

**The following Resolution was adopted by the
Hays County Commissioners' Court
March 1, 1993 (Volume 0 Page 478)**

11940 ADOPT POLICY FOR INDIGENT BURIAL SERVICES

Judge Etheredge spoke of having met with the local Funeral Homes - there has been no changes made in the amount paid for indigent burials in several years - the cost to the funeral homes for opening and closing graves has increased. A proposed policy for Indigent Burial Services was presented by Eva Cruz, Indigent Health Care Administrator. A motion was made by Judge Etheredge, seconded by Commissioner Rippy to adopt the proposed Policy for Indigent Burial Services. All present voting "Aye".

POLICY FOR INDIGENT BURIAL SERVICES

- 1) **Deceased must have been a Hays County Resident.**
- 2) **Should immediate family members have other available resources, it is the responsibility of the family to seek those sources.**
- 3) **County may assume payment on out of county indigents if there are no family members available. (persons passing through, homeless individuals)**
- 4) **County will not supplement other available sources. (Life insurance, social security, veterans administration, donations from private, public, and civic organizations)**
- 5) **County will pay \$ 450.00 for Adult graveside service, \$ 125.00 for Infant graveside service and \$ 200.00 for opening and closing of the grave. Payment is subject to change.**
- 6) **County has the option to make exceptions based on need and availability of resources.**
- 7) **Family members must contact Hays County Indigent Health Care Staff for assistance.**
- 8) **Graveside selection is the responsibility of the Funeral Home and/or the family.**

14796 ADOPT POLICY FOR PAUPER BURIALS (T1-492)

Judge Etheredge spoke of proposed guidelines for pauper burials that was submitted by Pennington Funeral Home on behalf of themselves, Los Angeles Funeral Home, and Harrell Funeral Home - proposed guidelines are based on those currently in effect in Travis County - spoke of unique situations in which bodies have to be stored for a period of time and increased the cost - we periodically review the fees for pauper burials to consider changes. Commissioner Barton spoke of need to change wording on page 2 first paragraph (change Hays County Department of Human Resources to Hays County Health Department) to reflect proper department. A motion was made by Judge Etheredge, seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez to adopt fees and policy for Pauper Burials as recommended by local funeral homes and as amended this date. All voting "Aye".

**HAYS COUNTY POLICY FOR
 PAUPER BURIALS**

**DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF CONTRACTOR
 FUNERAL HOME SERVICES:**

Contractor agrees that it will:

Refer to Department any clients which have been unable to make financial arrangements for funeral services using their own resources.

Remove the remains from the place of death (within Hays County).

NOT accept any payment for additional services other than those to be provided under the County's Burial Assistance Policies, with the exceptions of grave site preparation fees and out-of-town transportation fees as allowed under the Policies regarding the use of existing plots owned by family and/or burial in a military cemetery.

Prepare the remains for burial.

Provide the appropriate size casket meeting standards of the casket industry (no family selection).

As appropriate, provide viewing of deceased at the cemetery thirty minutes prior to service.

Provide transportation of body to cemetery as authorized under the County's Burial Assistance Policies.

Conduct brief graveside service.

File all required documentation.

Provide a temporary marker.

Burials will be limited to 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday only, excluding Saturday's, Sunday's, and all holidays.

Provide all services without discrimination based on race, color, national origin, religious beliefs, sex, age, or handicap.

Make certain that the appropriate personnel at its property are aware of its guidelines.

Communicate with the Director should any problems develop.

**DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF COUNTY:
 FUNERAL HOME SERVICES:**

County, through the Hays County Health Department agrees that it will:

Provide information to persons inquiring or applying for services.

Determine eligibility for indigent burial requests.

Provide funeral home reimbursement for approved cases in the amounts specified herein.

Submit necessary billing documentation to Contractor within five (5) working days of approval.

Not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religious beliefs, sex, age, or handicap.

Communicate with Contractor should any problems develop.

Provide participants with a copy of "Hays County Burial Assistance Policies" and secure agreement by Participant to meet the responsibilities therein.

Families must be informed they have the right to choose another funeral home, other than the funeral home on rotation call.

Handle all contact with Contractor.

**SCHEDULE OF RATES/FEEES:
FUNERAL HOME SERVICES:**

County shall provide contractor reimbursement for approved cases in the following amounts:

\$ 800.00	oversized adult
\$ 650.00	adult (regular size)
\$ 300.00	child (3 ft. to 5 ft. 6 inc. casket)
\$ 200.00	infant (1 ft. 9 in. to 2 ft. casket)

- A. Opening and closing of grave..... \$200.00
Does not include tent and/or equipment at cemetery

County to provide a grave space in Section 1 of the Dixon Addition. Additional charges for O/C fee will be incurred for burial in any other cemetery in Hays County.

- B. Crash bag for deceased (if needed)..... \$ 95.00

- C. Direct Cremation request and authorization by next of kin.....\$ 650.00

COUNTY ROTATION CALL

- 1. First call and transport limited to Austin/San Antonio Medical Examiner's or within trade area (radius).....\$ 175.00
- 2. Transportation charges from Austin/San Antonio Medical Examiner's office (proof of charge will be attached to statement)
- 3. Shelter of remains.....\$ 75.00 per day

DISCUSSION REGARDING COST OF PLATTING THE OLD HOSPITAL PROPERTY [T1-650]

Judge Etheredge spoke of court already having approved platting the old hospital property - at that time the estimated cost was \$1500 but the exact cost is going to be \$3,300.00 - the City of San Marcos is requiring platting . David Williamson of Byrn & Associates spoke of research required and various easements on the property.

14797 ADOPT PRELIMINARY FIRM MAPS AND BEGIN USING THEM AS "BEST AVAILABLE INFORMATION" FOR DEVELOPMENT PURPOSES EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY [T1-738]

FEMA held its public hearing on the revised FIRM maps on February 7th - the court may adopt the new maps and begin using them as "best available information" for development purposes - spoke of discussions that were had and questions were addressed - feels like not all people will be satisfied with the results - 90 appeal period has begun. Allen Walther, Environmental Health Director, spoke of need to keep in mind that the new maps will be used for permitting but will not be used for insurance purposes. Jim Eikelberger spoke of his property - feels like the figures are incorrect based on history of the existing structures - original elevation figure was 915 and new elevation figure is 909, however, his house sits at an elevation of 904. Judge Etheredge advised that individual property owners must file an appeal with FEMA and they will look at it before they require technical scientific data - suggested that Mr. Eikelberger contact Jack Quarles (FEMA Chief Engineer). Commissioner Barton felt like the maps are going to become much more realistic and still provide reasonable use of property in most cases - thanked all those involved in making these new maps come about. Allen Walther spoke of additional reference marks were created by this survey and current reference marks were re-set - over 300 reference marks are now available. A motion was made by Commissioner Payne, seconded by Commissioner Barton to adopt the Hays County Preliminary FIRM maps and authorize their use as "best available information" effective immediately. All voting "Aye".