

**Resolution No. 2025-15**  
**Indigent Remains Final Disposition Policy**

WHEREAS pursuant to Iowa Code sections 252.25 and 252.27, the Board of Supervisors desires to declare a policy concerning the provision of monetary assistance for the cremation of the remains of deceased indigent persons;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of Cass County, Iowa as follows:

1. Final disposition cremation assistance may be paid to a funeral home for the benefit of any deceased Cass County resident. Per Iowa Code 225C.61 "County of residence" means the county in this state in which, at the time a person applies for or receives services, the person is living and has established an ongoing presence with the declared, good faith intention of living in the county for a permanent or indefinite period of time. The county of residence of a person who is a homeless person is the county where the homeless person usually sleeps. A person maintains residency in the county or state in which the person last resided while the person is present in another county or this state receiving services in a hospital, a correctional facility, a halfway house for community-based corrections or substance use disorder treatment, a nursing facility, an intermediate care facility for persons with an intellectual disability, or a residential care facility, or for the purpose of attending a college or university. Eligibility for benefits shall be determined using the same standards provided for in the General Assistance Ordinance.
2. Application for assistance requires an appointment with the General Assistance Director at the Cass County Courthouse in Atlantic, Iowa during regular courthouse hours and shall be made as soon as possible after the date of death and prior to formalizing or finalizing any arrangements with the funeral home. No public announcements are allowed until approval is given by the County. Application for assistance shall be made in writing on a form provided by the County and in the same manner as application for any other type of assistance with the General Assistance Office. Application may be made by the funeral home director in the absence of any other responsible party.
3. A maximum of \$1,500.00 will be paid for final disposition of direct cremation, which includes the mandatory Medical Examiner certification fee. There is no requirement of the funeral home for providing a viewing, service, or ceremony and no burial of remains. Special accommodation may be provided for religious purposes if requested in writing by a religious leader.
4. Cremains may be returned to the family or friends making application for disposition.

5. The applicant shall also sign an agreement to repay Cass County, Iowa, from any resources or benefits that belong to or are due to the deceased person. Examples of such assets or benefits are as follows:
- a. Life insurance,
  - b. Real estate,
  - c. Personal property,
  - d. Social Security, railroad or other benefits,
  - e. Contracts,
  - f. Bank accounts, annuities, stocks, bonds or C.D.'s.
6. Said agreement shall be signed under penalty of perjury and any false or incomplete information provided by the family or friends will be dealt with accordingly.

Roll Call Vote:

A Baier  
N Pettinger  
A Green  
A Richter  
A O'Brien

Resolution adopted this 1st day of April, 2025.

Steve Baier  
Steve Baier, Chairman  
Cass County Board of Supervisors

Kathy Somers  
Kathy Somers  
Cass County Auditor