



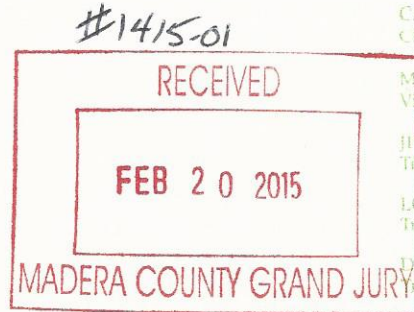
Madera Cemetery District

A Public Cemetery / Endowment Care Cemetery

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Phone (559) 674-8826
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E-mail: madcem@yahoo.com
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Jan. 28, 2015

Madera County Grand Jury
P.O. Box 534
Madera, CA 93639



CANDY TALLEY
Chairperson
MAURICE CAPPELLUTI
Vice Chairperson
JIM HARPER
Trustee
LOIS BETTY
Trustee
DAVID G. NEMETH
Trustee
BELVA BARE
District Manager

Dear Members of the Grand Jury,

This letter is in accordance to Penal Code Section 933 in which we have 90 days to respond to recommendations of the 2014-2015 Grand Jury Report concerning the **Madera Cemetery District** dated December 3rd, 2014.

First and foremost we would like to thank you for your hard work and thoroughness in your investigation. It is very important to Madera Cemetery District to be compliant in every aspect as a Special District.

Written recommendations from Grand Jury:

- 1. The Grand Jury recommends the Madera Cemetery District install an emergency eyewash and shower at the North Fork Cemetery.***

The Madera Cemetery District is in the process of installing an emergency eyewash and shower at the North Fork Cemetery.

- 2. When a trustee vacancy occurs, publically advertise the vacancy and collect applications for the Board of Supervisors consideration.***

The Madera Cemetery District Trustees are appointed to a four-year term by the County of Madera Board of Supervisors as per Government Code 9020-9024. Prior to the expiration of their term, if the Trustee is seeking re-appointment, the Trustee will send a letter of intent to the Board of Supervisor requesting re-appointment.

When a board member resigns a letter of resignation is sent to the Board Clerk of the Madera County Supervisors informing them of a vacancy. I have contacted the Board of Supervisors office and asked

ARBOR VITAE CEMETERY
1301 Roberts Ave., Madera, CA 93637

CALVARY CEMETERY
28447 Avenue 14, Madera, CA 93638

RAYMOND CEMETERY
Road 607, Raymond, CA 93653

NORTH FORK CEMETERY
32823 Road 228, North Fork, CA 93643

OAKHILL CEMETERY
40188 Hwy. 41, Oakhurst, CA 93644

protocol on Special District vacancies. I was informed that this is not an elected position and the Board of Supervisors appoints on recommendation of the cemetery board. The Board of Supervisors office states that they post any reappointment or vacancies needed for the Madera Cemetery District. In checking the Health and Safety Code/Government Code there isn't anything stated what is required for appointments. Government Code number 1778-1779 stated that when there is a vacancy it shall be filled within ninety days by the Board of Supervisors.

The Cemetery District has in the past informed the public by word of mouth of the vacancy along with posting from the Board of Supervisors office. Madera Cemetery District has five cemeteries; one cemetery is located in the city of Madera, with the other four cemeteries located in Madera County. Calvary Cemetery, Madera, Oakhill Cemetery, Oakhurst, Raymond Cemetery, Raymond, North Fork Willow Creek Cemetery, North Fork, Ca. Madera Cemetery District recommendations are to fill the position with a person living near each individual cemetery. We as a Board desire to properly represent the public of their local cemetery. If a board opening is in our Oakhurst or North Fork location we prefer resumes from that area but would accept all resumes submitted.

3. *Bring Trustee terms into alignment with the requirements of Health and Safety Code Section 9024(a).*

We have and are in the process of aligning the Madera Cemetery District Trustees into the Health and Safety Code Section 9024(a). This alignment will begin in January 2015.

4. *Scan all paper records so that they can be stored electronically, and consider converting to "cloud" storage for backup of Electronic records.*

The Madera Cemetery District records are stored electronically. Our records are backed up three times a week. These backups are stored both on and off site. Because of the sensitivity of our records our computer specialist is not advising "cloud".

5. *Install computers at each cemetery (except Raymond) so that all Burial records can be stored electronically and searched from Any cemetery.*

Evaluating the aspect of installing computers at each cemetery. The Madera Cemetery District has issues of concern. Dropped or incorrect information is the main issue. Madera Cemetery District currently has

all information come to the main office where it is checked and double checked. Cost is another factor, the computers, maintenance, training, installing, replacement and running separate computers in each location would be very costly. A discussion of kiosks at each location was discussed. Madera Cemetery District takes pride in serving the public. A kiosk would take away the personal touches that we provide.

6. Investigate the feasibility of constructing a well at the Oakhill In conjunction with developing the newly acquired land that is Adjacent to the cemetery.

The Madera Cemetery District will be considering this for future development of the Oakhill Cemetery.

7. Continue the practices that have made the Madera Cemetery District an efficient provider of interment services for residents of the District.

Madera Cemetery District takes much pride in servicing, addressing needs of the public. Our Belief Statements express we are committed to providing professional services in a caring and compassionate manner. We provide a wide range of burials and memorial options in a setting of maintained beauty. We help families plan their burials and the burials of loved ones with respect and sensitivity. We develop sound fiscal leadership from the Board of Trustees and management. It is our intent to maintain, improve and historically preserve these grounds for the benefit of Madera County families, relatives and for the community.

It is our hope that this response to your recommendations fulfills justification for our stance on the above issues. Our utmost goal is to service the constituents of Madera County and their families with the best service that we can provide while still carrying out the fiduciary responsibility that we as trustees need to uphold.

If you have any further comments or questions, please feel free to contact us at 559 674-8826

Sincerely,


Maurice Cappelluti - Chairperson



Jim Harper


Lois Betty

David Nemeth

David Nemeth

Candy Talley

Candy Talley