

RULES REGARDING INDIGENT BURIAL

Section 1: Authority

These rules are promulgated in accordance with the Wyoming Administrative Procedures Act, W.S. § 16-3-101 et. seq.

Pursuant to W.S. § 18-3-504(c), the Board of County Commissioners is responsible for burial and cremation of indigent persons who were not receiving certain public benefits. Pursuant to W.S. § 42-2-103(c), the State of Wyoming Department of Family Services is responsible for burial or cremation of those indigent persons receiving aid under the POWER (Personal Opportunities With Employment Responsibilities) program, SSI (Supplemental Security Income) or Medicaid. Pursuant to W.S. § 7-4-104(a)(i)(K), a case involving an unanticipated death where the identity of the victim is unknown or the body is unclaimed is a coroner's case, and under W.S. § 7-4-207(a), when the coroner investigates the death of a person whose body is not claimed by a friend or relative within five days of the date of discovery and whose death does not require further investigation, the coroner shall cause the body to be decently buried. The expense of the burial shall be paid from any property found with the body. If no property is found, the expense of the burial shall be paid by the county in which the investigation occurs.

Section 2: Procedure

A. Prior to payment by the County for cremation or burial services as outlined in Section 1, a sworn application must be submitted to the County for payment. The applicant must establish that the decedent was a resident of Campbell County and not receiving POWER assistance, SSI income, or Medicaid under the Wyoming Public Assistance and Social Services Act at the time of death, and that the decedent was without sufficient means in his/or her own estate or other resources to provide for burial or cremation.

B. If the body is claimed by a friend, relative, or other person, that person shall pay the expenses of burial or cremation.

C. If no one claims the body, or if the body remains unidentified, the expense of burial or cremation shall be paid to the funeral home from any property found with the body, as per W.S. § 7-4-207(a). If the body is unclaimed, the manner of disposition of the body and any itinerant funeral services are at the discretion of the funeral home, and may not be dictated by friends, family, or other interested persons.

D. If no property is found with the body, and no other estate exists against which the funeral home may make a claim, an application for payment may be made to the County.

E. If the Board of Commissioners finds that no other means of payment are available, it may authorize payment for the burial or cremation. The total cost of such burial or cremation shall not exceed one thousand seven hundred dollars (\$1,700.00).

Section 3: Claim of Remains After Burial or Cremation

If a relative or friend of the indigent or unidentified decedent wishes to claim the remains of the decedent after burial or cremation, that person must first reimburse the County for any costs incurred by the County for the burial or cremation, as well as any fees charged by the mortuary or cemetery for the cost of disinterment.

Section 4: Severability

If any provision of these rules of practice or the application thereof is held invalid, the invalidity shall not affect the other provisions or application of these rules which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and for this purpose the provisions of these rules are severable.

CAMPBELL COUNTY INDIGENT BURIAL APPLICATION

ADMINISTERED BY:

CAMPBELL COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
JANE GLASER, DIRECTOR

2301 S. 4-J Road
P.O. Box 3420
Gillette, Wyoming 82717-3420
(307) 682-7275

In accordance with W.S. §18-3-504 and the rules and regulations of Campbell County, Wyoming, Campbell County provides funding for the burial of indigent persons. To be eligible, the deceased person must have been a resident of Campbell County, Wyoming. In addition, the deceased person must not have received personal opportunities with employment responsibilities (POWER) assistance, supplemental security income or Medicaid under the Wyoming Public Assistance and Social Services Act at the time of death and is without sufficient means in their own estate or other resources to provide for burial or cremation.

The benefit available upon a determination of eligibility is an amount not to exceed One Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars (\$1,700.00) to be utilized for a burial or cremation.

Applicant applying for burial funding must provide the following information and confirm by signing below under the penalty of perjury that the deceased does qualify for indigent burial funds and assign to Campbell County any interest in funds or assets later identified to which the deceased is the lawful recipient or beneficiary.

DATE OF APPLICATION: _____

NAME OF DECEASED: _____

DATE OF DEATH: _____

ADDRESS OF DECEASED: _____

NAME OF FUNERAL HOME: _____

**NAME OF DIRECTOR OR
AGENT FOR FUNERAL HOME:** _____

ADDRESS OF FUNERAL HOME: _____

PHONE NUMBER OF FUNERAL HOME: _____

NAME OF NEXT OF KIN: _____

ADDRESS OF NEXT OF KIN: _____

PHONE NUMBER OF NEXT OF KIN: _____

NAME OF APPLICANT: _____

ADDRESS OF APPLICANT: _____

PHONE NUMBER OF APPLICANT: _____

I/We by applying and receiving burial funds for the above named deceased, hereby accept responsibility for the proper burial of the and confirm that to the best of my/our knowledge the deceased qualifies for indigent burial funds pursuant to Wyoming Law. Further, by signing below, I/we assign to Campbell County, Wyoming, any interest in benefits, funds, assets to which the deceased is identified to be the lawful recipient or beneficiary.

Signature of Applicant

Signature of Next-of-Kin

STATE OF WYOMING)
)
) ss.
COUNTY OF CAMPBELL)

The foregoing was subscribed and sworn to before me by _____ On this
Day of _____, 20_____.

Witness my hand and official seal.

Notary Public

My commission expires:

Approved: _____
Campbell County Health Department

Dated: _____