

*Santa Margarita Cemetery District
Post Office Box 606
Santa Margarita, California 93453
Tel (805) 438-3502*

REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, April 7, 2026

Opening

The regular meeting of the Santa Margarita Board of Trustees was held at the Santa Margarita Senior Center.

Closed Session

There was no closed session.

Open Session

1. Call to order at 11:00 a.m. Trustee Cabrera, Trustee Church, Trustee Peterman, Becky Johnson, Caitie Garcia, Mona Lancaster were present.
2. No closed session occurred.
3. Public communication
 - 3.1 Caitie Garcia - interest in moving forward with repairing gate, need for getting cloud storage for the cemetery data, new irrigation lines, increasing fees, marking veteran headstones for identification
 - 3.2 Linda - thank you from Filliponi and Thompson for her favorable review
 - 3.3 Thank you note to Becky and Dan for their compassion and attention to their family and means a great deal to them that we are watching over their loved ones.
4. Board response
 - 4.1 David - need to create a list of projects, with descriptions, prioritized by importance. List to include repair gate, irrigation, front fence repair, metal markers, display with map and QR code, row markers, survey and plot map the new section. Board will determine "Project List" order of importance in May.
 - 4.2 Gil - veteran headstones already marked with a sticker on top left. Not all families want to be identified as veterans, it's the family's decision
5. Action Items
 - 5.1 March minutes approved by Church and Peterman
 - 5.2 March expenses approved by Church and Peterman
 - 5.3 March deposits- \$4400.00 total (full burial service, cremation service)
6. Business
 - 6.1 Funerals in March- full burial service for Alice Gouff 3/6/26, cremation service for Irene Gast 3/28/26.
 - 6.2 Facilities Report-
 - 6.2.1 Jensen family will install the owl boxes.
 - 6.2.2 Dirt pile can be moved on the same day as next full burial.
 - 6.2.3 Dan to use trailer to haul cut oak branches to dump, check cleanliness of port-a-potty regularly.
 - 6.3 Records sub-committee
 - 6.3.1 met 3/23/26, productive meeting, good information exchange

- 6.3.2 Find-a-Grave responded and will provide the requested information
- 6.3.3 Committee will review and consolidate information from Find-a-Grave, Pam (genealogist, Santa Margarita historian with Cherie) and Becky SM cemetery

7. New Business

- 7.1 Website is operational, sm-cd.org. No changes recommended.
 - 7.1.1 Positive community responses. David will create QR codes for Find-a-Grave link and cemetery website
 - 7.1.2 Becky will get previous minutes to David for website
- 7.2 Cemetery Clean-Up Day- April 25, 2026, 8am.
 - 7.2.1 Becky will purchase bags, small water bottles, snacks, and cookies. Becky will find out if lunch provided by Santa Margarita Beautiful Society, sign will be put up at cemetery, Dan will bring trailer on 25th. David will create a flier, put on Facebook and display board in town
- 7.3 Filliponi and Thompson Drilling replaced the pressure tank and control box.
 - 7.3.1 Linda motion, David 2nd- Becky will send a thank you card.

8. Items not on agenda

- 8.1 Linda- have a picnic table at cemetery. David said it would be a good Eagle Scout project
- 8.2 Caitie has friend who might make the wood display/kiosk for the map
- 8.3 Becky to source and order more metal markers, letters, and numbers
- 8.4 Temporary metal markers will be used to identify rows and lot numbers for each section

9. Meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

10. Next month's board meeting will be held on May 5, 2026, at 11 a.m.