

RESPONSE TO GRAND JURY REPORT

Report Title: "Cemeteries - The Place of Final Repose"

Report Date: June 24, 2022

Response by: Tom M. Flynn Title: P.R.D.C. MANAGER

FINDINGS

1. I (we) agree with the findings numbered: R 1 , R 7
2. I (we) disagree wholly or partially with the findings numbered: R 6
(Attach a statement specifying any portions of the findings that are disputed; include an explanation of the reasons.)

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Recommendations numbered R 1 , R 7 have been implemented.
(Attach a summary describing the implementation actions.)
2. Recommendations numbered _____ have not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future.
(Attach a timeframe for the implementation.)
3. Recommendations numbered _____ require further analysis.
(Attach an explanation and the scope and parameters of an analysis or study, and a timeframe for the matter to be prepared for discussion by the officer or director of the agency or department being investigated or reviewed, including the governing body of the public agency when applicable. This timeframe shall not exceed six months from the date of the publication of the Grand Jury report.)
4. Recommendations numbered R 6 will not be implemented because they are not warranted or are not reasonable.
(Attach an explanation.)

Date: 6/22/2022

Signed: 

Number of pages attached: 2

Recommendation: Summary

Submitted by: Tom M. Flynn, Paso Robles District Cemetery Manager

I agree with R1

For many years the Paso Robles District Cemetery has accepted many forms of payment for our services, i.e. cash, checks, money order, debit cards, credit cards.

I have reviewed R7

The Paso Robles District Cemetery recognizes that Cemetery Trustees may receive a \$100 Stipend for Meetings. However, this must be paid in the form of payroll along with the appropriate payroll taxes, Social Security, Medicare, Worker's Comp., etc.

After an in-depth review of the costs associated with becoming Employees, the Trustees voted not to receive a Stipend. The Trustees serve as Volunteers, this action by the Trustees save the Paso Robles District Cemetery a lot of money that is better spent on Cemetery Operations.

I disagree with R6

"All Cemetery Districts should have Liability Insurance paid for by the County."

Explanation:

The County does NOT own the land at each Cemetery. The Cemetery Land is owned by each Cemetery District.

Each Cemetery is responsible for providing Liability Insurance, Property, Structures and Equipment Insurance.

The Paso Robles District Cemetery is with Golden State Risk Management Authority (G.R.S.M.A.) – They provide excellent coverage at very competitive rates. They currently provide coverage for 127 Public Cemetery Districts in California

Suggested Changes to Report "Cemeteries – The Place of Final Repose"

In regards to Paso Robles District Cemetery

Graph on Page 4

Allow Above Ground Monuments

It says the Paso Robles District Cemetery allows Above Ground Monuments, this is a mistake. We have not allow Above Ground "Upright" Monuments since the 1960's. All markers must be flat surface type.

Page 7

3rd Paragraph classifies Cemetery Districts as C.S.D. (Community Service Districts), I believe this paragraph should be clarified:

This is NOT correct. The eleven Cemetery Districts in San Luis Obispo County are Special Districts Category – Public Cemetery Districts.

The County does not own the Land at each Cemetery. The Cemetery Land is owned by each Cemetery District.

The end Paragraph states:

"The District Voters have no opportunity to impact the operation of the District."

This is not correct and should be clarified.

The District Voters in each Cemetery District have every opportunity to speak with Cemetery Staff & Managers regarding any concerns they may have. District Voters may also attend Cemetery Board Meetings and address their concerns during public comment.