

MINTURN CEMETERY DISTRICT  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
November 8, 2021

Members Present:

John Sheehan  
Stephen Jones

Members Absent:

Stephen Jones

Staff:

Sidney Harrington  
Ray Sforzo

I CALL TO ORDER  
John called the regular meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. at the Riverview Cemetery Mausoleum, Minturn, CO.

II ROLL CALL  
John, Stephen, Ray and Sidney were present.

III PUBLIC COMMENTS  
n/a

IV APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES  
Stephen motioned to approve the meeting minutes from the October 11, 2021 regular meeting, John seconded, and all were in favor.

V DISCUSSION

A. 2022 Budget Hearing Continuation

The Minturn Cemetery District 2022 budget hearing was re-opened. Conversation continued regarding the review and approval of the 2022 preliminary budget. Sidney reported that the 2021 financial audit for the District was approved at the last regular meeting.

Board reviewed the financials, balance sheet and budget and were in agreement with the proposed budget plan for 2022. It was noted that much of the cemetery security, mechanical gate and lighting plan will be paid for in 2021 and not in 2022. Accounting staff has added line item in the financial report.

John motioned to approve RESOLUTION NO.4 SERIES 2021, A RESOLUTION to ADOPT THE 2022 BUDGET, to SET MILL LEVIES and to APPROPRIATE

SUMS OF MONEY for the Minturn Cemetery District. Stephen seconded and all were in favor.

B. Security / Electrical / Mechanical Gates:

Ray gave an update of the project. The gate install will finish up tomorrow. The lighting suggestion from F.D. Taylor, electrician, is to install a dark-sky-compliant, maintenance free undermount light that lasts 100,000 hours. This would be a very efficient light. Ray is also meeting with Matt from Superior this week.

Ray reported that a gas line was hit by our install crew. The gas company, Xcel Energy, mislocated a property "line spur" and acknowledged their failure to correctly locate. This did not impede our project progress but resulted in emergency response to the cemetery.

John motioned to approve the install of this particular light style for a price not to exceed \$4,500. Stephen seconded and all were in favor.

C. Old Edwards Cemetery Update – Sidney

We are still waiting for a survey to be performed in order to complete the title work for the parcel. The BOCC attorney, Holly, is acting as a roadblock because the title work is currently suggesting that the Miller Estate does not own the OEC land parcel. Sidney will continue to work with Hilary and Matt to navigate the title issues and blaze forward with our BOCC petition.

Sidney recently spoke with Beth Riley, who is a strong presence in the Edwards business community and serves on the Edwards Metro District. Beth says that she believes the Edwards community would greatly benefit from the renewal and preservation of the Old Edwards Cemetery.

D. Mausoleum Exterior Crypts – Sidney

The B'nai Vail Congregation recently visited the cemetery to scout out an appropriate burial plot for the purpose of conducting a Jewish ritual called "genizah" whereby sacred books are buried in the ground and thus a single burial plot would be dedicated for that purpose. B'nai would continue to add books over time resulting in multiple excavations at the same plot.

Upon meeting with Rabbi Joel, Mark and Karen, we explored the idea of interring books in the mausoleum crypt space on the southern exterior of the building. The group would like to inquire about purchasing a crypt space for that singular purpose and then also about purchasing the entire bank on the southern exterior wall for exclusive congregational use. Additionally, would there be a bulk rate for this? And would we allow signage acknowledging "B'nai Vail Congregation" mounted on the granite above the crypts? Would the District allow a "donor tree" next to the southern exterior crypts?

Discussion ensued and the board decided that the Minturn Cemetery District can only extend the listed fee schedule rate and that a bulk rate for crypts is not possible. John reminded board and staff that more than ten years ago, they expressly discussed pricing for the mausoleum offerings here and its fees are designed to pay for the expense of building the mausoleum here in Minturn. All agreed that we must stick to by-the-book pricing for all patrons and cannot give special pricing to any group.

Furthermore, the board agreed that should B'nai purchase the entire bank of exterior crypts on the southern wall, that an "approved" sign would be allowed; however, a donor tree would not be allowed.

E. OTHER DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Board members expressed concern over the excessive tributes that are currently in the cemetery. Board and staff have noticed many unseasonal items that are on graves and headstones to the extent that it looks like garbage.

Per our rules and regulations, staff will move forward with an overall cemetery tribute clean up to remove unseasonal and dilapidated items before winter arrives.

John and Stephen agree that excessive plastic and tribute items begin to look trashy. Ray commented that we have many beautiful flowers and planting already here at the cemetery to make it a serene and peaceful place. All of the placed tributes are a form of therapy for patrons but ultimately turns into litter at the cemetery property. All agreed, we need to be more proactive at cleaning up unseasonal items two weeks after holidays.

VI. BILL PAYING

The following electronic funds transfers were made:

11/8/2021	Centurylink	269.24
10/19/2021	ERWSD	2,462.72

The Following check payments were made:

11/8/2021	2960	ABC Parts, Inc.	247.90
11/8/2021	2959	A4S Construction	16,387.50
11/8/2021	2958	A-Peak, Inc.	1,960.00
11/8/2021	2961	Bishop Webworks	191.25
11/8/2021	2962	Bobcat of the Rockies	2,962.00
11/8/2021	2963	Firstbank	949.66
11/8/2021	2964	Fitz Landscaping	34,892.89
11/8/2021	2966	Home Depot	157.53
11/8/2021	2965	Hoffmann, Parker, Wilson & Carberry	2,076.50
11/8/2021	2967	Mike Layman Locksmith	108.00
11/8/2021	2968	Peggy Peters	722.00

11/8/2021	2969	Sforzo Enterprises, Inc.	3,757.50
11/8/2021	2970	Sidney Harrington	3,333.00
11/8/2021	2971	Vail Honeywagon	51.50
11/8/2021	2972	Vail Valley Pest Control	400.00
11/8/2021	2973	Xcel Energy	351.54
11/8/2021	2974	Zehren & Associates	937.63

VII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Staff contract renewals Jan.1, Old Edwards Cemetery Petition, Shed Building expansion, Two Elk sub-area plan – TOM, green burials.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:00 p.m. Art motioned to adjourn the regular board meeting, Stephen seconded and all were in favor.

**The next regular board meeting date and time will be December 14<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm.**

Respectfully Submitted:  
Sidney Harrington  
Administrator

ATTEST:

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Stephen Jones  
Minturn Cemetery District  
Secretary/Treasurer