

South Summit Cemetery Maintenance District

48 E. 100 North
Kamas, Utah 84036

August 18, 2026

MEETING MINUTES

Attendance: Board Chair Rhonda Fitzgerald, Board Members Kristie Bair, Cindy Butterfield, and Donna Ure, and Clerk, Brinedette Howick. Board Member Jack Clegg appeared by telephone.

Guests present: None.

Call meeting to Order: Rhonda called the meeting to order.

Public Input: None.

Continued discussion and potential motion re: Drafting and posting of bid for installation of a well in Oakley: The Board reviewed the proposed language for the bid posting.

Jack made a Motion to post the bid for a well in Oakley; Kristie second the Motion; and, the Motion carried unanimously.

Continued discussion and potential motion re: increase in plot prices: Donna asked for clarification on an increase to the price because residents pay cemetery property taxes.

The Board discussed the difference between the right to bury and the property taxes to manage the District. Jack said the property taxes are for the maintenance for the entire District. Jack said a portion of the property taxes residents pay is allocated to the schools too.

Cindy said the purchase price is for the right of that person to be buried in that plot of ground and the property taxes are to maintain that grave and all of the rest of the cemeteries for years and years. Cindy said she is okay with the price for a right to bury being increased to \$300, but she does not want to price people out because it is so expensive to die. Cindy said we are currently way under what other districts around us are charging, but she did not feel good about increasing from \$100 to \$600 for a district resident.

Kristie said she thought that an increase to the ballpark of \$250 to \$300 was in order.

Jack suggested the Board remember the District pays the residential price when we buy back the right to bury from people. Jack stated that many people buy the right to bury in bulk and they are buying them a long time before they die. Jack agreed that \$300 is fair.

Rhonda agreed that \$300 was a fair price to increase too, but she does not want the increase to

be put into effect today, but to wait until the first of the year.

Cindy asked if Donna had more thoughts to share with the Board.

Donna said she thought if the property taxes go up and up over time (stated her personal property taxes were \$30 for the cemetery) so on top of that continued increase over time, for someone to pay for a plot seemed like we do not have money in our budget already or are we not budgeting for it. Donna did not think there was a super strong need to charge more when in their property taxes, people are already paying for it. Donna agreed that \$300 is not a ton but said it could create a hoarding problem because people will want to keep and not sell the right to bury back to us because then their kids would have to pay.

Brin explained that the District's budget comes from property taxes collected each year. Those funds are used for the maintenance of the entire District including roads, sprinklers, wells, fences, weeds, lawn maintenance, and purchasing additional property. For instance, Kamas is not selling right to bury and has not for many years, but it still requires maintenance and the funds to do so come largely from the property taxes which make up the District's general fund. The amount of the sale of a right to bury is absorbed into the general fund of the budget as well, but it is a small fraction of the budget that is required to operate and maintain the District.

Cindy said she thought if the right to bury is increased to \$300, maybe the higher price will cause people to think "how many do we really need" and that would help address any hoarding problem.

Donna said the Board has kind of addressed the hoarding problem by only selling two in Marion or four in the other cemeteries.

Kristie expressed her concern with staying the same is it would be a lot better to increase the price for a right to bury in smaller increments than a huge jump in price in the future. Kristie said this District is the lowest she could find and increasing our residential price to \$300 would bring us to the lower level of what the other districts are charging for a right to bury.

Jack said it was increased from \$25 to \$100 when he was new to the Board. Jack did not remember people being upset with the increase. Jack said people were paying for eight graves for \$25 and he pointed out that many years before that, the fee was \$5.

Jack thought the District should put a two-lot maximum on purchases for everyone.

Cindy thought the Board would get a kick back on that but was okay to stay with four.

Rhonda agreed saying if a couple purchased two and then lost a child they would need more than the two they were allowed to purchase.

Cindy asked what everyone was thinking of for non-residents. Cindy said right now it is \$3,000.

Donna said she gets calls from Wasatch County residents because our fee of \$3,000 is cheaper than what is being charged in Wasatch County. Donna said \$4,000 being charged in Midway.

Cindy said she was okay to stay at \$3,000 for the non-residents.

Donna asked about people who are renting here and are not paying property taxes.

Jack said he thought he had only had one non-residential purchase in Marion since he has been on the Board.

Rhonda asked the Board what they thought the cost of a right to bury going forward should be.

Cindy said she thought \$300 and \$3,000.

Kristie agreed with Cindy.

Donna said she is okay with that.

Cindy made a Motion that starting January 1, 2027, the District will update the price of residential right to bury to \$300 and will maintain the non-residential price of right to bury at \$3,000; Jack second said Motion; and, Motion carried unanimously.

Sexton Reports: Jack reported the burials of Joann Marchant and Reed Bailey. Jack said he had not ordered the Utah flags yet but will do so tomorrow and they will be here in a few days. Jack said he had not done anything about the Map Board. Jack said he will try to drop off the order on Friday, then they will have it by the next Friday. Jack had nothing else to report.

Cindy said she has had someone approach her who would really like to plant a tree, which is against our Rules and Regulations. After talking about it, Cindy said she would approach the Board and see if the Board would make an exception. Cindy asked the Board if they would like to make an exception to allow a tree to be planted on a plot.

Jack answered no.

Rhonda answered no.

Jack said if they want to plant a tree in memoriam of someone, they could plant a tree along the fence and put a sign “donated by the Rider family” on the tree.

Cindy said the only place they could put a tree is along the fenceline.

Jack said the sign on a tree might be an incentive for people to plant a tree along the fence.

Cindy said maybe others will see it and also like to plant a tree with a sign.

Kristie wondered if it would be a good idea to advertise for people to plant trees along the fence and place a sign in memoriam.

Cindy said they also had a discussion about owning the land and Cindy explained that actually

they do not own the land but own a right to be buried there. Cindy reported placing a few headstones. Cindy had nothing else to report.

Donna reported no burials but did have a serious flooding problem. She talked to Jeff who said every valve keeps breaking. Donna thought Jeff had replaced all but two or maybe three valves now. Donna reported part of the fence had to be removed to fix the valves and the other part of the fence fell over. When asked what fence she answered the barbed wire fence on the east side. Donna said she thought the District would need to replace it with something. Donna reported there are a few headstones that an elk or cow have knocked over. Donna said another is in pieces, likely broken by the animals. Donna wondered if the District could have a headstone company come fix them.

Brin confirmed there are a few broken headstones in Kamas as well.

Cindy said a monument company had come and straightened some in the past. She said a few in Oakley had been straightened.

Jack said it might be worth seeing if Brad is interested in straightening the headstones. He could maybe straighten a few when he is in the cemetery digging graves. Jack said he could not fix the broken ones, only straighten sunken stones. Jack said if the stone is broken and the person has family around, the family should repair the stone; if it is an old stone and there is no family around, the District should repair it.

Cindy said there may be a grant that will help with the cost of the repairs. Cindy looked online and found a Utah State Preservation Grant, which can fund projects to provide up to a \$20,000 local match for as low as 15 to 20 percent. The application is available on February 1 and is due by May 31. Cindy will e-mail Amy at the State for additional information and potential resources.

Rhonda thanked Cindy for checking on the grant and asked the Board to get a count on broken stones. Rhonda had no burials to report. She had been going to Peoa and had a list of plots that the computer software shows as available but when she measured it is not correct.

Cindy said we can correct and adjust the software. Cindy said Peoa is an interesting layout and was difficult to put on the software originally.

Rhonda agreed it is horrible. Rhonda said one area said there were seven graves available, but there are only three.

Cindy said Rhonda can either mark those graves as unavailable or she could e-mail Cemsites and ask them to remove the graves from the software.

Rhonda wondered about some spaces in the cemetery that may contain sprinklers that would be damaged if a grave were dug there. She asked if there is a line there could she still sell those two or three graves.

Cindy reported that Brad has had to cut lines in order to open a grave before. It is not unheard

of, but Rhonda should sell where there are available graves and Brad/Jeff will work around them when needed.

Rhonda had nothing else to report.

Approval of July 21, 2026, Board Meeting Minutes: **Cindy made a Motion to approve the June 16, 2026, Board Meeting Minutes as revised; Donna second said Motion; and, Motion carried unanimously.**

Approval of Account Payable Register for August 18, 2026: **Kristie made a Motion to approve the Accounts Payable Register for August 18, 2026, Donna second said Motion; and Motion carried unanimously.**

Adjournment: **Donna made a Motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned.**