

## Executive Summary Form

### Agenda Number 6799: – Scheduled for November 29, 2022 BOS Meeting

#### **Recommendation:**

Approve PSA numbers 2023-13-HEA-01A thru 01F between Cochise County and the Cochise County Funeral Homes; 01A Richardson's, 01B Westlawn, 01C Alex Espinosa, 01D Jensen's, 01E Hatfields', and 01F BrownPage, for Medical Examiner Transport, Indigent & Abandoned Body burial, and/or Interment of Cremains Services effective November 29, 2022, through November 30, 2027.

#### **Background (Brief):**

The contracts with the Funeral Homes have three distinct components. Medical Examiner transport, mortuary services for indigent and abandoned decedents, and interment services of indigent and abandoned cremains. It is not required for Funeral Home to contract to provide all three services.

The Funeral Homes have been providing these services since 2012 and have not had a current contract since 2016. There reimbursement for these services has not been updated since 2016. The Health Director met with each of the Funeral Home Directors to negotiate pricing that is fair and up-to-date for these services.

#### **Fiscal Impact & Funding Sources:**

The costs of these required services are paid through General Funds.

The exact impact can not be computed as each Funeral Home will be reimbursed different amounts for Medical Examiner transport based on miles from the Pima County Office of the Medical Examiner, and it will depend on the number of transports required as well as the number of indigent/abandoned body cremations/burials that occur. To give an idea of the volume, the past two years of data are provided below.

In 2020, 172 decedents were transported to the ME. In 2021, 218 decedents were transported to the ME. In 2020, 36 indigent/abandoned body cremations and 2 burials. In 2021, 47 indigent/abandoned body cremations and 3 burials.

#### **Next Steps/Action Items/Follow-up:**

Your approvals are respectfully requested.

Signed contracts to be returned to the CCHSS Director – Alicia Thompson

#### **Impact of Not Approving:**

We will not have current contracts with the Funeral Homes to provide these services to our community members.