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MEMORANDUM

To: Lake County Board of Supervisors

From: Lars Ewing, Public Services Director

Subject: 2022-2023 Civil Grand Jury Final Report
Final Report: In Memory of Our Buried History: Lake County's Cemetery Districts

Date: September 7, 2023

The Public Services Department offers the following response to the 2022-2023 Lake County Civil Grand Jury Report, "In Memory of Our Buried History: Lake County's Cemetery Districts"

Finding F-1: *"The Lake County Board of Supervisors took responsibility for the maintenance of the Herndon-Copsey Pioneer Cemetery in 2005, but it is currently in disrepair."*

- **Response:** The Public Services Department agrees that the County of Lake is responsible for the maintenance of the Herndon-Copsey Pioneer Cemetery. However, "Disagree partially with finding" is the most appropriate response because of the use of the term "disrepair."

Finding F-2: *"The Cemetery needs headstone restoration, cleaning, and a gated fence with stair access to the top of the cemetery."*

- **Response:** The Public Services Department agrees that headstone restoration, cleaning, and a gated fence with stair access to the top of the cemetery would improve the cemetery grounds. However, "Disagree partially with finding" is the most appropriate response because of the use of the term "needs."

Recommendation #R-1: *"That the Lake County Board of Supervisors clean, repair, and restore the headstones, and build a gated fence with stair access to the top of the cemetery for the Herndon-Copsey Pioneer Cemetery."*

- **Response:** In 2005 the County of Lake assumed control of the Lower Lake Pioneer Cemetery and directed Public Services to manage and maintain the cemetery. The cemetery is not an endowment care cemetery, therefore it is not appropriate to apply the cemetery maintenance standards in section 2333 of Division 23 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations, as

referenced on page 26 of the Grand Jury Report. While Public Services values the input of the Civil Grand Jury, “Disagree” is the most appropriate available response.