

Meeting Packet

OREGON COMMISSION ON HISTORIC CEMETERIES, OREGON HERITAGE

Packet Items:

- Agenda - Action
- Draft Minutes – Action
- SOLVE Historic Cemeteries Cleanup Support <https://www.oregon.gov/oprd/OH/pages/tools.aspx>

Oregon Commission on Historic Cemeteries

MEMBERS

- Lisa Sears, Cloverdale (Chair)
- Johnny Edwards, McMinnville (Vice Chair)
- Sarah Baylinson, Prineville
- Peggy Drake, Sutherlin
- Lindsay Riva 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

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Oregon Commission on Historic Cemeteries
Wednesday, April 29, 2026
Woodburn Public Library
280 Garfield Street
Woodburn, OR

Agenda

Wednesday, April 29, 2026

Zoom Meeting – Register https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Ms4_I9IRQIS7tXTmk5QAEw

Business Meeting: 1:00 pm

1. Commission Business

- a) Welcome and Introductions (Information)
- b) Approval of April 29, 2026 Agenda (**Action**)
- c) Approval of February 6, 2026 Minutes (**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. OPRD & Oregon Heritage Update

- a) Heritage Update (Information)
- b) Legislative Session Update (Information)

4. Shroeder Family Tomb Preservation Project Presentation (Information & Discussion)

- a) Darrell Gulstrom, Genealogist, will share information and a project update on a preservation project of the Shroeder Family Tomb at Norway Cemetery.

BREAK

5. State Historic Preservation Office Compliance Program (Information & Discussion)

- a) Aspen Kemmerlin and Jaime French, Archaeologists, will share information about the compliance program within the State Historic Preservation Office and how cemeteries are involved in state and federal level projects.

6. Project Updates (Discussion)

- a) Cemetery Stories – Themes between now and the next meeting. Historic Preservation Month, Asian American Month, May Day, Disaster Preparedness Day, Juneteenth, Pride, July 4th, etc.

7. Upcoming Cemetery Resources (Information)

- a) SOLVE Historic Cemeteries Cleanup Support <https://www.oregon.gov/oprd/OH/pages/tools.aspx>

8. Items for Future Meetings

9. Reports: Commissioner Actions and Issues

10. Commission Planning Calendar (Information)

- a) May 27, 2026, 1:00 pm, online grant approval
b) July 16-17, 2026 – TBA, somewhere in the gorge
c) October 22-23, 2026 – TBA
d) Feb 5, 2027 - online

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.Spivey@oprd.oregon.gov at least 72 hours prior to the start of the meeting.



**OREGON PARKS AND RECREATION
OREGON COMMISSION ON HISTORIC CEMETERIES
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2026
Online**

MINUTES

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2026

Location: Online

BUSINESS MEETING: 1:00 pm

Members of the Commission and Oregon Parks and Recreation (OPRD) staff who were present for part or all the meeting included:

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| • Lisa Sears, Commission Chair | • Kuri Gill, Commission Coordinator |
| • Sarah Baylinson, Commissioner | • Koren Tippett, OPRD Archaeologist |
| • Peggy Drake, Commissioner | • Lindsay Reva Smith, Commissioner |
| • Johnny Edwards, Commissioner | • Shawn Steinmetz, Commissioner |

1. Commission Business:

- a) Welcome and Introductions (Information)
(Topic starts at 2:30 and ends 10:20)
- b) Approval of February 6, 2026, Agenda (Action)
(Topic starts at 10:21 and ends 11:30)

ACTION: Commissioner Edwards moved to approve the February 6, 2026, agenda as presented. Commissioner Drake seconded the motion. Chair Sears, and Commissioners Baylinson, Drake, Edwards, Reva Smith, and Steinmetz voted in favor. The motion passed, 6-0.

- c) Approval of Minutes (span of dates below): (Action)
May 27, 2025 / July 24, 2025 / October 16, 2025 / October 17, 2025
(Topic starts at 11:30 and ends 13:25)

ACTION: Commissioner Edwards moved to approve the minutes from May 27, 2025, and July 24, 2025, and October 16, 2025, and October 17, 2025, as presented. Commissioner Baylinson seconded. Commissioner Reva Smith recused herself as she was not present at previous meetings. Chair Sears, and Commissioners Drake, Baylinson, Edwards, and Steinmetz voted in favor. The motion passed, 5-0.

- 2. Public Comment: (Information)
(Topic starts at 13:26 and ends 14:25)
 - a) No public comment submitted

- 3. OPRD & Oregon Heritage Update** (Information)
(Topic starts at 14:30 and ends 19:08)
- a) Heritage Update – Kuri Gill
 - i. Staff changes: Sheri Stuart retired after sixteen years as the Main Street Coordinator. Ami Keiffer has been hired to fill the position and will begin at the end of February.
 - ii. Lisa Sumption has been appointed as temporary Director of ODOT. Stefanie Coons is OPRD’s interim director.
 - iii. Koren Tippett will transition into more of a coordination role for Oregon Commission on Historic Cemeteries.
- 4. Cemetery Monument Repair** (Information)
(Topic starts at 19:10 and ends 52:00)
- a) Dave Pinyerd and Bernadette Niederer of Historic Preservation Northwest reported on Monument repair work throughout the state.
- 5. Sons of Union Veterans** (Information)
(Topic starts at 52:10 and ends 01:14:00)
- a) Randy Fletcher gave a presentation about the Sons of Union Veterans organization and the work they do in historic cemeteries across the state.
- 6. Project Updates** (Discussion)
(Topic starts at 01:22:23 and ends 01:30:33)
- a) Cemetery Stories
 - b) Remote Sensing Project – Shawn Steinmetz
- 7. Upcoming Cemetery Resources** (Information)
(Topic starts at 01:30:35 and ends 01:32:26)
- a) Oregon Historic Cemeteries Grant
 - b) SOLVE Historic Cemeteries Cleanup Support
- 8. Items for Future Meetings** (Discussion)
(Topic starts at 01:32:30 and ends 01:42:00)
- i. Commissioner Reva Smith suggested discussion around pioneer cemeteries and resources for families who are looking for looking for affordable and scenic burial.
 - ii. Commissioner Drake suggested a future presentation about Find A Grave – how information is added, how to search for information, correct misinformation, etc.
 - iii. Commissioner Baylinson expressed interest in learning more about landscape and landscape architecture in cemeteries, how/why decisions are made on a more manicured appearance. Commissioner Reva Smith offered to give a presentation on this topic at a future meeting.

9. Reports: Commissioner Actions and Issues (Information)
(Topic starts at 01:42:01 and ends 01:57:45)

10. Commission Planning Calendar (Information)

- a) April 29, 2026, 1:00-4:00pm – Woodburn with Oregon Heritage Conference
- b) May TBA, online grant approval
- c) July 16-17, 2026 – TBA, somewhere in the Gorge
- d) October 22-23, 2026 – TBA
- e) February, 2027 – online

Meeting adjourned @ 2:59 pm