

**LINDSAY-STRATMORE PUBLIC CEMETERY DISTRICT**  
**639 S. FOOTHILL- LINDSAY, CA 93247**  
**PHONE/FAX: (559) 562-3349**

June 17, 2020

The meeting was called to order on June 17, 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 and Cemetery Manager Brenda Altermatt.

Director Rains made the motion that the May 20, 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 May 2020 were: Salaries \$11,696.14; Water/Grove Care \$4,446.39; Medical Insurance \$2,770.16; Remaining expenses \$6,910.36. Cemetery income for May was \$64,128.36. The Tulare County taxes/interest was \$15,277.33. The Tritten account balance was \$65,371.50.

Accessible at the meeting for the Board members to review were the county balance sheets for the Pre-Need, Endowment and General Accounts and the first quarter Tulare County Quarterly Treasurer's Report.

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

Interments for May were: at Lindsay (11) full and (4) cremations and no burials at Frazier Valley.

### **Old Business:**

**Addition 15** – Director Jeff Tienken reported that a soil analysis for this Addition has now been completed by a lab in Tulare. Among other things, the report revealed that there was a buildup of the weed killer, Goal, in the top (2) inches of the soil. This could possibly be contributing to the problem of our grass seed not germinating. He also said that he and Farm Manager Mike Brownfield have been discussing different options and the best way to proceed now that we are aware of what the potential problems are. Some things that they were considering were chiseling or disking the ground twelve inches deep, incorporating compost or manure with lime into the soil and/or planting grass seed on a "test plot" before reseeding the whole area. Manager Altermatt informed the board members that an employee from Mr. Brownfield had disked this area two times in the past week.

**COVID -19 Cemetery Compliance**– Mrs. Altermatt reported that the procedures that have been in place for the office and for the interments for the past few months has worked out reasonably well. She said that she had checked with a local sheriff's officer and there is no "official" way of being able to enforce the cemetery regulations when individuals are on our grounds. As things are beginning to loosen up in California concerning Coronavirus, she told the members that a sneeze guard of Plexiglas has been ordered for Becky's desk when the office is open once again and family members are allowed to come in to complete paperwork and make payments. Also, compliance signs have been ordered for the cemetery entrances.

She will update the COVID-19 paperwork to be given to the funeral homes, posted at our office, and provided to the families in their interment folders.

**Memorial Day Follow Up** – Manager Altermatt was pleased to inform the Board members that the Memorial Day observance at the cemetery went very well. Refreshments (doughnuts, water & sodas) were provided to the helpers and staff on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, when the flags were put up & taken down. She also presented a copy of the Porterville Recorder where a picture of our cemetery's flags were on the front page along with an article conveying the importance of Lindsay residents/volunteers donating their time and service to assist the District in flying the Memorial Day flags.

### **New Business:**

**2020-2021 Fiscal Year Budget** – The Tulare County paperwork for the next fiscal year's budget was reviewed and discussed by the Board members. Mrs. Altermatt was excused from the meeting when the staff salaries were deliberated and decided upon. Upon returning to the meeting, they requested that she change the Cemetery Manager's salary steps as indicated. Director Rains made the motion, seconded by Director Tienken, with all in favor, that the presented budget and revised salary steps be approved. A copy of the paperwork is attached to the minutes.

**Ms. Angelica Ruiz – Bench Placement** – During the May Board meeting a phone call was received from Angelica Ruiz requesting to be put on speaker phone to address the board members. Although it was past Public Comments, Director Medders allowed Ms. Ruiz to share her concerns with them. She said that the issue she wanted to address was the placement location of a bench for her uncle, Arturo Ruiz Juarez. She wanted it set on the cemetery grass by his grave under a tree. The site that had been approved by LSCD staff for the bench was in the same row as his gravesite but by the fence.

Ms. Angelica Ruiz was told on the phone that she could be put on the June agenda if she wanted to discuss this matter further with the board members because no action or decision could be made by the board unless it was placed on the agenda. Director/President Medders requested Manager Altermatt to place this issue on the June agenda for Board consideration. After discussing the bench placement location, on a motion by Director Rains, second by Director Tienken, with all in favor, the board decided that the bench must be placed by the fence at the location that had been approved by the cemetery staff.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

The next regular Board meeting will be held at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday July 15, 2020.

Respectively Submitted,

