



# The Mendenhall Cemetery Association, Inc.

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Mendenhall, MS 39114 ○ HONOR YOUR FATHER AND YOUR MOTHER, SO THAT YOU MAY LIVE LONG. EXOD. 20:12

## MINUTES OF THE FIRST MEETING

On Tuesday, April 22, 1997, at 7:00 PM, at the Simpson County Courthouse, the organizational meeting of the Mendenhall Cemetery Association, Inc., was held. The Incorporators of the Association presided over the initial portion of the meeting. They are George Mangum, William H. Smith III, L. Wesley Broadhead, and Curtis McMillan. George Mangum acted as primary spokesman for the Incorporators.

The Reverend Kermit McGregor opened the meeting with prayer.

The first order of business taken up was to adopt Articles and By-Laws.

The Articles and By-Laws of the Association were presented to those present. It was explained that the Governor's veto of legislation empowering municipalities to maintain private cemeteries had necessitated that such cemeteries be maintained privately. Several citizens have been trying to maintain the cemetery\* on a volunteer basis, but this option is not practical or sustainable.

*\*Note: In these minutes "cemetery" means the present Mendenhall Cemetery and the Womack Cemetery on West Street, in Mendenhall.*

The Association will operate as a non-profit corporation, which charter has been applied for through the Office of the Secretary of State. In addition, the appropriate tax ID number will be obtained.

The Association is intended to have a Board of Directors numbering nine individuals with staggered terms in groups of three. Initially, three will be elected for 1 year; three for 2 years; and three for 3 years.

It is estimated that it will take \$8,000 to \$9,000 per year to maintain the cemetery. The First Baptist Church of Mendenhall is currently holding some \$7200 that has been donated in care of the Church until the Association is fully formed with the appropriate tax-exempt status.

After all present had been given a chance to read the copies of the Articles and By-laws which had been distributed, discussion was held on the issue of officers. The Articles state that the Association "shall have" specified officers, and that the nine member Board of Directors "shall be elected" at the annual meeting. The discussion concluded with the agreement and understanding that the Board, once elected, would then select the officers from among themselves.

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The following motion was made by Richard Rankin:

To amend the By-Laws of the Mendenhall Cemetery Association, Inc., by adding the following sentence to the paragraph entitled "Board of Directors": *The Board of Directors shall also select the above-named officers from among their membership.*

The motion was seconded by Charles Guynes, and it passed without opposing vote.

Francis Ponder then made a motion that the Articles of the Mendenhall Cemetery Association, Inc., as presented by the Incorporators, and the By-laws of the Mendenhall Cemetery Association, Inc., as presented *with the approved amendment*, be adopted.

The motion was seconded by Jimmy Charles Sullivan, and it passed without opposing vote.

The next order of business was to elect the nine initial members of the Board of Directors.

The following nominations were made and seconded from the floor, nominations closed by motion from the floor, and nominees accepted by acclamation by motion from the floor in groups of three according to length of initial term.

		Nominated By	Seconded By
Three-Year Terms:	Richard Rankin	_____	_____
	Patsy Munn	_____	_____
	George Mangum	_____	_____
Two-Year Terms:	John Coleman	_____	_____
	Clint Rotenberry	_____	_____
	Mary Nell Cockrell	_____	_____
One-Year Terms:	Charles Guynes	_____	_____
	Bennie Sue May	_____	_____
	Mike Ponder	_____	_____

It was also noted the Association should also make every effort to identify all graves and the families of those buried in the cemetery.

The meeting was adjourned and the Board went into its initial executive session.

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#### MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The following officers were elected by unanimous vote of the Board members present (Mike Ponder and Mary Nell Cockrell were absent):

<i>Office</i>	<i>Officer</i>	<i>Nominated by</i>	<i>Seconded by</i>
SECRETARY	MARY NELL COCKRELL	Charles Guynes	Bennie Sue May
TREASURER	RICHARD RANKIN	John Coleman	Clint Rotenberry
VICE-PRESIDENT	PATSY MUNN	Charles Guynes	John Coleman
PRESIDENT	GEORGE MANGUM	Clint Rotenberry	Richard Rankin

The following business was taken up:

Selection of a Bank: Peoples Bank of Mendenhall was unanimously voted for, following motion by Patsy Munn and second by Bennie Sue May.

Securing Necessary Tax Numbers: Richard Rankin took this assignment.

Securing Bids for Maintenance: John Coleman and Charles Guynes took this assignment. The Board agreed to seek a volunteer effort in the next two weeks in the interim.

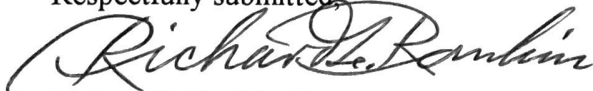
Record/Alphabetize/Print Out Members List: Patsy Munn will work with Mary Nell Cockrell on this assignment.

The Board voted to meet on Fourth Tuesdays, with the next meeting being set for Tuesday, May 27, 1997.

The time for the next three monthly meetings will be 7:00 PM, with a change in the Fall/Winter months to 6:30 PM.

The place of meeting will be the Farm Bureau Building, Mendenhall.

Respectfully submitted,



Richard L. Rankin, Treasurer

27 May 1997