

Clarke County Board of Supervisors
November 23, 2020

November 23, 2020 – The Clarke County Board of Supervisors met in regular session on November 23, 2020, at the Clarke County Courthouse with the following members present: Dean Robins, Marvin McCann and Larry Keller. Also present, Auditor Janice White. Chairman Dean Robins called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Larry Keller made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Marvin McCann. All Ayes.

Res 20-132 – Moved by Larry Keller and seconded by Marvin McCann to pass the following resolution. Vote was: “Ayes”: Dean Robins, Marvin McCann and Larry Keller. “Nays”: None.

This resolution is passed by virtue of the authority established under the Iowa Code, Chapter 251 and Chapter 252, Clarke County Amendments, Ordinance and Resolutions pertaining to the Clarke County General Relief Assistance.

The Code of Iowa outlines the legal basis for the General Assistance Program in the Counties. This section deals basically with Chapters 251 and 252 of the Iowa Code. The General Assistance Program is administered by the Director of General Assistance, who then reports to the Board of Supervisors.

WHEREAS, The Clarke County Director of General Assistance has been directed to submit regulation to the Clarke County Board of Supervisors for approval concerning provision of assistance benefits in Clarke County, Iowa.

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of each county shall provide for the assistance of poor persons in its county who are ineligible for or are in immediate need and are awaiting approval and receipt of, assistance under programs provided by the state and/or federal law, or whose actual needs cannot be fully met by the assistance furnished under such program.

WHEREAS, it is necessary to set forth by this regulation the level of assistance to be provided and eligibility requirements for assistance programs of Clarke County, Iowa under authority of the Board of Supervisors of Clarke County, IA the following regulations are adopted:

Section 1. ELIGIBILITY OF A NEEDY PERSON:

Assistance is to be provided for needy persons who are in need of immediate assistance and who are eligible for, and are awaiting approval and receipt of, assistance under programs provided by state and/or Federal law. Income guidelines of 100% of Federal Poverty level and proof of income for the last 60 days and proof of assets, including, but not limited to, bank statements for the past 3 months shall be used to determine eligibility. Deductions from income for payments made on medical bills will be allowed if currently applicable. Income guidelines of above 100% but below 150% of the Federal Poverty, with proof of income and assets, may be used to determine eligibility for assistance with repayment to Clarke County. If the amount is not reimbursed as agreed, the Individual and/or household will not receive further assistance until the amount is repaid.

Section 2: ELIGIBILITY OF A POOR PERSON:

Assistance is to be provided to poor persons and households who are in need of immediate assistance, cannot obtain assistance from any other source, whose household unit's net worth is less than \$800 and who are eligible for and are awaiting approval and receipt of assistance under programs provided by state or federal law.

Section 3: REQUIREMENTS OF FINANCIAL DETERMINATION FOR ASSISTANCE:

Net worth includes income or monies from any source, monies due, savings and other deposits, stocks, bonds, real estate, cash value of life insurance policies, jewelry and the value of other real and personal property.

Liquid Assets are anything than be converted to cash within seven days will also be considered as income.

The following property shall be exempt from consideration: household furniture, tools, and equipment used for self-support, vehicles for household unit shall not exceed \$5000, burial lots or irrevocable burial trust funds not to exceed \$8000, a homestead used as a primary place of residence by the household if equity does not exceed \$25,000.

Section 4. LEVEL OF BENEFITS:

The maximum level of benefits to be provided for each item of assistance for each person or that person's household unit shall be:

Food: If the person or persons are not receiving EBT Benefits. Individuals and households must apply for EBT benefits through Department of Human Services. Individuals and households must utilize local food pantries when available. If needs cannot be met with EBT benefits or accessing the food pantry due to an unusual circumstance, an

exception to this policy may be granted. An individual or household may be eligible to receive one food voucher per month up to 3 vouchers in a 12-month period in the following amounts of \$25.00 for one individual, \$40 for two individuals and \$55 for three or more individuals in a household.

Rent: Rent maximum benefit is \$200 per 12-month period. Applicant must have his/her name on the lease. Landlord may not be a family member. No deposits or first month rent will be paid. \$200 maximum can be paid to a lending institution for interest on a mortgage. General Assistance of Clarke County cannot be used to pay the principle of a home contractor loan.

Clarke County General Assistance does participate in SICOG Housing Trust Grant, which has a higher income limit than Clarke County General Assistance. When funds are available, the General Assistance Director may access these funds to assist households not otherwise eligible.

Utilities (Propane, Electricity and/or water): Eligible benefit is a maximum of \$100 for one individual, \$150.00 for two individuals in the household and \$200 for three or more in the household. The utility must be in the applicants' name and household must have made payments three of the past six months. One benefit limit is allowed per 12-month period. All state and federal utility assistance must be accessed before any General Assistance benefit is allowed. Documentation of acceptance or denial of other utility assistance must be provided. No deposits for utilities will be provided.

Clarke County General Assistance does participate in SICOG Housing Trust Grant, which has a higher income limit than Clarke County General Assistance. When funds are available, the General Assistance Director may access these funds to assist households not otherwise eligible.

Clothing: Clothing can be provided by a local non-profit organization based on household need and organization availability with a voucher from the General Assistance Director. Household must meet current General Assistance eligibility requirements.

Personal Care Items: Provision of personal care items are available with the grocery voucher provided when eligible. Individuals and household may determine how to make best use of the funds provided by the voucher.

Special Needs: Any requests for special needs will be considered individually at the discretion of the General Assistance Director with consideration of the individual or household's eligibility and need.

Furniture: If available, furniture may be provided by a local not for profit organization. Individuals and households must meet all General Assistance eligibility and will be provided with a voucher by General Assistance.

Medical Transportation: Documentation of medical services needed outside of Clarke County must be provided prior to approval. Individuals and households are not eligible for medical transportation if this service is provided by their insurance, such as Medicaid. Maximum of \$20 voucher will be provided for transportation, with a maximum of three vouchers per year.

Bus Transportation: Bus transportation will be provided for homeless Individuals to the nearest town with a shelter. If an overnight stay is required to access the bus, the General Assistance Director will assist the Individual in accessing charitable organizations when available.

Medical: In order to assist in meeting medical needs, the General Assistance Director will assist individuals and households to apply for benefits provided by state and federal law. Other requests for assistance with medical costs will be considered on an individual basis.

Medication Assistance: The General Assistance Director will assist Individuals in accessing assistance through state and federal programs. All other requests will be determined on an individual basis. Clarke County General Assistance will not provide funding for pain medication or psychotropic medication.

Funeral: Adults: Clarke County provides cremation funding through Kale's Funeral Home, Osceola, IA. Eligibility will be based on funds and resources available at the time of death of the individual. Deceased must be a resident of Clarke County or homeless. Application must be made by next of kin within 24 hours. Any funds available to the deceased must be applied toward expenses before county funds can be accessed. This might include benefits from employment, railroad retirement, pension plans, VA benefits, life insurance policies, prepaid burial agreements, Social Security or cash on hand. Any and all funds generated from memorials must be applied to the cremation costs. If a death benefit is discovered or other resources are discovered after receipt of county funds, the county will be notified immediately. The maximum allowed for cremation is \$1475, which covers costs associated with Kale Funeral Home's services only. County funds can not be used to supplement additional funds provided by others to purchase other services aside from the cremation defined by Clarke County's agreement with Kale Funeral Home.

Children: Clarke County will provide cremation or burial for children under the age of 5 at the family's discretion. Eligibility will be based on resources of the parents. The maximum allowed for cremation or burial is \$1475, which covers costs associated with Kale Funeral Home's services only. Any and all funds generated from memorials must be applied to the burial costs.

Any changes to this resolution are at the discretion of the Clarke County Board of Supervisors. Individuals or households affected by these changes will be notified by mail. Individuals and households have the right to appeal any decisions, appeals may be made in person or in writing to the Clarke County Board of Supervisors.

EFFECTIVE DATE

This Resolution shall be in effect after its final approval and passage as provided by law.

Adopted by the Clarke County Board of Supervisors on this 23rd day of November, 2020.

Res 20-133 – Moved by Marvin McCann, seconded by Larry Keller, to approve payment of claims submitted from November 10, 2020 through November 23, 2020.

Vote was: "Ayes": Dean Robins, Marvin McCann and Larry Keller. "Nays": None.

Signed this 23rd day of November, 2020.

Fund Totals for claims as follows:

0001 GENERAL BASIC FUND	32,047.83
0002 GENERAL SUPPLEMENT FUND	16,285.41
0010 MH-DD SERVICES FUND	588.45
0011 RURAL SERVICES BASIC FUND	695.49
0020 SECONDARY ROAD FUND	1,069.40
4000 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FUND	271.74
4100 ASSESSOR	706.50
5600 SCHOOL READY IOWA AREA FUND	25,531.64
5800 EARLY CHILDHOOD IOWA AREA FUND	2,404.61

Having completed agenda items and having no other business, Larry Keller made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Marvin McCann. All Ayes. Meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Signed: Dean Robins, Chairman Attest: Janice M. White, Auditor