

**MEETING OF THE BOARD TRUSTEES OF ESCALON CEMETERY DISTRICT
28320 E. River Road, Escalon, CA 95320**

ADJOURNED MEETING MINUTES

**Wednesday, September 9, 2026
5:00 p.m.**

II. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:52 p.m.

III. ROLL CALL

Board President, Terri Rocha	District Manager, Laura Alcantor
Board Treasurer, Lynn Hogue	Office Assistant, Annmarie Freeseha
Board Secretary, John Bedell	

All members were present except Board Secretary Bedell, who was excused.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AS POSTED OR AMENDED

Board Treasurer Hogue moved to approve the agenda as amended, Board President Rocha seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

County reports listed on the agenda were not received from the County and will be reviewed at the next Regular Meeting.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public present.

VI. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Minutes:

Board Treasurer Hogue moved to the accept the minutes from the Regular Board Meeting on August 12, 2026. Board President Rocha seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

B. Financial Statements:

Presented by: District Manager, Laura Alcantor

Requested Action/Purpose: July 2026 County Reports were not available and will be reviewed at the next Board Meeting on October 14, 2026.

Attachments: None.

C. Warrants for Bills, Invoices and Required Payments:

Presented by: District Manager, Laura Alcantor

Requested Action/Purpose: List of bills, invoices, and other payments the district is required to make and the source of the account from which the payment will be made.

Attachments: August 2026 Warrant Logs

Warrants are prepared by the District Manager, Office Support and/or Board President Rocha. The warrant requests were reviewed and approved by a person who did not prepare the warrants and signed by those involved in their preparation.

VII. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Burials:

August 2026	10	Calendar (YTD)	56	August 2026	10	Calendar (YTD)	56
Resident	3	Resident	30	Casket	4	Casket	31
Non-Resident	7	Non-Resident	26	Cremation	6	Cremation	25
Fiscal (YTD)	15	Fiscal (YTD)	15	Other (Monthly)		Other (F-YTD)	
Resident	6	Casket	7	Pre-Needs	10	Pre-Needs	26
Non-Resident	9	Cremation	8	Vases	0	Vases	4

B. Bank Accounts:

Presented by: District Manager, Laura Alcantor

Requested Action/Purpose: Discussion, activity, and balance of bank accounts at Oak Valley Community Bank.

Attachments: August 2026 Statements

Oak Valley Community Bank checking account ending in #2674.

Month	Autopay to PG&E	Autopay to VISA	Earned Interest	Balance
August	\$1,387.38	\$1,469.45	\$2.08	\$16,313.87

August 2026 – \$14,710.36 – County Reimbursement – 8/13/2026

\$ 9,755.85 should have been deposited into account ending in #4782. See Below.

Oak Valley Community Bank checking account ending in #4782.

Month	Earned Interest	Balance
August	\$34.38	\$84,751.94

County Reimbursement for GSRMA Payment (Workers Compensation) - \$ 9,755.85

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Non-Qualified Burial Exception

Presenting: District Manager, Laura Alcantor

Requested Action/Purpose: Review and approval of District Manager preliminary approval of Non-Qualified Burial Request.

Summary: At the Board Meeting on August 12, 2026, the Board reviewed and approved the proposed policy regarding delegation of authority for immediate-need burials involving non-qualified individuals. Board President Rocha moved to accept the policy as presented. Board Secretary Bedell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Following the vote, Board Treasurer Hogue reviewed the policy and confirmed that it had already been approved, noting that she is aware of the update and its intended application.

A Non-Qualified Interment Request was subsequently submitted for a decedent who passed away on September 1, 2026. The District Manager completed the preliminary review and recommended approval. Board President Rocha moved to approve the interment request. Board Treasurer Hogue seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Attachments: Completed Application for Non-Qualified Interment Approval.

B. Conflict of Interest Policy

Presenting: Board President, Terri Rocha

Requested Action/Purpose: Review and approval of Conflict of Interest Policy.

Summary: Board President Rocha presented the Conflict of Interest Policy in response to a formal request from the Fair Political Practice Commission. The District prepared the policy for adoption so it could be forwarded to the Board of Supervisors as required.

Following review, Board Treasurer Hogue motioned to approve the Conflict of Interest Policy. Board President Rocha seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Attachments: None

IX. OLD BUSINESS

A. Cemetery Informational Brochure

Presenting: District Manager, Laura Alcantor

Requested Action/Purpose: Discussion and possible direction regarding use of an informational brochure for families about permanent placement options for cremated remains using the At Home to At Rest templates.

Summary: The District Manager presented the brochure concept and outlined its potential value for families. At the prior meeting, the Board raised concerns about whether the District may legally use the At Home to At Rest slogan due to California Public Cemetery laws and the presence of the trademark symbol. The District Manager confirmed with Anne Cressy Berkoff that the trademarked phrase may be used as long as the “TM” designation remains in place.

The District Manager also clarified that the California Health & Safety Code does not restrict use of the slogan; however, because Burwood Cemetery is an Endowment Care Cemetery, the brochure must include an Endowment Care disclosure to comply with statutory requirements.

The Board reviewed the brochure, discussed the trademark information, and confirmed compliance with the applicable Health & Safety Code provisions. Board Treasurer Hogue motioned to approve the brochure as presented. Board President Rocha seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Attachments: None

B. All American Veterans Voice

Presenting: District Manager, Laura Alcantor

Requested Action/Purpose: Follow-Up Item: Installation Fee for Veteran Markers

Summary: District Manager Alcantor reported that Duke Cooper requested the District’s installation cost for placing the veteran markers once family permission is obtained and the markers are ready for placement. After discussion, the Board determined that a \$100 installation fee per headstone would be a fair and appropriate charge to cover payroll, equipment use, and wear-and-tear associated with the work.

Board Treasurer Hogue motioned to approve the \$100 installation fee. Board President Rocha seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

Attachments: None.

C. California CLASS Investment

Presenting: District Manager, Laura Alcantor

Requested Action/Purpose: Adopt all necessary policies required for participation in California CLASS.

Summary: The District Manager reported that all necessary policies required for participation in California CLASS have now been formally adopted. Board President Rocha and Board Treasurer Hogue have signed the policies, and Board Secretary Bedell reviewed them prior to the meeting but was excused and not present for the vote. With the policies completed, the District may now proceed to the next step in the California CLASS investment process.

Board Treasurer Hogue motioned to approve moving forward with the next step in the California CLASS process. Board President Rocha seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Attachments: None.

D. South Property Washout

Presenting: District Manager, Laura Alcantor

Requested Action/Purpose: Tabled

Attachments: None.

E. Irrigation Issue – Future Gardens 17-26

Presenting: District Manager, Laura Alcantor

Requested Action/Purpose: Research details and convey information to the board.

Summary: At the Board Meeting on August 12, 2026, Secretary Bedell requested clarification regarding long-term irrigation system preparedness. Specifically, he asked whether the existing gardens could be connected to the new controller in the event of a future system failure.

District Manager Alcantor reported that, based on updated information, the new controller will only be able to operate Gardens 17–26 due to connectivity limitations. If the older gardens experience issues in the future, a separate controller would need to be purchased to support those areas.

The District has received a material-cost quote from Heritage Landscape and an installation-cost quote from Swift Lawn and Garden. The total cost analysis for the project is \$17,000.00, with materials purchased at cost through Heritage Landscape and installation services paid separately to Swift Lawn and Garden.

Board Treasurer Hogue motioned to approve the \$17,000.00 cost analysis for the project. Board President Rocha seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Attachments: None.

X. ITEMS TOO LATE FOR THE AGENDA

XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY TRUSTEES

XII. ANNOUNCEMENT OF FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS

Regular Board Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of every month at 11:00 a.m. at the Cemetery Office located at 28320 E. River Road, Escalon, CA 95320. The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for October 14, 2026.

XIII. ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 5:22 p.m.