

LINDSAY-STRATMORE PUBLIC CEMETERY DISTRICT
639 S. FOOTHILL- LINDSAY, CA 93247
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May 26, 2021

The May meeting was called to order on May 26, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. in the Lindsay-Strathmore Cemetery District office by Director Dale Rains. The meeting was originally scheduled for May 19, 2021, but due to lack of quorum, the meeting was rescheduled for this date. In addition to Director Rains, in attendance was Director Jeff Tienken, Cemetery Manager Brenda Altermatt, Mrs. Dana Bain and Mrs. Bain's daughter, Sherri Byers. Director Medders was on vacation.

(New Business) Dana Bain—Re:Cemetery Headstone: *In respect to Mrs. Bain's time and schedule, Director Rains, called on her to express her concerns about the type of marker that the cemetery had designated could be placed on her husband's grave—a flat double. Ms. Byers, Mrs. Bain's daughter, stated that they were not in agreement with LSCD's decision that only a flat marker could be placed on Mr. James Bain's grave. She questioned whether LSCD grounds foremen and cemetery managers had the authority to decide the type of marker that could be placed on gravesites at our cemeteries. She stated that she had contacted the Kumskowski's, owners of Pre-Need gravesites around Mr. Bain's, and had been told that if their family used these graves for burials that they were planning on placing only flat markers on them. She told the board members that if an upright marker were placed on her father's grave that she believed that this would still allow for any future interments to be dug. Ms. Byers also said that she had contacted the cemetery staff and found out the type of backhoe that they used to dig our interment graves. She said that she had obtained information about this particular backhoe and was told that because of its specifications, it should be able to dig any burials that would need to be dug in this area. Feeling that they needed to physically see the area being discussed, Directors Rains and Tienken went out on the grounds with Ms. Byers to check the location of Mr. Bain's gravesite. Upon returning to the office, Director Rains excused Mrs. Bain and Ms. Byers. He thanked them for coming to the meeting and for expressing their concerns. After some discussion the directors present stated that they all felt that a full board agreement, with all board members present, was needed. This item will be put on the agenda for the June meeting. The directors and Mrs. Altermatt expressed that this is a very important issue, and could possibly set an ongoing policy precedent concerning markers. Additionally, LSCD could experience repercussions as other individuals, over the years, have also wanted to place an upright marker on their loved ones graves at our cemetery. These individuals were told that only a flat marker could be placed on the grave—if that is what the paperwork and the computer entry states. These families have complied and have placed a flat marker.*

(Director Rains continued with the order of the meeting)

Director Tienken made the motion that the April 21, 2021 minutes be approved.

Director Rains 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 April 2021 were: Salaries \$12,330.76; Water/Grove Care \$9,044.21; Medical Insurance \$1,385.08; Remaining expenses \$10,023.88.

Cemetery income for April was \$65,511.67(included is the burial and pre-need income, endowment, the interests for the two Bank of Sierra accounts).The Tritten

account balance was \$48,347.22. The Tulare County interests/taxes for our three accounts (Pre-Need, Endowment and General Accounts) totaled \$35,812.84. The Tulare County fourth quarter Treasurer's Report was also available for the Board members to review.

Interments for April were (7) full burials and (4) cremations, all at Lindsay.

Old Business:

Addition 15 – The board members expressed their disappointment that the grass in this addition was still not growing and that this addition could not be opened. Because of the drought in California, they felt that regrettably, we should stop watering this new section until possibly the fall when the reseeding will be started again, hopefully with more success.

Cemetery Staffing – Mrs. Altermatt reported that grounds man, Alfonso Holguin, (he had worked for us through U.S.A. Staffing) was hired by our district on May 3rd and had to be terminated on May 20th. We had some applications for the grounds man position on file and Manager Altermatt said that after interviewing the individuals, we hired Andrew Dueñas. His residence is in Lindsay, close proximity to the cemetery. After giving a (2) weeks' notice at his present job, he will begin working at LSCD on June 7th. Mrs. Altermatt said that she has become aware of someone that might apply for the part-time secretarial position. There will be an update at the next meeting on both of these positions.

New Business:

Dana Bain- Re: Cemetery Headstone – See previous page for Dana Bain-Headstone

Memorial Day Observance – Manager Altermatt said that once again, Frank Moran, from Lindsay High School will be bringing students and possibly other staff members to assist in putting up and taking down the veteran's flags on Memorial weekend. LSCD will provide doughnuts, water and soda's both days for the volunteers. Mike Stout from the American Legion provided checks from their organization for Lindsay High's athletic department (\$500.00), 99 Pipeline (they put up the small flags on the veteran's graves—\$500.00) and for LSCD (\$75.00). David Wendt, from 99 Pipeline, said that he would rather us use the money for some type of memorial at the cemetery. Mrs. Altermatt asked the board members to be thinking about what type of memorial we'd like to purchase and/or place at the cemetery.

Drought – Grounds and Citrus Evaluation – The status of the current drought was discussed by the board members. Grounds Foreman Jaime Garza is trying to water the grounds sparingly, but wants to keep the grass green (and alive) if possible. Our orange grove on the north side is being watered exclusively by the pump. The south grove is being watered by the L.S.I.D. water allotment.

On a motion by Director Tienken and second by Director Rains, with all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

The next regular Board meeting will be held at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday June 16, 2021.

Respectively Submitted,

