

SCOTT HARRIS, M.D., M.P.H. • STATE HEALTH OFFICER

BALDWIN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

July 15, 2024

Honorable Harry D'Olive, Jr. Baldwin County Probate Office 208 Courthouse Square / PO Box 459 Bay Minette, Alabama 36507

RE: Propst Family Cemetery Investigation Report

Dear Judge D'Olive,

This department received your order to complete the review for the existing Propst Family Cemetery on Highway 112, Bay Minette, Alabama.

The owner, Shirley Propst, has not submitted an *Application for Cemetery Development or Extension* to the health department. However, I have reviewed the plat submitted to your office. Ms. Propst called last week and said the boundary lines of the cemetery did not change and only the wording of the legal description was being corrected.

The requirements are not clear for this cemetery because it is a family burial plot created before the current revision of ADPH Cemetery Guidelines and before Baldwin County began requiring all family burial plots to follow ADPH Cemetery Development Guidelines, Part A. Hence, it is difficult for this cemetery to meet all the current requirements. Keeping this in mind, the following is submitted for your consideration:

- The new boundary lines show less than 5000 square feet being added. Usually, cemetery extensions are much larger and would require additional soil tests, but this proposal does not.
- Another consideration is the locations of the occupied burial plots do not meet the 35' setback from the property lines set forth in the 2015 ADPH Cemetery Development & Extension Guidelines. It is my understanding that the burials took place in the 1980s when cemeteries, including family burial plots, were approved under different guidelines so Baldwin County should decide if the current burial plots are "grandfathered" or if the graves would need to be moved to meet the current setback. Either way, it would be a health department recommendation that no future plots be located within 35' of a property boundary.

This letter and the submitted plot plan are to be recorded as part of the legal record in the Baldwin County, Alabama, Probate Office when a license to extend the cemetery is issued by that office.

Please contact me at 251-947-3618 with any questions.

Respectfully, amilla English Camilla English

Environmental Supervisor

CC: Tammy Chance, Baldwin County Probate Office Carjetta Crook, Baldwin County Commission Office