutes.

Cemetery Staffing – Present cemetery staffing was discussed. It was decided that Mrs. Altermatt should begin looking for a part-time grounds man.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

The next regular Board meeting will be held at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday September 16, 2020.

Respectively Submitted,

