

Kern County Cemetery District Minutes for

December 18, 2025

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

Call to Order: Call to Order at 12:12 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 - Absent.

Employees: Eliza Caudillo, District Manager; Denton Carender, Superintendent; Nayeli Delgado, Secretary.

Visitors: None.

Public Comment: None.

Consent Calendar: Minutes of the regular Board meeting for November 2025. The payroll warrants for 25/23 through 25/24 were approved. Vouchers, checks, and financial reports for November 2025 were approved. This was done by approval of the consent calendar by motion of Trustee Olsen and seconded by Trustee Braun: 2 ayes, 0 noes and 1 absent.

Management Update

- We had 15 services in Shafter and 11 services in Wasco in November 2025. This gives us 115 services for the fiscal year to date. We are at a 26% cremation rate.
- In accordance with the District's Records and Retention Policy, specific accounting records for the time frame of July 1, 2013, to June 30, 2016, will be destroyed.
- The California Association of Public Cemeteries has scheduled the 68th Annual conference for March 19th-21st, 2026. The conference will be held at the Embassy Suites by Hilton Anaheim South in Garden Grove, CA. It is advisable that we attend to fulfill the required AB1234 Ethics Training. I need a firm commitment today to allow for any rooms, registration fees, and dinner arrangements.
- Manager Caudillo and Trustee Braun attended the CSDA SB707 Brown Act Revamping Webinar on December 10, 2025, at 10am. This webinar is intended to equip special districts with the knowledge necessary to comply with the biggest changes to the Brown Act in decades. On October 3, 2025, Governor Newsom signed SB 707 (Durazo) into law which makes sweeping revisions to the Brown Act. All special districts and other Brown Act-observing agencies will need to become familiar with the new law before January 1, 2026. Additionally, some cities, counties, and special districts that fall into the "eligible legislative bodies" classification (established by the bill's provisions) will have to meet additional requirements, generally starting July 1, 2026.

Department of Agriculture

The Department of Agriculture and Measurements Standards requests that the Department of Pesticide Regulation require each public agency to have a licensed representative to obtain a restricted materials permit for the application of pesticides and herbicides. Superintendent Denton Carender is the licensed employee for the Kern County Cemetery District.

Trustee Olsen moved to authorize Trustee Braun to sign the required letter of understanding from the Dept of Agriculture and Measurement Standards for the necessary pesticide application permit. Superintendent Denny Carender is the licensed employee for the Kern County Cemetery District. Trustee Braun seconded the motion. 2 ayes, 0 noes, 1 absent.

Sale of Tax Default Property

Manager Caudillo presented the tax-defaulted consent document needed for the County Board of Supervisors Resolution #2025-235, dated November 4, 2025. The Board discussed the process and had no issues with the consent of the sale of tax-defaulted property. The sale is scheduled for March 09-11, 2026.

The motion was made by Trustee Olsen and seconded by Trustee Braun consenting to the sale of tax-defaulted property within the District boundaries. The consent is to be signed by the Chairman of the Board and mailed to the County of Kern; 2 ayes, 0 noes, 1 absent.

Trustees' Comments

- Trustee Olsen: Requested confirmation that the application for the District Manager position is January 9, 2026.
- Trustee Ezell: Absent
- Trustee Braun: Would like to know if there is any defaulted land in the area of Highway 58 and Highway 43 for the potential development of a new cemetery. He also inquired about the progress of the drainage basin and the Section B irrigation system. Trustee Braun also inquired about 2026-27 equipment needs for budget purposes. He requested an update on the San Joaquin Valley Air EV application.

Adjournment

Chairman Braun adjourned at 12:52 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for January 16, 2026.

Signed,

Eliza Caudillo
District Manager