

# Agenda Item Report



**Winnebago County**  
*The Wave of the Future*

DATE: November 21, 2022  
FROM: County Coroner Cheryl Brehmer  
RE: Cremation Permit Fees

## General Description:

The Winnebago County Board is responsible for setting all fees relating to services rendered by the coroner or medical examiner. As it has been over 10 years since these fees have been reviewed, I kindly ask that this committee assist the coroner's office with reevaluating the cremation permit fee.

## Action Requested:

We are asking that the committee support an increase to the cremation permit fee in the amount of \$10.00 raising the permit fee to \$160.00.

## Procedural Steps:

Committee of Jurisdiction: Judiciary and Public Safety	Meeting date: 12/05/2022
Action taken: _____	Vote: _____
Personnel and Finance	Meeting date:
County Board	Meeting date:

## Background:

The fee of \$150.00 for issuance of a cremation permit was established by the county board prior to 2012. According to WI State Statute 59.36 the board shall set the fees for all services rendered by the coroner or medical examiner. The board did allow for an increase raising the permit fee to \$200.00 in mid-2015 but, due to WI State Statute 59.365, the moratorium on fee increases disallowed for the increase and the fee was set back to \$150.00. In accordance with this moratorium the cremation permit fee may be increased but, may not exceed the annual percentage change in the U.S. consumer price index.

While the costs associated to materials and professional supplies has continued to increase over the years, the fees related to a cremation permit have remained the same. Before a cremation permit is issued, a full body examination of the decedent is required along with inquiry into the cause and manner of death in accordance with WI State Statute 979.10 (1) (3) (a).

**Policy Discussion:**

Winnebago County is one of the few counties that does not assess a death certificate signing fee. Because this fee was not established before the fee moratorium was put in place, this is a fee that we are unable to increase in accordance with the consumer price index. In addition to deaths that are investigated by the coroner's office, deaths where physicians are unable or unwilling to sign a death certificate create added burden onto the investigators. As we are unable to assess a fee for the time and materials for these added investigations, increased revenue from allowable sources could help to off-set these costs.

**Attachments:**

WI State Statutes 59.36 and 59.365

WI Coroner and Medical Examiner Fee Schedule

**59.36 Coroner and medical examiner; fees.** The board shall set the fees for all services rendered by the coroner or medical examiner. The fees may not exceed an amount that is reasonably related to the actual and necessary cost of providing the service.

**History:** [1983 a. 146](#); [1995 a. 201](#) s. [307](#); Stats. 1995 s. 59.36; [2015 a. 336](#).

**59.365 Moratorium on fee increases.**

**(1)** From July 14, 2015, to April 17, 2017, the board may not charge an amount that exceeds the amount that was actually charged on April 17, 2015, for any of the following fees:

**(a)** Fees for services rendered by a coroner or medical examiner.

**(b)** Fees assessed for the signing of a death record by a coroner or medical examiner.

**(c)** Fees assessed related to coroner or medical examiner transportation services.

**(2)** If on or after April 18, 2017, the board increases the amount of any of the fees specified in sub. [\(1\) \(a\)](#) to [\(c\)](#), any such increase may not exceed the annual percentage change in the U.S. consumer price index for all urban consumers, U.S. city average, as determined by the U.S. department of labor, for the 12 months ending on December 31 of the year before the increase.

**(3)**

**(a)** Notwithstanding subs. [\(1\) \(a\)](#) and [\(b\)](#) and [\(2\)](#), if a board that had been providing coroner or lay medical examiner services begins providing physician medical examiner services under an intergovernmental cooperation agreement under s. [66.0301](#) after December 31, 2015, and before April 1, 2016, the board may one time set the fee assessed for the signing of a death record at an amount exceeding the amount that was in effect on April 17, 2015, by not more than \$100 and may one time set the fee assessed for the issuance of a cremation permit at an amount exceeding the amount that was in effect on April 17, 2015, by not more than \$100. Fees under this paragraph may be established without regard to any change in the U.S. consumer price index.

**(b)** This subsection does not apply to a county with a population of more than 300,000.

**History:** [2015 a. 55, 336](#); [2017 a. 334](#).

WISCONSIN CORONER/MEDICAL EXAMINER LISTING

10/11/2022

COUNTY	OFFICIAL	ADDRESS	PHONE NUMBER	CREMATION RELEASE FEE	CERTIFICATE SIGNING FEE	DISINTERMENT FEE
ADAMS	MARILYN ROGERS, ME	PO BOX 276, FRIENDSHIP, WI, 53934	608-339-4524	\$110.00	\$90.00	\$100.00
ASHLAND	BARBARA J BEEKSMA, CORONER	8 VICTORIA LA, ASHLAND, WI, 54806	715-682-7025	\$100.00	\$75.00	\$50.00
BARRON	NATE DUNSTON, ME	485 21 3/4 AVE, CUMBERLAND, WI, 54829	715-537-3106	\$150.00	\$125.00	\$50.00
BAYFIELD	TOMAS M RENZ, CORONER	PO BOX 878, 615 SECOND AVE E, WASHBURN WI 54891	715-568-3650	\$75.00	\$141.00	\$50.00
BROWN	VINCENT TRANCHIDA, ME	PO 23600, GREEN BAY, WI, 54305-3600	920-448-4185	\$262.00	\$100.00	\$62.00
BUFFALO	CINDY GEISE, CORONER	407 S 2ND ST POB 494, ALMA, WI, 54610-0494	608-685-4433	\$127.50	\$30.50	\$51.00
BURNETT	MIKE MALONEY, ME	7410 CO RD K #14, SIREN, WI, 54872	715-349-2128	\$100.00	\$50.00	\$100.00
CALUMET	MICHAEL KLAESER, ME	206 COURT ST, CHILTON, WI, 53014	920-849-2335	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$75.00
CHIPPewa	RONALD PATTEN, CORONER	32411 CO HWY MM, BOYD, WI, 54726	715-726-7701	\$125.00	\$125.00	\$125.00
CLARK	RICHARD SCHLEIFER, CORONER	317 SUNSET PL, NELLVILLE, WI, 54456	715-743-3157	\$125.00	\$25.00	\$45.00
COLUMBIA	KATELYN SCHARA, ACTING ME	PO BOX 132, PORTAGE, WI, 53901	608-742-4166	\$178.70	\$71.50	\$112.30
CRAWFORD	JOE MOROVITS, CORONER	225 N BEAUMONT RD #109, PRAIRIE DU CHIEN, WI, 53821	608-326-8414	\$75.00	\$25.00	\$10.00
DANE	VINCENT TRANCHIDA, ME	3111 LUDS LANE, MCFARLAND, WI 53558	608-284-6000	\$291.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
DODGE	P.J. SCHOEDEL, ME	127 EAST OAK ST, JUNEAU, WI, 53039	920-366-3726	\$175.00	\$50.00	\$100.00
DOOR	VINCENT TRANCHIDA, ME	PO 23600, GREEN BAY, WI, 54305-3600	920-448-4185	\$262.00	\$141.00	\$62.00
DOUGLAS	DARRELL WITT, ME	1313 BELKNAP ST, SUPERIOR, WI, 54880-2779	715-395-1435	\$150.00	\$40.00	\$100.00
DUNN	MARCI ROSAS, ME	615 STOKKE PKWY STE G300, MEMMONIE, WI, 54751	715-232-1348	\$125.00	\$125.00	\$125.00
EAU CLAIRE	MARCI ROSAS, ME	721 OXFORD AVE STE 3520, EAU CLAIRE, WI 54703	715-839-4972	\$150.00	\$100.00	\$50.00
FLORENCE	JEFF RICKABY, CORONER	501 LAKE AVE, PO BOX 678, FLORENCE, WI 54121	715-528-3346	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
FOND DU LAC	ADAM COVACH, ME	134 WESTERN AVE, FOND DU LAC, WI, 54935	920-929-3366	\$193.50	\$61.00	\$150.00
FOREST	CRYSTAL SCHAUB, ME	ONEIDA COUNTY COURTHOUSE, PO BOX 400, RHINELANDER, WI, 54501	715-389-6196	\$125.00	\$50.00	\$125.00
GRANT	PHYLLIS FLERSTENBERG, CORONER	1115 ARBOR OAKS LA, LANCASTER, WI, 53813	608-723-2157	\$100.00	\$30.00	\$65.00
GREEN	MONICA HACK, CORONER	N801 COUNTY RD S, JUDA, WI, 53560	608-328-9400	\$150.00	\$50.00	\$75.00
GREEN LAKE	JOHN WILLETTE, CORONER	571 CTY RD A, GREEN LAKE, WI, 54941	920-294-4000	\$153.15	\$40.84	\$100.00
IOWA	WENDELL HAMLIN, CORONER	222 N IOWA ST SUITE 102, DODGEVILLE, WI, 53533	608-935-3803	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
IRON	DIANE SIMONICH, CORONER	14007 N STATE LINE RD, HURLEY, WI, 54534	715-561-3800	\$100.00	\$50.00	\$0.00
JACKSON	BONNIE KINDSCHY, ME	N 33352 HWY 53, WHITEHALL, WI, 54773	715-284-5357	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
JEFFERSON	NICHOL TESCH, ME	311 S CENTER AVE, JEFFERSON, WI, 53549	920-674-7119	\$204.00	\$25.00	\$50.00
JUNEAU	MYRON OESTRICH, ME	220 E STAIE ST RM 9, MAUSTON, WI, 53948	608-847-5649	\$150.00	\$99.00	\$80.00
KENOSHA	PATRICE HALL, ME	1000 55TH STREET, KENOSHA, WI 53140	262-653-3869	\$287.00	\$156.00	\$65.00
KEWAUNEE	ROBY GROESSL, CORONER	50 VILLA HEIGHTS CT, ALGOMA, WI, 54201-9504	920-388-7108	\$150.00	\$35.00	\$50.00
LA CROSSE	TIMOTHY CANDIAH, ME	333 VINE STREET #1730, WI, 54601	608-785-9634	\$150.00	\$85.00	\$125.00
LAFAYETTE	LINDA J GEBHARDT, CORONER	12993 NORTH ROAD, ARGYLE, WI, 53504	608-776-4870	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
LANGLADE	LARRY SHADIX, CORONER	W7177 CTY T, PEARSON, WI, 54462	715-536-6272	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$75.00
LINCOLN	PAUL PROULX, CORONER	W5444 TAYLOR ST, MERRILL, WI, 54452	715-536-6272	\$100.00	\$75.00	\$75.00
MAINTOWOC	CURTIS GREEN, CORONER	1110 S 9TH ST, MAINTOWOC, WI, 54220	920-683-4008	\$125.00	\$25.00	\$75.00
MARATHON	JESSICA BLAHNIK, ME	1308 WEST STREET, WAUSAU, WI, 54401	715-261-1199	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
MARINETTE	KALYNN VAN ERMEN, ME	1926 HALL AVENUE, MARINETTE, WI, 54143	715-732-7421	\$100.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
MENOMONIE	THOMAS WASTART II, CORONER	PO BOX 237, OXFORD, WI, 53952-0237	608-297-2115	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
MARQUETTE	PATRICK T ROBERTS, ME	PO BOX 279, KESHENA, WI, 54135	715-799-3881	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
MILWAUKEE	BRIAN PETERSON, ME	933 W HIGHLAND AVE, MILWAUKEE, WI, 53233	414-223-1200	\$357.00	\$153.00	\$50.00
MONROE	ROBERT SMITH JR, ME	112 S COURT ST RM 1005, SPARTA, WI, 54656	608-269-6333	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
OCOINTO	VINCENT TRANCHIDA, ME	PO BOX 23600, GREEN BAY, WI, 54305-3600	920-448-4185	\$262.00	\$141.00	\$62.00
ONEIDA	CRYSTAL SCHAUB, ME	ONEIDA COUNTY COURTHOUSE, PO BOX 400, RHINELANDER, WI 54501	715-389-6196	\$125.00	\$50.00	\$125.00
OUTAGAMIE	DOUGLAS A BARTIELT, CORONER	320 SOUTH WALNUT ST, APPLETON, WI, 54911	920-832-5841	\$150.00	\$50.00	\$100.00
OZAUKEE	TIMOTHY J DEPPISCH, CORONER	1201 SPRING ST, PORT WASHINGTON, WI, 53074	262-238-8455	\$200.00	\$100.00	\$75.00
PEPIN	JOAN HUPPERT, CORONER	740TH 7TH AVE WEST, DURAND, WI, 54736	715-672-7242	\$150.00	\$100.00	\$150.00

WISCONSIN CORONER/MEDICAL EXAMINER LISTING  
10/11/2022

PIERCE	JOHN WORSING, ME	555 WEST OVERLOOK DRIVE, ELLSWORTH, WI 54011	715-273-5051	\$163.32	\$0.02	\$54.44
POLK	JONNN B DINNIES, ME	100 POLK COUNTY PLAZA STE 180, BALSAM LAKE, WI, 54810	715-485-9218	\$175.00	\$100.00	\$175.00
PORTAGE	SCOTT RIFLEMAN, ME	1500 STRONGS AVE, STEVENS POINT, WI, 54481	715-346-1449	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$75.00
PRICE	JAMES D DALBESIO III, CORONER	N6950 CORK RD, PHILLIPS, WI, 54555-6331	715-339-3011	\$100.00	\$50.00	\$0.00
RACINE	MICHAEL J PAYNE, ME	1717 TAYLOR AVENUE, 3RD FLOOR, RACINE, WI 53403-2497	262-636-3303	\$208.00	\$78.00	\$78.00
RICHLAND	JAMES C ROSSING, CORONER	410 EAST PEARL ST POB 195, LONE ROCK, WI, 53556	608-604-8815	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$25.00
ROCK	VINCENT TRANCHIDA, ME	3630 N CTY RD F, POB 1649, JAMESVILLE, WI, 53547	608-757-5908	\$233.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
RUSK	JIM RASSBACH, ME	311 MINER AVE E RM 5153, LADYSMITH, WI, 54757	715-532-2200	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
SAUK	GREG HAHN, CORONER	1319 SAUK AVE, BARABOO, WI, 53913	608-355-4495	\$125.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
SAWYER	JOHN FROEMEL, CORONER	15880 E 6TH ST, HAYWARD, WI, 54843	715-556-5696	\$50.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
SHAWANO	BRIAN J WESTFAHL, CORONER	311 N MAIN ST, SHAWANO, WI, 54166	715-526-3111	\$125.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
SHEBOYGAN	CHRISTOPHER NEHRING, ME	615 N 6TH STREET, SHEBOYGAN, WI 53081	920-459-3945	\$153.45	\$102.30	\$100.00
ST CROIX	PATTY SCHACHTNER, ME	1101 CARMICHAEL RD, HUDSON, WI, 54016	715-381-4358	\$150.00	\$100.00	\$200.00
TAYLOR	SCOTT PERRIN, ME	224 S SECOND ST, MEDFORD, WI, 54451	715-482-8680	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TREMPEALEAU	BONNIE KINDSCHY, CORONER	N 33352 HWY 53, WHITEHALL, WI, 54773	715-536-4351	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
VERNON	BETTY NIGH, CORONER	318 FAIRLANE DR STE 216, VIROQUA, WI, 54665	608-637-5284	\$78.00	\$26.00	\$0.00
VILLAS	CRYSTAL SCHAUB, ME	ONEIDA COUNTY COURTHOUSE, PO BOX 400, RHINELANDER, WI 54501	715-369-6196	\$125.00	\$50.00	\$125.00
WALWORTH	GINA CARVER, ME	1770 COUNTY RD NN, ELKHORN, WI 53121	262-741-4729	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
WASHBURN	ANGELA PANK, CORONER	PO BOX 639, SHELL LAKE, WI 54871	715-468-4720	\$100.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
WASHINGTON	LYNDA BIEDRZYCKI, ME	500 ROLFS AVE, ROOM 1130, WEST BEND, WI, 53090	262-335-4460	\$240.00	\$100.00	\$70.00
WAUKESHA	LYNDA BIEDRZYCKI, ME	515 W MORELAND BLVD, WAUKESHA, WI, 53188-2428	262-548-7575	\$265.00	\$84.00	\$65.00
WAUPACA	CATHI WEGENER, ME	LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER, 1402 ROYALTON ST, WAUPACA, WI, 54981	715-258-4466	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
WAUSHARA	AMANDA THOMA, ME	430 E DIVISION STREET, WAUTOMA, WI 54982	920-787-6612	\$125.00	\$75.00	\$100.00
WINNEBAGO	CHERYL BREHMER, CORONER	448 ALGOMA BLVD, OSHKOSH, WI, 54901	920-236-4804	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
WOOD	SCOTT D BREHM, CORONER	400 MARKET ST POB 8095, WI RAPIDS, WI, 54495	715-459-3398	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$0.00