

Meeting Packet

OREGON COMMISSION ON HISTORIC CEMETERIES, OREGON HERITAGE

Packet Items:

- Agenda - Action
- Oregon Historic Cemeteries Grant - Action

Oregon Commission on Historic Cemeteries

MEMBERS

- Lisa Sears, Cloverdale (Chair)
- Johnny Edwards, McMinnville (Vice Chair)
- Sarah Baylinson, Prineville
- Peggy Drake, Sutherlin
- Lindsay Reva Smith, Portland
- Shawn Steinmetz, La Grande

WORK

The members of the Oregon Commission on Historic Cemeteries meet four times a year in communities around the state. The purpose of the commission is to document and support the preservation of historic cemeteries in Oregon. Any cemetery that includes the burial of at least one person who died before the date that is 75 years before the current date and is listed with the Oregon Commission on Historic Cemeteries is considered historic.

CONTACT

Kuri Gill Kuri.Gill@opr.d.oregon.gov 503-986-0685





Agenda

Monday May 27, 2026

Zoom Meeting - https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Qz9IL9t6T_eWH-Z9V824IA

Business Meeting: 1:00pm

1. Commission Business

- a) Welcome and Introductions (Information)
- b) Approval of May 27, 2026 Agenda (**Action**)

2. **Public Comment:** *This is the time for the public to address the Commission. If you wish to make public comment on an item on the agenda you can choose to make your comment either when the item is heard, or during this allotted time. Although written testimony is not required, it is suggested that 15 copies be provided to the Commission Assistant prior to the meeting. **Speaking time is limited to 3 minutes.***

3. Oregon Historic Cemetery Grant selection

- a) Summary – Kuri Gill (Information)
- b) Comments from Commission members who were on the committee (Information)
- c) Vote on recommended ranking.

4. Commission Planning Calendar (Information)

- a) July 16-17, 2026 – TBA, somewhere in the gorge
- b) October 22-23, 2026 – TBA
- c) Feb 5, 2027 – online
- d) April 1-2, 2027 - TBA

The services, programs and activities of the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department are covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you need special accommodations to participate in this meeting, please contact Kim Spivey at (503) 986-0690 or Kimberly.Spiveyopr.d.oregon.gov at least 72 hours prior to the start of the meeting.

2026 Cemetery Grants

Heritage and Community Programs, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

Approved

Applicant	Project Description	County	Grant Request	Grant Award	Match
Burch Family Pioneer Cemetery	Tree trimming to minimize any further damage done to very old headstones. Also to allow for proper care of the storage shed installed last year., Old white oaks need constant trimming.	Polk	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$3,650
Camp Polk Pioneer Cemetery Preservation Committee	This project will use Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) to locate unmarked and lost burials in the Camp Polk Pioneer Cemetery.	Deschutes	\$5,950	\$5,950	\$2,000
City of Medford	Repair markers, restore and relevel 24 monuments	Jackson	\$4,175	\$4,175	\$4,175
City of Sumpter	The Blue Mountain Cemetery needs some fencing to exclude it from the new section. Records for the historic section are not complete, some graves are not marked. Fencing will keep vehicles from parking on unidentified graves.	Baker	\$6,860	\$4,805	\$200
Dixie Stevens	Project removes one leaning tree, removes a second large dead fir tree "widow maker", and trims branches from a third large fir tree, recommended by professionals. All threaten century old headstones and endanger lives.	Multnomah	\$4,734	\$4,734	\$843
Fairview Cemetery Association	Repair 42 headstones at Fairview Cemetery.	Linn	\$4,288	\$4,288	\$4,000
Friends of the Allegany Historic Cemetery	In 1904, "1 acre" was excepted from the sale of a larger parcel, and dedicated for a public cemetery. Surveying the cemetery within the larger parcel will allow our organization to move forward with longer term goals.	Coos	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$200
Missouri Flat Cemetery Association	With the ongoing drought, the tree problem has manifested itself again. We posted signs warning of falling branches which discourages maintenance and visitation.	Jackson	\$5,500	\$5,500	\$350
Mount Union Cemetery Association, Inc.	Purchase and install [4] outdoor lights for improved security of the cemetery's two storage sheds.	Benton	\$603	\$603	\$250
Riverside Cemetery	This grant request represents Riverside Cemetery's ongoing efforts to restore, rehabilitate, and preserve monuments on the cemetery's grounds that have fallen into disrepair and sustained damage.	Linn	\$6,575	\$6,575	\$2,000

Approved

Applicant	Project Description	County	Grant Request	Grant Award	Match
Saint Boniface Catholic Church	There are 47 headstones that need to be repaired at the Saint Boniface Cemetery, 24 of which are high priority for replacement as soon as possible.	Marion	\$4,855	\$4,855	\$4,147
Sand Ridge Cemetery Association of Linn County	Repair and/or leveling of 30 Grave markers in the Sand Ridge Historic Cemetery.	Linn	\$3,016	\$3,016	\$3,021
Tom Brown	Create access to my historical cemetery by graveling a muddy road.	Coos	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$4,000
Turner Area Historical Society	Clean, relevel, reset, and/or repair 41 grave markers in Section C.	Marion	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$7,617
Number of Applications: 14			\$64,556	\$62,501	\$36,453

Not Approved

Applicant	Project Description	County	Grant Request	Grant Award	Match
American Legion Post 26 Bandon	The project is to restore the base of the monument in the GAR cemetery in Bandon, Oregon. The monument was dedicated in 1912 and has severe damage to the concrete base. This project will restore that base.	Coos	\$6,000		\$6,500
Aurora Community Cemetery	The Aurora Community Cemetery respectfully requests grant funding dedicated solely to the repair and restoration of damaged and aging headstones within the historic cemetery in Aurora.	Marion	\$7,000		\$1,795
City of Baker City	Remove existing mortar surrounding tuff stone on each exterior face of the mausoleum. Thoroughly clean exterior stone and then regROUT. Replace any missing stone sections. This is Phase I of a two-part preservation project.	Baker	\$35,000		\$12,000
City of The Dalles	This project aims to verify, map, and digitize the lots in Pioneer Cemetery to create a map that is available online for community members and researchers and also helps us keep track of maintenance needs.	Wasco	\$8,000		\$16,478
City of Ukiah	The project is intended to preserve the integrity of the Ukiah cemetery by addressing stone decay and safety hazards among the historic markers. We will address access and vegetation overgrowth.	Umatilla	\$5,000		\$2,000
Eureka Cemetery Association	The entrance to the cemetery is nearly impossible to drive into. The asphalt that was laid decades ago has sunk and broken into pieces. Due to the slope of the entrance, we can't use gravel. It requires asphalt or cement.	Lincoln	\$12,000		\$16,000

Not Approved

Applicant	Project Description	County	Grant Request	Grant Award	Match
Haines Cemetery District	Haines Cemetery had 84 dead and dying trees removed 3 years ago with residual stumps remaining. Plan is for removal of those stumps, several of which are impacting the integrity of headstones and monuments.	Baker	\$20,000		\$11,000
Haines Cemetery District	Both Haines and Rock Creek cemeteries have multiple historic headstones and monuments that either are breaking, crumbling, leaning, becoming unreadable etc. and are risk of total loss if not repaired.	Baker	\$8,000		\$5,289
Historic Canemah Cemetery	Replace the unattractive and distressed Chain-Link Front Gate of this Historic Cemetery, adding an arch structure with Cemetery Name&Date/ Finally Install Kiosk display_ names & plots.	Clackamas	\$7,121		\$2,679
Pleasant Grove Cemetery Association	The professional restoration of 7 existing headstones and the purchase of 47 professionally made permanent small markers including their placement on the recently identified unmarked burial sites.	Marion	\$9,309		\$30
Portland Fire Fighters Pipes and Drums	Build a Memorial Walkway to commemorate Portland Firefighters who may be interred elsewhere but want inclusion in this hallowed ground of Portland Fire. Approximately 300 pavers will be used to create a path.	Multnomah	\$4,752		\$3,000
Ramie Pierce	To create grave markers for unmarked graves of Portland black pioneers and one memorial marker for the group to which these black pioneers belonged: the Workingmen’s Joint Stock Association, a real estate co-op circa 1869.	Marion Multnomah	\$7,995		\$5
St Mary Catholic Cemetery, Stayton	The first one is to identify and mark graves that lack headstones. The second component is restoring headstone followed by placing a kiosk with a map of cemetery at the entrance and digitalizing cemetery records.	Marion	\$7,173		\$1,000
Village Baptist Church	Windsail reduction (trimming) of 11 Douglas fir trees surrounding the historic cemetery grounds.	Washington	\$5,000		\$5,000
Woodville Cemetery	Converting from paper to digital record keeping. Also selective pruning of older Oak trees.by an arborist.	Jackson	\$6,200		\$2,000
Number of Applications: 15			\$148,550		\$84,776
Grand Totals: (all applications)		Number of Applications: 29	\$213,106	\$62,501	\$121,229