

Committee members,

The Ninnescah Township (Sedgwick County) are opposed to the dissolution of the Clearwater Cemetery District. The district was formed in the mid 1940's to manage and operate the four individual cemeteries that are located within the district. The district over the years has expanded the main Clearwater cemetery using district funds for the benefit of the entire district. This would make dividing the cemetery assets very difficult to manage. It would also leave both townships with property and cemeteries to manage and maintain.

In addition the district owns two separate tracks of land for future expansion. One of the tracks will be expensive to develop for cemetery use. There is also a little over \$400,000.00 in district funds that all of the district citizens have contributed too in the form of a cemetery tax. If the district is dissolved each of the three district members will need to raise their individual mill levy's to replace the one current tax in order to maintain and expand the individual properties.

The current system has served the area well for eighty years and provides joint over-site for everyone involved. These are generational cemeteries for many of the longtime local citizens, many of which fear major changes could occur if the district is dissolved. Therefore, Ninnescah Township is requesting that this proposed resolution (HR2626) be rejected. If the committee decides to pass the resolution we ask that it maintains the requirement of a unanimous vote of all district board members. We also ask that a time limit of this calendar year be placed on the resolution for implementation of the resolution.

Tim Erwin
Ninnescah Township Trustee
Current Chair of Clearwater Cemetery District Board.