

MINUTES OF MEETING
LOUISIANA CEMETERY BOARD

The Regular Meeting of the Louisiana Cemetery Board was held on March 27, 2026, at 3445 N. Causeway Blvd, Suite 509, Metairie, Louisiana, pursuant to Notice.

Chair Holloway called the meeting to order at 9:00 am

Present were:

Michele M. Holloway, Chair
Marilyn Leufroy, Vice- Chair
Gerald W. Melancon, Board Member
F. Anton Wilbert, Board Member
Carroll W. Suggs, Board Member
Boyd Mothe, Jr., Board Member
Jerry W. Sullivan, Director
Conlee S. Whitely, Special Counsel to the Board
Matthew Greene, Louisiana Department of Justice
Caitlyn S. Arbo, Assistant Director

Also present at the meeting:

Nicholas Calico, Consumer
Nicholas Calico, Jr., Consumer
Jenirose McCormick, SCI- St. Bernard Memorial
Joseph Eagan, SCI
Matthew Seyler, Forest Park East and Forest Park West Cemeteries
Huey Campbell, SCI
Victor Segura, The Bridge Cemetery
Debbie Segura, The Bridge Cemetery
Altorio Holden, Fern Park Cemetery

Absent:

Stacy Patin, Board Member

Public Comment

None.

Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of the Board meeting of November 14, 2025, and the Investigative Committee meeting of December 4, 2025, were reviewed by the Board and Mr. Mothe made a motion to approve the Minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Suggs and unanimously approved by the Board.

Reports of Officers

The Director reviewed the Statement of Operations, Cash and Investments, and Budget vs. Actual for the year ending December 31, 2025, and the month ending February 28, 2026. There were no anticipated changes to the Budget as of this time and the financials showed income and expenses as anticipated by the approved Budget for 2026 as of this time. The Director did request that the Treasury Bill of \$125,000, reflecting a reserve for long-term liabilities be renewed at its expiration in April of 2026. Mr. Melancon moved to renew the T-bill at its current level of \$125,000, which motion was seconded by Mr. Wilbert, and unanimously approved by the Board.

Report of Director

The Director reported on matters being handled by staff and not requiring action from the Board at this time.

Approval of Application for Pre-Construction Sales Projects

The Director reviewed the Application for Pre-Construction Sales Projects received by the Board since the November 14, 2025 Board Meeting. After review and discussion, Mr. Melancon made a motion to approve the following Applications for Pre-Construction Sales Projects received by the Board since the last meeting, which motion was seconded by Ms. Suggs and unanimously approved:

- a) 2026-003-A Cheramie Cemetery Assn. d/b/a Cheramie Cemetery & Mausoleum #1-Galliano, Louisiana
- b) 2026-004-A The Congregation of Our Lady of the Rosary R C Church, Larose, La d/b/a Our Lady of the Rosary Cemetery-Larose, Louisiana
- c) 2026-015-A St. Peter Roman Catholic Church, Reserve, Louisiana d/b/a St. Peter Cemetery-Reserve, Louisiana

Approval of Certificates of Authority for both Non-Exempt and Exempt Cemetery Authorities.

2024 Non-Exempt (New):

The Chairman asked for a motion to approve the issuance of the following licenses, which Applications have been completed since the last Board Meeting, to which Mr. Mothe made a motion which was seconded by Ms. Holloway and unanimously approved:

- a) 2025-116-A St. Paul's Church Number II d/b/a St/ Paul's Church Number II Cemetery- St. Francisville, Louisiana
- b) 2025-129-A King's Chapel A.M.E.C.-Many, Louisiana
- c) 2025-135-A New Birth Prayer Worship Center d/b/a New Birth Prayer Worship Center Cemetery-Ethel, La
- d) 2025-149-A Sweet Home Church of Christ Holiness USA d/b/a Sweet Home Church Cemetery-Franklinton, La
- e) 2025-151-A Point Pleasant C.M.E Church d/b/a Point Pleasant Cemetery Homer, Louisiana
- f) 2026-008-A Combre Memorial Park d/b/a Combre Memorial Park-Lake Charles, La
- g) 2026-009-A Gayla Trania Memorial Cemetery, Inc. d/b/a Gayla Trania Memorial Cemetery-Jonesboro, Louisiana
- h) 2026-010-A Gayla Trania Memorial Cemetery, Inc. d/b/a Garden of Memories Cemetery-Jonesboro, Louisiana
- i) 2026-011-A Pipkins Chapel A.M.E Church d/b/a Pipkins Chapel Cemetery- Greensburg, Louisiana
- j) 2026-014-A Magic City Memorial Company d/b/a Garden of Peace Cemetery/Sanctuary of Peace Mausoleum- Bogalusa, Louisiana

Exempts (New):

The Chairman asked for a motion to approve the issuance of the following licenses, which Applications have been completed since the last Board Meeting, to which Mr. Melancon made a motion which was seconded by Ms. Leufroy and unanimously approved:

- a) 2025-051-A Hopewell Baptist Church d/b/a Hopewell Community Cemetery-Dubberly, Louisiana
- b) 2025-075-A Lesile K. Dillon d/b/a Sand Ridge Hill Cemetery-Franklinton, Louisiana
- c) 2025-117-A Mark Hatten d/b/a Hatten Cemetery-Grayson, Louisiana
- d) 2025-123-A Michael, Dale Marie Latham d/b/a Rhodus/Latham-Livingston, Louisiana
- e) 2025-127-A Tulip Cemetery, Inc. d/b/a Tulip Cemetery, Inc. Athens, Louisiana
- f) 2025-143-A Dale L. Fannin d/b/a dale Fannin Cemetery-Jonesville, Louisiana
- g) 2025-148-A Amos Warren d/b/a Warren Family Cemetery-Franklinton, Louisiana
- h) 2025-152-A Jacob Holden Cazayoux and Priscilla Clemens Cazayoux- Breaux Bridge, Louisiana
- i) 2025-153-A Ronnie Polezcek, Sr. d/b/a Polezcek Family Cemetery-Amite, Louisiana
- j) 2026-007-A Timothy Smauel Savell d/b/a Cody's Garden-Downsville, La
- k) 2026-012-A Lester Dale Meaux d/b/a Meaux Family Cemetery-Abbeville, La
- l) 2026-013-A Huey L. Thomas d/b/a Crystal Branch Cemetery-Franklinton, Louisiana

Reports of Committees

Administrative Committee

There were no reports from the Administrative Committee.

Examination & Inspection Committee

The Examination and Inspection Committee reviewed a total of 14 reports that represent a statistically significant sample size of the examinations performed, which reports were approved as presented.

Old Business

a) Statewide Cemetery Response Task Force Report – Hurricane Ida

Mr. Sullivan and Mr. Greene provided an update as to the state of reinterments as a result of the Hurricane Ida in Lafitte and Ironton, Louisiana. There remain eighteen unidentified individuals from Jefferson Parish (Lafitte area) that need to be reinterred. The city of Lafitte has donated property for the reinterment and Alfortish Monuments is in the process of retrieving the remains for reinterment in the days ahead. Mr. Sullivan thanked publicly Jefferson Council Member Timmy Kerner, Jr., and Lafitte Mayor Yvette Crain for this assistance in the process. Moreover, there are a number of remains from Plaquemine Parish, Ironton Cemetery, that need to be reinterred. Mr. Sullivan and Mr. Greene both noted progress in this and anticipate that the matter will be completed in a timely manner with this assistance of Alfortish Monument Company.

11. New Business

a) Review of Proposed Amended Policies and Procedures – Section 3(H): Web Accessibility

Mr. Sullivan presented Proposed Policy and Procedure Section 3(H) to the Board for its consideration addressing Web Accessibility as required by the State and noted that the Board's current website is in compliance with all state requirements as of this time. Mr. Mothe moved that the proposed Policy and Procedure 3(H) be approved as written, which Motion was seconded by Ms. Suggs, and unanimously approved by the Board.

a) Discussion regarding current legislative session proposed bills

Mr. Sullivan reviewed a number of proposed bills currently being considered by the Louisiana legislature in its 2026 session. Mr. Sullivan indicated that he would continue to monitor pending legislation that may have an impact on the manner in which the Board conducts business and will report to the Board at the May 2026 meeting. Mr. Mothe further noted that House Bill 176, which would have amended La. R.S. §8:659 has been withdrawn and would not be considered during this legislative session.

b) Discussion regarding request for waiver of late fee by St. John the Evangelist Cemetery-Lafayette, La and Mandeville Cemetery-Mandeville, La

Mr. Sullivan noted that the staff had received requests to for waiver of late fees from St. John the Evangelist Cemetery in Lafayette, Louisiana, and the City of Mandeville Cemetery in Mandeville, Louisiana, because of late-filed renewals. Mr. Sullivan noted that this was the first request made by each Cemetery Authority. Upon review of the request by St. John the Evangelist Cemetery in Lafayette, Louisiana, Ms. Suggs moved that the request for waiver of late fee be granted, which motion was seconded by Mr. Melancon, and unanimously approved by the Board. Thereafter, Ms. Suggs moved that the request for waiver of late fees be granted, which motion was seconded by Mr. Melancon, and unanimously approved by the Board.

c) 2026-001-I Forest Park East Associates, Inc. and Forest Park West Associates, Inc., d/b/a Forest Park East and West Cemeteries-Shreveport, Louisiana

Mr. Sullivan noted that both Forest Park East and Forest Park West Cemeteries in Shreveport, Louisiana, had been previously brought before the Investigative Committee following a complaint of neglect of perpetual care. Mr. Sullivan reviewed the numerous complaints raised by Consumers over the past several years with regard to the manner in which the cemeteries were being maintained but did acknowledge that the cemeteries were now under new ownership, the new owner being Matthew Seyler, who attended the meeting. After addressing the consumer complaints, Mr. Seyler appeared and presented evidence that a lawn service had been contracted for a sum almost double the amount being received from the perpetual care trust for the ongoing grass service. Moreover, Mr. Seyler presented a number of receipts for tree removal service and advised the Board that he was moving forward with a plan to resolve outstanding maintenance issues, but that the plan would take some time given the deferred maintenance by the prior cemetery operator. Mr. Seyler agreed to provide the Board with reports of the progress of the cemeteries every six months, namely in October and April of each year, and would be appearing before the Board again in May of 2027, to review the progress with the Board. After some discussion by the Board, Mr. Melancon moved to accept this plan to review progress twice each year and for Mr. Seyler, as operator, to appear again before the Board in May of 2027, to review the progress on deferred maintenance. Ms. Leufroy seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

d) 2026-002-I Fern Park Cemetery, Inc. d/b/a Fern Park Cemetery-Natchitoches, Louisiana

Mr. Sullivan noted that Fern Park Cemetery was sold in 2023, and the new owner, Altorio Holden, despite having met with Mr. Sullivan and Ms. Arbo, Mr. Holden never completed an Application for Certificate of Authority, nor submitted the required documents in order to secure a license. Mr. Sullivan and Ms. Arbo attempted to reach out to Mr. Holden a number of times to assist in the completion of the Application process, but Mr. Holden failed to respond. After receiving notice of the informal proceeding before the Board at this meeting, Mr. Holden appeared at the Board meeting and alleged that the cemetery had been transferred but produced no documentation in support of a transfer. Mr. Holden indicated that he had deposited \$675.00 in the

perpetual care trust account, but the staff have no means of confirming whether such deposits were accurately made since no records or reports from the cemetery authority were ever received. After discussion, Mr. Mothe moved that the matter be set for a Formal Hearing at the May 22, 2026, Board meeting and that all necessary subpoenas be issued to ensure that all evidence would be available for a complete hearing at that time. Mr. Melancon seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board. Mr. Holden was present and provided notice at the meeting.

e) 2026-003-I S.E. Cemeteries of Louisiana, LLC d/b/a St. Bernard Memorial Gardens-Chalmette, Louisiana

This matter came before the Board pursuant to a Consumer Complaint filed by Nicholas Calico. Both Mr. Calico and his son, Nicholas Calico, Jr., were present for the presentation. Mr. Calico provided receipts and testimony that his wife and other members of the family had purchased a total of five plots at St. Bernard Memorial Gardens in Chalmette, Louisiana, in the mid-1970's. Since that time, it came to the attention of Mr. Calico that the cemetery authority had sold one of the plots to another family in 1977. Joe Eagan and Jenirose McCormick, on behalf SCI, d/b/a St. Bernard Memorial Gardens, presented evidence that the records of the cemetery showed plot #72 was owed by another family and not the Calico family. Mr. Eagan indicated that the cemetery authority had offered to provide a plot of equal or greater value to the Calico family to resolve the issue or to return the original purchase price to the family for plot #72. Mr. Calico found both offers unacceptable. Mr. Sullivan noted that La. R.S. §8:813 permits a cemetery authority to correct errors through the substitution of another interment space approximately equal in value and location as far as feasible or to refund the amount of money paid in account of the acquisition of the cemetery space. Since the parties were not in agreement at this time, and whereas the matter was beyond the jurisdiction of the Board to resolved, the Board requested that the parties continue to discuss this matter, and requested that SCI d/b/a St. Bernard Memorial Gardens provide a copy of the map showing the location of the plots in question.

f) 2026-004-I The Bridge, L.L.C. d/b/a The Bridge Cemetery-New Iberia, Louisiana

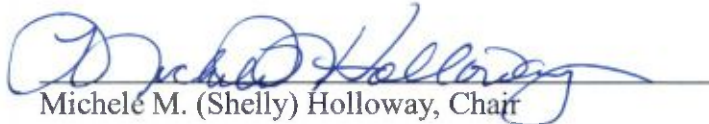
Mr. Sullivan noted that a routine audit by the Board's Director of Audit, Delia Taylor, revealed that the Cemetery Authority was not placing the funds required by law in its Perpetual Care Trust or Merchandise Trust. Particularly, Mr. Sullivan noted that on several contracts, the Cemetery Authority had charged, in a separate line-item charge, the sum of \$500.00 for perpetual care, but only deposited \$50.00 in the trust. Moreover, several items, including opening and closing of mausoleum spaces, were charged, but no payments had been made to the Merchandise Trust. Mr. Victor Segura appeared on behalf of the Cemetery Authority and stated that he was not aware that he was not making deposits as required by law on all sales. The Board requested that the staff review all sales with the Cemetery Authority and report at the May 22, 2026, meeting if all deposits have been made and accounted for in accordance with Title 8 and would consider further action at that time.

g) Consideration of election of new Secretary/Treasurer

In light of Ms. Holloway's selection as Board Chair and her first action in that role at this meeting, it was determined that a new Secretary/Treasurer of the Board was needed. Mr. Mothe indicated that he would be willing to serve in this role. After his offer, Ms. Suggs moved that Mr. Mothe be appointed as the Secretary/Treasurer of the Board, which Motion was seconded by Ms. Leufroy, and unanimously approved by the Board.

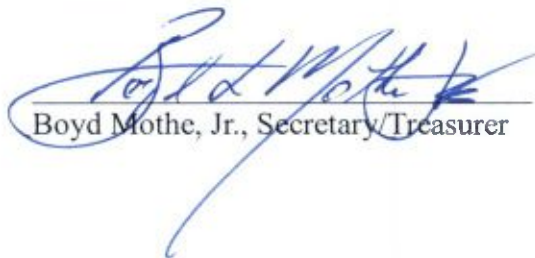
12. Adjournment.

Since there was no further business, Ms. Leufroy moved that the meeting be adjourned, which Motion was seconded by Mr. Melancon, and approved unanimously by the Board.



Michele M. (Shelly) Holloway, Chair

Attested To:



Boyd Mothe, Jr., Secretary/Treasurer