

Kern County Cemetery District Minutes for

September 17, 2026

Regular Board Meeting
Shafter Memorial Park Office
18662 Santa Fe Way, Shafter, CA

Call to Order: Call to Order at 12:07 p.m. by Chairman Braun. Chairman Braun led the flag salute.

Roll Call: In attendance were Barry Braun, Chairman of the Board; Carl Olsen, Vice-Chair; Jerry Ezell, Secretary of the Board.

Employees: Lisa Mundis, District Manager; Denton Carender, Superintendent; Alicia Reveles, Secretary.

Visitors: None.

Public Comment: None.

Consent Calendar: The Minutes of the regular Board meeting for August 2026 were approved, with corrections to the management update: fourth item to read "A traffic signal-controlled intersection...", and fifth item to read "...limited to taxpaying residents...". The payroll warrants, vouchers, checks, and financial reports for August 2026 were approved. This was done by approval of the consent calendar by motion of Trustee Ezell, seconded by Trustee Olsen: 3 ayes, unanimous.

Management Update

- We had 12 services in Shafter and 5 services in Wasco for August 2026. This gives us 57 services for the fiscal year to date. We are at a 25% cremation rate.
- Nayeli Delgado, Secretary submitted a photo of the Wasco Cemetery to the CAPC for consideration of inclusion in the 2027 Calendar. The photo was chosen for the April 2027 page of the CAPC Calendar. Chairman Braun requested we order calendars for each office and shop location and thanked Nayeli for submitting.

Annual Review of Stifle Investments presented by Sandra Wheeler

Sandra provided an overview of our accounts and the interest earnings for the past year, along with the annual current yield of 4.19 to 4.40 percent in five year bonds. She indicated the recent federal reserve increase in rate of a quarter of a percent would yield 5.0 percent or higher in the coming months.

Sandra suggested that we transfer lower yield, short-term pooled funds from Kern County Treasury into Stifle investment accounts, particularly the Endowment Care fund that is restricted and unspendable. She also suggested opening an additional account to transfer the Endowment Care interest earnings, monthly, because those are spendable funds and needed for future Capital Projects.

No action was taken by the Board at this time. The Board instructed District Manager Lisa Mundis to gather more information on other accounts with Kern County Treasury and to confer with the District's Auditor/Accounting firm to determine total Contract Account Liability for possible transfer of additional Treasury accounts, and future planning.

Basin Improvement Project 2026

Sealed bids from contractors to make improvements to the basin were opened by the retained engineering firm Provost & Pritchard on September 21, 2026. The low bid and recommended contractor was Superior Ag Construction, Inc for \$285,027.

The motion was made to accept the bid submitted by Superior Ag Construction, Inc. and authorizes the Notice of Award be sent to the winning bidder by Trustee Olsen and seconded by Trustee Ezell: 3 ayes, unanimous.

Burial Equipment Purchase

In order to increase operational efficiency and reduce risk of service delays, mechanical failures, and injury to grounds crew, District Manager, Lisa Mundis and Superintendent Denny Carender recommend purchasing additional burial equipment for each cemetery. Two complete burial set-ups will cost \$56,972.

The motion was made to purchase two complete burial set-ups by Trustee Braun and seconded by Trustee Olsen: 3 ayes, unanimous.

Columbarium Purchase

The current niche spaces available at each cemetery will be exhausted within 18 months, at current interment rates. To address future demand and in conjunction with the Section B expansion, District Manager Lisa Mundis obtained quotes from four columbarium/ossuary suppliers. The low bid and recommended supplier is Rico's Memorial Stones, Inc., with a cost of \$79,672 for two identical columbariums – one for Shafter Memorial Park's Section B and one for Wasco in an undecided location.

The motion was made to purchase two columbarium/ossuaries by Trustee Olsen and seconded by Trustee Braun: 3 ayes, unanimous.

Trustees' Comments

- Trustee Ezell: Attended a funeral at Greenlawn Memorial Park and commented on the poor condition of the grounds. He appreciates our grounds staff for maintaining better facilities than Greenlawn.
- Trustee Braun: The bathroom upgrades look nice.
- Asked District Manager Mundis to contact the City of Shafter regarding the poor road condition at the entrance from Burbank. Asked District Manager Mundis to speak with Jay Payne of South Valley Farms regarding purchase of adjacent orchard property south of Oleander Street.
- Discussed communication planned to send to Basham and Lara Funeral Home regarding their repeated violation of policy, unprofessional conduct with cemetery staff, interference with other services and maintenance operations, in a most arrogant manner. "Include the word arrogant".
- Trustee Olsen: Agree with District Manager Mundis's recommendation that a letter to Basham and Lara go through our Attorney Brian Hughes.

Adjournment

Chairman Braun adjourned at 1:34 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for October 15, 2026.

Signed,

Lisa Mundis
District Manager