Received
County Administration
1/10/18

PO Box 418
Gunnison CO 81230
970-641-0850
January 10, 2018

Board of County Commissioners
200 E Virginia Ave
Gunnison CO 81230

Re: Cemetery Board vacancy

Dear County Commissioners:

As you may recall, I was appointed in 2016 to the Gunnison Cemetery District's Board of Directors, filling the unexpired term held by Frank Vader, who resigned. I am honored to serve the Gunnison Valley in this capacity and am respectfully requesting regular appointment to a term on this important 3-member board.

Our beautiful cemetery established in 1887 by the Masons and Oddfellows Lodges, has long been and continues to be well and lovingly maintained. It serves as a fitting reflection of our close-knit Gunnison Valley community, and of our county's beautiful mountain setting, with its sheltering pines.

The District charges affordably low fees for plots and services. Re-formed in 1965 as a special taxing district, it is primarily funded by a modest property tax (0.764 mill for 2018). Therefore, similar to the BOCC, it is subject, by State law, to requirements for open/noticed proceedings, as well as fiscal/budgetary accountability. My experience in this regard, as a County Commissioner ('93-'01) has been, I believe, helpful to the 3-member Cemetery Board as we seek to comply with all lawful requirements.

On occasion, the Cemetery District looks to County personnel for expertise and advice, particularly Marlene Crosby. This support is appreciated and very important as we look to the future. One concern is the potential impacts of commercial development to the west of the Cemetery with related need to protect our irrigation ditch right. Also, the District is considering the need to make information on grave sites/names readily available online, rather than just on paper. This would be a real benefit to people today. Thus, the encouragement that the District might link from the County website and thus avoid the high costs of a server is important. This is a small step but a very important improvement for the public benefit.

I thank you for the honor of this service and for considering my appointment to a full term. I would be pleased to meet with you in this regard.

Sincerely,

Marlene Wright Zanetell

pc Gunnison Cemetery District Board