

Title 11

WELFARE AND INDIGENT SERVICES

Title 11: Welfare and Indigent Services

Chapter 10: Human Services Department

Sections: .010 through .020

<u>Title</u>	<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Heading</u>	<u>Page</u>
11	10	.010	Definition	11-4
11	10	.020	Human services department	11-4

Title 11: Welfare and Indigent Services

Chapter 20: Welfare and Indigent Services

Sections: .010 through .100

<u>Title</u>	<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Heading</u>	<u>Page</u>
11	20	.010	Purpose	11-5
11	20	.020	Administration	11-5
11	20	.030	Eligibility	11-5
11	20	.040	Medical assistance	11-8
11	20	.050	Reimbursement	11-9
11	20	.060	Direct assistance service and transient assistance	11-10
11	20	.070	Burials and cremations	11-11
11	20	.080	Appeal	11-12
11	20	.090	Approval	11-12
11	20	.100	Fraud	11-12

Title 11: Welfare and Indigent Services

Chapter 30: Counseling of Victims of Sexual Abuse and Assault

Sections: .010 through .080

<u>Title</u>	<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Heading</u>	<u>Page</u>
11	30	.010	Statutory authorization	11-13
11	30	.020	Payment of cost of initial medical care of victim	11-13
11	30	.030	Application for medical and psychological treatment of victim and spouse; companionship during counseling; prerequisites to approval	11-13
11	30	.040	Availability of medical and psychological treatment; limitation of cost	11-13
11	30	.050	Certification by person providing counseling or psychological treatment required	11-14

11	30	.060	Limitation on time for treatment	11-14
11	30	.070	Applicability of this chapter to sexual abuse	11-14
11	30	.080	Payment for Jane Doe sexual assault kits	11-14

Title 11: Welfare and Indigent Services

Chapter 40: Emergency Management

Sections: .010 through .080

<u>Title</u>	<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Heading</u>	<u>Page</u>
11	40	.010	Definition	11-15
11	40	.020	Council membership	11-15
11	40	.030	Council powers and duties	11-15
11	40	.040	Council Director	11-16
11	40	.050	Emergency Management Corps - Purpose	11-16
11	40	.060	Emergency Management Corps - Divisions	11-16
11	40	.070	Volunteers	11-17
11	40	.080	Violation - Penalty	11-17

Title 11: Welfare and Indigent Services

Chapter 50: Emergency Medical Services

Sections: .010 through .060

<u>Title</u>	<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Heading</u>	<u>Page</u>
11	50	.010	EMS Director	11-18
11	50	.020	Volunteers	11-18
11	50	.030	Membership service plan	11-18
11	50	.040	EMS franchise	11-18
11	50	.050	Requirements for other providers	11-18
11	50	.060	Other laws unaffected	11-19

Title 11: Welfare and Indigent Services

Chapter 60: Public Guardian and Public Administrator Office

Sections: .010 through .140

<u>Title</u>	<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Heading</u>	<u>Page</u>
11	60	.010	Office of public guardian/administrator established	11-20
11	60	.020	Vacancy	11-20
11	60	.030	Subordinates, consultants and assistants	11-20
11	60	.040	Records and account	11-20
11	60	.050	Caseload	11-20
11	60	.060	Qualifications of person for whom public guardian may be appointed; petition for appointment	11-21
11	60	.070	Retention of attorney	11-21

11	60	.080	Investigation of financial status of person for whom public guardian/administrator is requested	11-22
11	60	.090	Allocation of costs incurred in appointment proceedings and administrative costs	11-22
11	60	.100	Value of guardian/administrator's services allowable as claim against ward's estate; deposit of money received by public guardian	11-22
11	60	.110	Circumstances under which public administrator may secure property of deceased	11-22
11	60	.120	Termination of appointment	11-22
11	60	.130	Conflict between Nevada Revised Statutes and Eureka County Code	11-23
11	60	.140	Revocation of previous appointments and designations for public guardian/administrator	11-23

Title 11: Welfare and Indigent Services

Chapter 70: Legal Aid

Sections: .010 through .020

<u>Title</u>	<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Heading</u>	<u>Page</u>
11	70	.010	Revenue funds for legal aid established	11-24
11	70	.020	Authority to expend funds	11-24

Chapter 10 - HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

.010 Definitions

For the purposes of this chapter, the term “human services” is defined to include all welfare operations, including direct assistance service and transient assistance, the Eureka and Crescent Valley Senior Centers, Meals on Wheels, food bank, and related services and operations.

.020 Human Services Department

- A. The Eureka County Department of Human Services is established.
- B. The welfare services and eligibility noted in this title shall be as defined and delineated in Eureka County's welfare policy.
- C. The Human Services Director shall be a person generally qualified by education and experience to plan and manage the County's human services operations under the direction of the Board of County Commissioners, and to advise the Board about such matters.
- D. Compensation and express duties of the Human Services Director shall be as from time to time determined by the Board of County Commissioners and adopted by the Board by resolution or minute orders and as defined by job description or contract.

Chapter 20 - WELFARE AND INDIGENT SERVICES

.010 Purpose

The objective of this chapter is the efficient delivery of assistance programs for medical and direct assistance as mandated by Nevada law, and is applicable to indigents and those incapacitated by age, disease or accident, lawfully residing herein, who are not supported or relieved by their relatives or guardians, by their own means, by state hospitals, or by other state, federal, or private institutions or agencies.

.020 Administration

- A. This chapter shall be administered by the Human Services Director, or others at the discretion of the Board of County Commissioners.
- B. Assistance to transients shall be administered by the Human Services Director.
- C. The Human Services Director shall have the authority to act and make decisions in emergency situations without the prior approval of the Commissioners.
- D. The Human Services Director is expressly authorized to exercise those powers and perform those duties granted to the Board of County Commissioners under N.R.S. Chapter 428.

.030 Eligibility

- A. A person is eligible for assistance if he/she lives in a household which has a total monthly income of less than:
 - 1. For one (1) person living without another member of a household, four hundred thirty-eight (\$438.00) dollars;
 - 2. For two (2) persons, five hundred eighty-eight (\$588.00) dollars;
 - 3. For three (3) or more persons, five hundred eighty-eight dollars (\$588.00) plus one hundred fifty (\$150.00) dollars for each person in the family in excess of two (2);
- B. For the purposes of this section, “**income**” includes the entire income of a household and the amount which a County projects a person or household is able to earn. “**Household**” is limited to a person and his spouse, parents, children, brothers and sisters residing with him.

- C. For the purpose of the income test, the following deductions shall be allowed if they consist of regular monthly payments on:
1. Existing medical bills; and
 2. Alimony and child support, provided that such payment is paid to a person not included as one of the persons dependent upon income of patient or responsible relative in the income table; and
 3. Child care; and
 4. Involuntary deductions from income, such as income tax, Social Security contributions and retirement fund payments; and
 5. Reimbursement to the County for previous services received; and
 6. Payments from ACTION programs, including Foster Grandparents, Senior Companion, Retired Senior Volunteer and VISTA.
- D. Even if a person does not meet the income test, he may be eligible if it is determined by the Human Services Director that he does not have sufficient funds to pay for all or part of his medical care by reason of the following:
1. Nature of the disability; and
 2. Estimated length of hospitalization; and
 3. Estimated elapsed time before employed person may return to work; and
 4. Effect of the disability, if any, on future income production.
- E. Assets for the entire household are allowed in the following:
1. **Real Property - Real Estate Holdings.**
 - a. Ownership of the primary residence is allowed not to exceed fifteen thousand (\$15,000.00) dollars assessed valuation;
 - b. Real property, wherever located, other than a personally occupied residence, shall be considered a liquid asset and must be liquidated prior to the granting of any assistance except temporary emergency assistance;
 - c. Any assets transferred prior to ninety (90) days of application

date will still be considered in determining eligibility of applicant.

2. Personal Property.

- a. A household may have cash assets of seventy-five (\$75.00) dollars for the first person and twenty-five (\$25.00) dollars for each additional member of the household;
- b. Life insurance policies may have a cash surrender value not exceeding one thousand (\$1,000.00) dollars per household member;
- c. Household may own two (2) automobiles which shall not have a combined retail blue book value in excess of four thousand five hundred (\$4,500.00) dollars. Equity is not considered in determining value. Vehicles in excess of two (2) or in excess of a total blue book of four thousand five hundred (\$4,500.00) dollars will be considered liquid assets and must be liquidated prior to the granting of any assistance;
- d. Trailers and mobile homes are considered personal property if not personally occupied and shall be considered liquid assets and must be liquidated prior to the granting of any assistance;
- e. The household may not have personal assets, including but not limited to stocks, bonds, livestock, mining claims and equipment, with a total cash value in excess for the first person in the household, seventy-five (\$75.00) dollars, and twenty-five (\$25.00) dollars for each additional household member;
- f. Any assets transferred prior to ninety (90) days of application date will still be considered in determining eligibility of applicant;
- g. Assets of one thousand seven hundred (\$1,700.00) dollars are allowed for aged/disabled individual; two thousand five hundred (\$2,500.00) dollars is allowed for aged/disabled couple. Assets sold or in any manner released by any member of the assistance unit within two (2) years prior to County application must be declared.

- F. Failure to accept a bona fide offer of suitable employment is grounds for termination of assistance. Voluntary termination or termination for misconduct is grounds to deny assistance.
- G. No person who is in jail, on parole or probation, or is discharged from his/her employment on account thereof, or on account of the conviction of any crime, is eligible for assistance.

.040 Medical assistance

- A. Medical assistance applies to:
 - 1. Emergency medical care; and
 - 2. All other medically necessary care rendered in a medical facility.
- B. As used in this section, “**emergency medical care**” means any care for an urgent medical condition which is likely to result in serious and permanent bodily disability or death if the patient is not transported to a medical facility or given medical care.
- C. **Resident Eligibility for Medical Care.** A person is eligible or partially eligible for resident County medical care if he/she fulfills all of the following conditions:
 - 1. It is determined, with proper medical evidence, that the person is in need of medical care; and
 - 2. Such person does not have sufficient funds or assets which can be readily converted to funds to pay for all or part of that person’s medical care; and
 - 3. Such person has been a bona fide resident of the County for at least six (6) months immediately prior to his asking for assistance; and
 - 4. Such person is not receiving aid or assistance from state or federal medical care programs which would take care of his medical obligations.
- D. **Nonresident Eligibility for Medical Care.** A person is eligible for nonresident County medical care if all of the following conditions apply:
 - 1. It appears that the person has not been a resident of the County for six (6) months; and

2. It has been determined with proper medical evidence, that the person is in need of medical care and does not have sufficient funds nor is receiving state or federal aid.
- E. **Transient Eligibility for Medical Care.** A person is eligible for transient County medical care if all of the following conditions apply:
1. If it appears that the person is a nonresident of the County and is not a resident of any other County within the state, and that such person is living within the County with the intent to remain with the County; and
 2. Such person becomes ill or falls sick while within the County; and
 3. It is determined, with proper medical evidence, that the person is in need of medical care, does not have sufficient funds nor is receiving aid or assistance from State or federal medical programs which would take care of his medical obligations.

.050 Reimbursement

As a condition of such care an eligible person shall reimburse the County in accordance with the following rules:

- A. The applicant or other responsible party will be required to reimburse the County for that portion of the medical expenses that fall within his financial ability.
- B. If a person who has received care acquires property sufficient to be used to satisfy his medical expenses, the cost of care supplied to the person shall be a charge against him.
- C. The County shall render to a person who has been provided care in a hospital a statement setting forth the charges upon which its claim for reimbursement is based.
- D. Liens.
 1. If it is determined by the Board of County Commissioners to be in the best interest of the County, a lien against the property of the patient or responsible relative may be required as a condition to granting relief.
 2. Sale or foreclosure of such a lien shall not be enforced against the home of the eligible person or responsible relative:
 - a. During his lifetime or that of the spouse;

- b. During the minority of children if they reside in the home;
 - c. During the lifetime of any dependent adult child who resides in the home, and who is incapable of self-support because of mental or physical disability.
 - 3. Any lien taken by the County for hospital care shall be released immediately when the amount owing the County for that care is paid.
 - 4. If a person against whose property a lien has been imposed for hospital care desires to acquire different property, the County may release its lien against the original property and transfer it to the new property if its security will not thereby be impaired.
 - 5. If the person desires to borrow money for the purpose of making improvements to his property using his property for security, the County may subordinate its lien to the mortgage or other security interest given for the loan if its security will not thereby be impaired.
- E. **Responsible Relatives.** In addition to the responsibility of the person in whom care is rendered, the cost of care rendered is also a charge against the responsible relative of that person.
- 1. **Definition of responsible relatives** - Spouse for spouse, both persons living in a marital relationship, father, mother, children, and brothers or sisters of an applicant who have sufficient financial resources to assist the applicant.
- F. **Installment payments.** If the Board of County Commissioners deems it appropriate, a person against whom the cost of care is a charge may pay in installments in such amounts and at such intervals as approved by the Board.
- G. **Liability.**
- 1. The County's liability is limited pursuant to the terms of Nevada Revised Statutes Chapters 428 and 450.
 - 2. The County's liability shall not exceed the sum of three thousand (\$3,000.00) dollars in cases of accident involving injury to those not residing within the County at the time thereof.

.060 Direct assistance service and transient assistance

- A. Assistance in the form of vouchers for shelter, utilities and food to eligible resident applicants and transient persons may be issued. Emergency aid for other assistance will be determined by the Human Services Director.

- B. Applicants shall file with the Human Services Director a declaration of need and full disclosure of financial and family status, demonstrating a factual need. The declaration shall be under oath. The form of this declaration shall be provided by the Human Services Director.
- C. Applicants for County assistance shall, by a signed authorization, permit the County to verify pertinent financial and medical information for the purpose of determining eligibility. Failure to submit information and cooperate with County officials to verify need shall result in denial of aid.
- D. **Transients.** Transportation and food and lodging for transients who qualify under the eligibility standards.
 - 1. Aid in the form of one night lodging;
 - 2. Ten (10) gallons of gasoline;
 - 3. Tire repair;
 - 4. Minor car repairs;
 - 5. Bus fare and food may be provided to indigent travelers on a one-time basis and need;
 - 6. Maximum allotments to transients to be determined by the Human Services Director.
- E. In order to obtain a voucher for motor fuel, applicants must provide the following:
 - 1. A current driver's license;
 - 2. The vehicle's registration;
 - 3. Proof of insurance thereon.
- F. In order to obtain any other benefits hereunder, applicant must furnish satisfactory proof of identification.

.070 Burials and cremations

- A. Cremation or burials shall be provided for those individuals who die within the County and do not have the resources, the responsible relatives or who are not eligible for another agency to pay all or part of the cremation or burial, in an amount not to exceed eight hundred (\$800) dollars.

- B. Direct assistance shall be provided to clients based on the standard of need that is established in the income poverty guidelines as adopted by the County.

.080 Appeal

Any person who is denied medical or financial assistance benefits provided for herein may appeal to the Board of County Commissioners within thirty (30) days of the service of the notice thereof.

.090 Approval

All assistance issued will be approved by the Board of County Commissioners at a regularly scheduled meeting when the amount of the expenditure exceeds eight hundred (\$800) dollars. Anything above this amount must be approved by the Board.

.100 Fraud

- A. If any applicant should attempt to secure aid or assistance under this chapter by wilfully giving false information about his medical or financial condition, such action shall constitute a misdemeanor.
- B. Verification of existence of fraudulent circumstances shall be reported to the Sheriff's Office for criminal action. Recipient may request the opportunity for repayment of monies or services obtained fraudulently. Such opportunity may be granted at the discretion of the Board of County Commissioners. If the payment plan is not adhered to, criminal prosecution shall be pursued.

Chapter 30 - COUNSELING OF VICTIMS OF SEXUAL
ABUSE AND ASSAULT

.010 Statutory authorization

The Nevada legislature in Chapter 217 of the Nevada Revised Statutes mandates that counties shall adopt an ordinance to provide for the counseling of victims of sexual abuse and assault.

.020 Payment of cost of initial medical care of victim

Pursuant to N.R.S. 217.300, for sexual assaults committed in Eureka County, the County shall pay any costs incurred for medical care for any physical injuries resulting from the assault which is provided to the victim not later than seventy-two (72) hours after the victim first arrives for treatment.

.030 Application for medical and psychological treatment of victim and spouse; companionship during counseling; prerequisites to approval

If treatment is required in addition to any initial emergency medical care as provided for by this chapter, the victim or victim's spouse may apply to the Board of County Commissioners pursuant to N.R.S. 217.310 for treatment at County expense. The Board shall approve an application for treatment upon receiving an affidavit from the victim or the victim's spouse stating the victim requires additional medical treatment for physical injuries or the victim or spouse has suffered emotional trauma as a result of the sexual assault. A victim who has suffered emotional trauma may select a relative or close friend to receive counseling with the victim if the counselor agrees that such companionship will be helpful to the victim. If the victim's application for treatment is approved, counseling for the relative or friend must also be approved. The filing of a report with the Eureka County Sheriff's Office is a prerequisite to qualify for this additional treatment beyond that provided for by Section 11.30.020.

.040 Availability of medical and psychological treatment; limitation of cost

Upon approval by the Board of County Commissioners described in Section 11.30.030 of the additional treatment in the form of medical treatment for the victim's physical injuries or treatment in the form of psychological, psychiatric and marital counseling for the victim, the victim's spouse and any other eligible person, such additional treatment must be made available at a facility the Board may contract with for providing such treatment. Any costs for such treatment not exceeding one thousand (\$1,000.00) dollars shall be paid by the County.

.050 Certification by person providing counseling or psychological treatment required

The Board of County Commissioners shall require the psychologist, psychiatrist or counselor treating a victim of sexual assault or the victim's spouse for emotional trauma suffered as a result of the sexual assault to certify from time to time that the counseling relates to the sexual assault and that the victim or spouse still suffers from the effects of the emotional trauma which resulted from the sexual assault. If the person providing the treatment fails to make the certification upon request by the Board, then pursuant to N.R.S. 217.330 the Board may order the treatment terminated.

.060 Limitations on time for treatment

No order for additional treatment pursuant to Section 11.30.030 and 11.30.040 may be made by the Board of County Commissioners unless (1) the application for treatment is made within sixty (60) days after the date of the sexual assault; or (2) the sexual assault was reported to law enforcement within three (3) days after its occurrence, or if the offense could not reasonably have been reported within that period, within three (3) days after the time when a report could reasonably have been made.

.070 Applicability of this chapter to sexual abuse

This chapter applies equally to incidents of sexual assault and sexual abuse; however, a relative is not eligible to receive counseling if he or she committed the abuse or assault for which counseling is sought.

.080 Payment for Jane Doe sexual assault kits

The Board of County Commissioners shall consider payment for Jane Doe sexual assault kits that are fair and reasonable, in the amount of approximately \$250, provided requests for payment are timely submitted and are completed for incidents which occurred within Eureka County.

Chapter 40 - EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

.010 Definition

Emergency management means the preparation for and the carrying out of all emergency functions, other than functions for which military forces are primarily responsible, to prevent, minimize and repair injury and damage resulting from disasters caused by enemy attack, sabotage or other hostile action, or by fire, flood, earthquake or other natural causes. These functions include firefighting, police services, medical and health services, searches, rescues, engineering, air raid warning services, communications, radiological, chemical and other special weapons defense, evacuation of persons from stricken areas, emergency welfare services (civilian war aid), emergency transportation, existing or properly assigned functions of plant protection, temporary restoration of public utility services and other functions related to civilian protection, together with all other activities necessary or incidental to the preparation for and carrying out of the foregoing functions.

.020 Council membership

The County Emergency Management Council is created and includes the following:

- A. All County Commissioners;
- B. Director, Emergency Management Council;
- C. District Attorney;
- D. Sheriff;
- E. Chairman, County American Red Cross Chapter;
- F. Others, including representatives of business, labor and private organizations as may be appointed by the Council.

.030 Council powers and duties

It shall be the duty of the Emergency Management Council:

- A. To develop a County emergency management plan. This plan shall provide for the effective mobilization of all the resources of the County;
- B. To prepare and recommend for consideration by the County Commissioners, ordinances necessary to implement the emergency management plan;
- C. To consider and recommend to the Emergency Management Council for its approval, mutual aid plans and agreements.

.040 Council Director

The Office of the Director of Emergency Management Council is created. Such officer shall be appointed by the Board of County Commissioners, and hold office at the pleasure of the Board, and shall, before entering upon his duties, take an oath in writing, as provided in N.R.S. 414.150. The Director of Emergency Management Council is empowered:

- A. To represent the Board of County Commissioners on all matters pertaining to emergency management;
- B. To require and direct cooperation of County officials in the preparation and implementation of emergency management plans;
- C. To direct the services of any County officers or employees and the Emergency Management Council Corps during periods of emergency;
- D. To obtain vital supplies and equipment by contract, needed for the protection of life and property of people, and obligate the County for the value thereof and if required immediately, requisition the same during periods of emergency.

In the absence of the Director of Emergency Management Council, the Sheriff (or in the Sheriff's absence, the Undersheriff), shall assume and fulfill the duties of that Office.

.050 Emergency Management Corps - Purpose

Officers and employees of the County, with volunteer forces enrolled to them during an emergency, and all groups, organizations and persons interested and responsible for the operation of law are charged with the responsibility for the protection of life and property in the County during such an emergency and shall constitute the Emergency Management Corps.

.060 Emergency Management Corps - Divisions

The functions and duties of the County Emergency Management Council shall be distributed among the divisions as listed below. Each division shall be under the direction of a Chief and Deputy Chief appointed by the Emergency Management Council. The respective Chiefs of each division may include public officials as well as private businessmen, who through their profession, knowledge or experience are particularly qualified to head divisions requiring specialized knowledge and experience. The divisions are established as follows:

- A. Law enforcement division;
- B. Fire services division;
- C. Medical and health division;

- D. Engineering and utilities division;
- E. Transportation division;
- F. Communications division;
- G. Welfare division;
- H. Information and education division.

.070 Volunteers

All persons, other than officers and employees of the County, volunteering in service pursuant to the needs of this chapter shall serve without compensation. While engaged in such service they shall have the same immunities as persons and employees of the County performing similar duties.

.080 Violation - Penalty

It shall be a misdemeanor punishable as provided in this Code, during an emergency:

- A. To wilfully obstruct, hinder or delay any member of the Emergency Management Corps in the enforcement of any lawful rule or regulation issued pursuant to this chapter, or in the performance of any duty imposed upon him by virtue of this chapter; or
- B. To do any act forbidden by any lawful rule or regulation issued pursuant to this chapter if such act is of such a nature as to give assistance to the enemy or to imperil the life or property of any inhabitant of the County or to prevent, hinder or delay the defense or protection thereof; or
- C. To wear or carry or display without authority any mark or identification specified by the Emergency Management Council.

Chapter 50 - EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

.010 EMS Director

- A. The EMS Director shall be a person generally qualified by education and experience to plan and manage the County's Emergency Medical Services and operations under the direction of the Board of County Commissioners, and to advise the Board about such matters.
- B. Compensation and express duties of the EMS Director shall be as from time to time determined by the Board of County Commissioners and adopted by the Board by resolution or minute orders and as defined by job description or contract.

.020 Volunteers

- A. Volunteers on the Emergency Medical Service shall be persons generally qualified by training to participate in Emergency Medical Services, under the direct control and supervision of the EMS Director.
- B. At the direction of the Board of County Commissioners volunteers may be provided funding for their training and participation in EMS calls.

.030 Membership service plan

- A. In order to defray the cost of transportation by County ambulance, persons may apply for membership in the County's EMS service plan.
- B. The terms and conditions of the service plan may be amended or revoked in whole or in part by resolution or minute order of the Board of County Commissioners.

.040 EMS franchise

Within Eureka County, consistent with the authority granted by N.R.S. 244.187 and N.R.S. 244.188 to provide adequate, economical and efficient services to promote the general welfare, Eureka County Emergency Medical Services shall maintain the sole authority to provide ground ambulance and paramedicine service consistent with NRS Chapter 450B, except as provided for in the next section.

.050 Requirements for other providers

Providers of ground ambulance services other than Eureka County EMS which are based in areas contiguous to Eureka County may routinely provide those services within Eureka County only upon the express written authorization of the Board of County Commissioners, and this regulatory power is granted by N.R.S. 244.188. Authorization will

be contingent upon the provider (1) being properly permitted and certified to operate in Nevada at all times, (2) charging patients no more than what is reasonable and customary, and (3) in no way impeding, impairing, or delaying patient care in their operations. The Board of County Commissioners reserves the opportunity to review the performance of other providers and may revoke written authorization to operate within Eureka County at any time.

.060 Other laws unaffected

This ordinance in no way affects the laws protecting good Samaritans, as described in N.R.S. 41.500 - N.R.S. 41.507, and in no way shall be used or interpreted by anyone to prohibit the use of all available resources in an emergency.

Chapter 60 - PUBLIC GUARDIAN/ADMINISTRATOR OFFICE

.010 Office of public guardian/administrator established

The Board establishes the office of public guardian/administrator for Eureka County, Nevada, by designating the elected Treasurer as the ex officio public guardian/administrator pursuant to N.R.S. 253.150 and N.R.S. 253.010 (5).

.020 Vacancy

- A. If any vacancy occurs in the office of public guardian/administrator, the vacancy must be filled promptly by the Board.
- B. In filling any vacancy occurring in the office of public guardian/administrator, the Board must use the procedure contained in N.R.S. 253.170 and N.R.S. 253.010(5) and appoint a person to the office of public guardian/administrator.

.030 Subordinates, consultants and assistants

The public guardian/administrator may:

- A. Employ subordinates necessary for the proper performance of his/her duties.
- B. Contract for the services of consultants or assistants.

.040 Records and account

The public guardian/administrator must keep financial and other appropriate records concerning all cases in which he or a deputy is appointed as an individual guardian or administrator. The public guardian may establish a guardianship account to manage the income of one or more wards. The account shall not be considered an asset of the County, and the funds shall not be available for any use or purpose other than the care and support of the ward(s). The public guardian shall obtain a federal tax identification number for the office of the Public Guardian, separate from the tax identification number of the County, and shall use this tax identification number for the guardianship account.

.050 Caseload

The public guardian caseload must be no more than 10 active cases at one time for the entire office.

.060 Qualifications of person for whom public guardian may be appointed; petition

for appointment

- A. The Public Guardian is the guardian of last resort. A referral to the Public Guardian must be submitted and will be evaluated by the Guardian prior to acceptance.
- B. A resident of Eureka County, Nevada who is 60 years of age or older is eligible to have the public guardian appointed as his/her individual guardian if he/she:
 - 1. Has no relative or friend able and willing to serve, due to illness or other circumstance which prevents their effective performances of guardian.
 - 2. Lacks sufficient assets to provide the requisite compensation to a private guardian.
 - 3. Friends or family members have exploited or neglected the person.
 - 4. Family members live in other states and cannot meet statutory requirements.
 - 5. Is unable by reason of mental illness, mental deficiency, advanced age, disease, weakness of mind, or any other cause without assistance to properly manage and take care of him or herself.
 - 6. Any person who requires placement in an assisted living facility, group home, skilled nursing facility, or other residential facility providing twenty-four (24) hour oversight of the ward. In extraordinary circumstances, the public guardian may accept guardianship of an individual residing in the community provided the public guardian has sufficient resources or assistance of a county or state agency to provide twenty-four (24) hour oversight of the ward.
- C. The public guardian shall have full discretion to accept or decline guardianship of any individual.

.070 Retention of attorney

For the proper administration of a guardianship and estate, the public guardian/administrator may retain the Eureka County District Attorney's Office to assist him/her.

.080 Investigation of financial status of person for whom public

guardian/administrator is requested.

The public guardian/administrator must investigate the financial status of any person for whom the appointment of the public guardian/administrator is requested. In connection with the investigation, the public guardian/administrator may require that person to execute and deliver any written requests or authorizations necessary to provide the public guardian/administrator with access to records, otherwise confidential, needed to evaluate eligibility. The public guardian/administrator may obtain information from any public record office of the state or any of its agencies or subdivisions upon request and without payment of any fees.

.090 Allocation of costs incurred in appointment proceedings and administrative costs

The public guardian/administrator shall charge fees for services, to be paid from the estate of the ward and payable to Eureka County to be applied toward the costs and expenses incurred by the Office of Public Guardian/Administrator, including salaries, provided the court determines the ward is financially able to pay all or part of the costs.

.100 Value of guardian and administrator's services allowable as claim against ward's estate; deposit of money received by public guardian/administrator

The reasonable value of the public guardian/administrator's services rendered must be allowed as a claim against the estate of the ward. Money received in payment of a claim against the estate of the ward must be deposited by the public guardian/administrator to the credit of the county general fund.

.110 Circumstances under which public administrator may secure property of deceased

Before the issuance of the letters of administration for an estate, before filing an affidavit to administer an estate pursuant to N.R.S. 253.0403 or before petitioning to have an estate set aside pursuant to N.R.S. 253.0425, the public administrator may secure the property of a deceased person if he finds that:

1. There are no relatives of the deceased who are able to protect the property; and
2. Failure to do so could endanger the property.

.120 Termination of appointment for the Public Guardian

The court may, at any time, terminate the appointment of the public guardian as an individual guardian upon petition by the ward of any interested person or on the court's own motion if it appears that the services of the public guardian are no longer necessary.

.130 Conflict between Nevada Revised Statutes and Eureka County Code

In the event of a conflict with NRS, as those sections may be amended from time to time, with this Code the provisions of state statute will control.

.140 Revocation of previous appointments and designations for public guardian/administrator

The Board revokes all previous appointments and designations of Eureka County public guardian/administrator regardless of the means by which these appointments and designations were made and which predate the effective date of this Code section.

Chapter 70 - LEGAL AID

.010 Revenue funds for legal aid established

The Board hereby establishes revenue funds for legal aid to the indigent and the elderly pursuant to NRS 19.031, and consistent with that statute shall keep records of the amount of funds available for indigent aid and aid to the elderly.

.020 Authority to expend funds

The Board authorizes the Seventh Judicial District Court Judges by order to expend the funds described in Section .010 for legal aid to the indigent and elderly residing in Eureka County, Nevada.