DIVISION OF CEMETERIES
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GOVERNOR

CEMETERY BOARD
WALTER T. MOSLEY
SECRETARY OF STATE
CHAIR
LETITIA JAMES
ATTORNEY GENERAL
JAMES V. MCDONALD, M.D., M.P.H.
COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH

Cemetery Board Minutes
July 20, 2026

Department of State
One Commerce Plaza, 99 Washington Avenue, Room 505
Albany, New York 12231

Office of the Attorney General
44 South Broadway
White Plains, NY 10601

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:
Michael Morris, Department of State, Chair
Stephanie Gilman, Department of Health
Jill F. Faber, Office of the New York State Attorney General

OTHER ATTENDEES:
Rachel Eisenberg, Department of State
Natesha Salmon, Division of Cemeteries
Steven Troutman, Division of Cemeteries
Alicia Young, Division of Cemeteries
Lewis Polishook, Division of Cemeteries
Michael Seelman, Division of Cemeteries
Robert Vanderbles, Department of State

GUESTS:
Gary Collison, for Riverhurst Cemetery
Lisa Klein, Riverhurst Cemetery
Greg Chianis, Riverhurst Cemetery
Robert Welch, Riverhurst Cemetery

Opening Remarks

Chairman Michael Morris called the meeting to order at 12:18 p.m. Chairman Morris introduced himself and the other board members.

26-07-A-45 – Abandonment Report

Division Director Lewis Polishook referred the board to the posted abandonment report. Director Polishook also highlighted several recent successes where the Division was able to help cemeteries avoid abandonment.

26-07-B-46 – Riverhurst Cemetery, No. 04-027: PM Loan, Land Purchase, Major Alteration, New Crematory

The cemetery seeks approval for a project involving the opening of a new crematory, which involves multiple approvals: a land purchase, a new crematory, a major alteration, and a recommendation on a PM loan.

After discussion, a motion was made, seconded, and unanimously adopted:

1. Finding that the applications for approval of a land purchase, creation of a new crematory, and major alteration, as described in this report and accompanying documents (together, the Actions), involve unlisted actions under SEQRA;
2. Finding that the Actions will not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts;
3. Issuing a negative declaration;
4. Authorizing Board Chairman Michael Morris to sign the draft Short EAF Part 3 accompanying this memo.

After discussion, a motion was made, seconded, and unanimously adopted:

Approving the purchase of the parcel described in the application and supporting materials at a cost not to exceed $119,000 and finding that cost does not exceed the parcel's fair market value, subject to approval of the Cemetery's application to Supreme Court, Broome County, for an order approving a PM loan, as described in the presented packet.

After discussion, a motion was made, seconded, and unanimously adopted:

Approving the major alteration described in the application and supporting materials, subject to closing on the land purchase, receipt of all other required permits, and further subject to approval of the Cemetery's application to Supreme Court, Broome County, for an order approving a PM loan, as described in the presented packet.

After discussion, a motion was made, seconded, and unanimously adopted:

Approving the Cemetery's application pursuant to N-PCL section 1505-a for a new crematory, at a total cost not to exceed $1,084,114, as described in the accompanying report of Associate Accountant Steven Troutman, subject to closing on the land purchase, receipt of all other required permits, and further subject to approval of the Cemetery's application to Supreme Court, Broome County, for an order approving a PM loan, as described in the presented packet.

After discussion, a motion was made, seconded, and unanimously adopted:

Recommending that Supreme Court, Broome County, approve the Cemetery's application for a PM loan in an amount not to exceed $684,275, to be repaid over a 14-year term at a 2% interest rate, with payment to commence February 1, 2027.

The discussion of this application can be found in the video recording of this meeting at 3:32-17:18.

Public Comment

Chairman Morris asked for comments from the public but received none.

The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for August 11, 2026, at 10:30 a.m.

The meeting adjourned at 12:37 p.m.