

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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, August 12, 2026
11:03 a.m.

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 11:03 a.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Board President, Terri Rocha
Board Treasurer, Lynn Hogue
Board Secretary, John Bedell

District Manager, Laura Alcantor
Office Assistant, Annmarie Freeseha

All members were present except Board Treasurer Hogue, who was excused.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AS POSTED OR AMENDED

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

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

See New Business Topic A.

V. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Minutes:

Board Secretary Bedell moved to the accept the minutes from the Regular Board Meeting on June 10, 2026, and Special Board Actions from July and August 2026. Board President Rocha seconded the motion. No meeting was held in July 2026. Motion approved unanimously.

B. Financial Statements:

Presented by: Laura Alcantor

Requested Action/Purpose: Discussion of the financial reports for the month of June that were made available after the August 2026 Agenda was posted.

Attachments: June 2026 Financial County Reports and Actual Cost to Budget Plan reporting summary. County of San Joaquin Auditor- Controller- General Journal (TDR 305561).

June 2026		Revenue	Expense	Balance
4010FD	Operating	\$12,093.25	\$31,598.52	\$(47,411.70)
4011FD	Pre-Need	\$1,650.00	\$2,400.00	\$464,732.00
4012FD	Endowment	\$775.00	\$0.00	\$1,187,553.85
4013FD	Capital Outlay	\$700.00	\$158.00	\$454,196.57

C. Warrants for Bills, Invoices and Required Payments:

Presented by: 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: June & July 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.

VI. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Burials:

June 2026	7	Calendar (YTD)	41	June 2026	7	Calendar (YTD)	41
Resident	3	Resident	24	Casket	2	Casket	24
Non-Resident	4	Non-Resident	17	Cremation	5	Cremation	17
Fiscal (YTD)	76	Fiscal (YTD)	76	Other (Monthly)		Other Fiscal (YTD)	
Resident	41	Casket	40	Pre-Needs	1	Pre-Needs	33
Non-Resident	35	Cremation	36	Vases	4	Vases	29
July 2026	5	Calendar (YTD)	46	July 2026	5	Calendar (YTD)	46
Resident	3	Resident	27	Casket	3	Casket	27
Non-Resident	2	Non-Resident	19	Cremation	2	Cremation	19
Fiscal (YTD)	5	Fiscal (YTD)	5	Other (Monthly)		Other (F-YTD)	
Resident	3	Casket	3	Pre-Needs	16	Pre-Needs	16
Non-Resident	2	Cremation	2	Vases	4	Vases	4

B. Bank Accounts:

Presented by: Laura Alcantor

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

Attachments: June & July 2026 Statements

Oak Valley Community Bank checking account ending in #2674.

Month	Autopay to PG&E		Autopay to VISA		Earned Interest	Balance
June	\$1,286.38		\$1,705.65		\$1.55	\$16,174.54
June 2026 – \$12,463.33 – County Reimbursement – 6/11/2026						
Month	Autopay to PG&E	Autopay to VISA	SDI Quarterly Payment	Cromwell & Ney Insurance	Earned Interest	Balance
July	\$1,318.38	\$2,387.72	\$569.01	\$679.40	\$2.08	\$14,214.14
July 2026 – \$2,992.03 – County Reimbursement – 07/13/2026						

Oak Valley Community Bank checking account ending in #4782.

Month	Earned Interest	Balance
June	\$34.79	\$84,681.73

Month	Payment to GSRMA (Workers Compensation)	Earned Interest	Balance
July	\$9,755.85	\$35.83	\$74,961.71

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. All American Veterans Voice

Presenting: Duke Cooper and Steve Rogers from All American Veterans Voices
Requested Action/Purpose: Headstones for Veterans

Summary: Duke Cooper, President and one of the founders of All American Veterans Voice, presented information regarding a program to provide headstones for veterans without one or with a cement marker at Burwood Cemetery. His organization intends to fundraise, purchase the headstones and cover installation costs. At this time, Burwood Cemetery will not be involved in any fundraising efforts or research activities associated with the project.

Board President Rocha moved to allow Mr. Cooper to begin his project independently, with the understanding that the District's role would be limited verifying which veterans are without headstones and to contacting families for permission should headstone placement be proposed in the future. Board Secretary Bedell seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

Attachments: None.

B. Non-Qualified Burial Policy

Presenting: Laura Alcantor, District Manager

Requested Action/Purpose: Review and approval of Non-Qualified Burial Request Policy.

Summary: Consideration and Approval of Board Policy Regarding Delegation of Authority for Immediate-Need Burials. Board President Rocha moved to accept, Board Secretary Bedell seconded motion. Motion passed unanimously. This Policy will be presented to Board Treasurer, Hogue for review and signature at the Board Meeting on September 9, 2026.

Attachments: None.

C. Emergency Irrigation System Repair – Old Gardens

Presenting: Laura Alcantor, District Manager

Requested Action/Purpose: Report of emergency operational action taken between meetings.

Summary: In early July 2026, the District experienced a failure in the main irrigation system serving the Old Gardens. Contractors confirmed a break in the underground line beneath the pump requiring emergency repair. Because the July regular meeting was not held, each Board member was contacted individually and approved the emergency repair and upgrade with the use of the Capital Outlay Fund. No trustee-to-trustee communication occurred. Repairs began on July 8, 2026. Information was reviewed at the board meeting. Board Secretary Bedell moved to accept, Board President Rocha seconded motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Attachments: None

D. Non-Qualified Burial Exception

Presenting: Laura Alcantor, District Manager

Requested Action/Purpose: Board review and direction regarding a non-qualified pre-need casket burial request.

Summary: The burial request was submitted by an individual who performs occasional work at Burwood Cemetery. The board reviewed the letter that was submitted. Board President Rocha moved to accept, Board Secretary Bedell seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Attachments: None

E. Cemetery Informational Brochure

Presenting: Laura Alcantor, District Manager

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

Summary: The District Manager presented sample brochures for Board review and requested direction on whether the District may use these materials as part of its public informational resources. The Board requested additional clarification regarding the slogan “At Home to At Rest” and whether the District is legally permitted to use this wording due to the trademark symbol displayed on the brochure. The Board directed staff to conduct further research to determine whether a public cemetery may use trademarked language. This item was tabled pending additional information.

Attachments: None

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

A. California CLASS Investment

Presented by: Rick Wood, Chief Finance & Operations Officer, California Special Districts Association

Requested Action/Purpose: (Tabled) Moving forward with policy adoption as policies are being written for approval.

Attachments: None

B. South Property Washout

Presenting: Laura Alcantor

Requested Action/Purpose: Tabled

Attachments: None.

C. Irrigation Issue – Future Gardens 17-26

Presenting: Laura Alcantor

Requested Action/Purpose: Tabled

Attachments: None

Summary: District Manager Alcantor informed the Board that the District has received a material-cost quote from Heritage Landscape and an installation-cost quote from Swift Lawn and Garden. Secretary Bedell requested clarification on whether the existing gardens could be connected to the new controller in the event of a future system failure, noting the importance of long-term preparedness. This item is tabled pending additional information and, due to the overall project cost, the Board would like Treasurer Hogue present before making a final decision.

IX. ITEMS TOO LATE FOR THE AGENDA

A. Non-Qualified Burial Exception

Presenting: Laura Alcantor, District Manager

Requested Action/Purpose: Board review and direction regarding a non-qualified casket burial request.

Summary: The burial request was submitted by a family. The board reviewed the letter that was submitted. Board President Rocha moved to accept, Board Secretary Bedell seconded motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Attachments: None

X. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY TRUSTEES

Board Secretary Bedell informed the Board that he will be unable to attend the September 9, 2026, Board meeting.

XI. 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 September 9, 2026.

XII. ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 12:24 p.m.