

**COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
CALIFORNIA**

For the Agenda of:
June 14, 2016

To: Board of Supervisors

From: Department of Animal Care and Regulation

Subject: Delegate Authority To The Director Of Animal Care And Regulation To Execute Retroactive \$6,000 Amendment With Animal Spay And Neuter For Fiscal Year 2015-16 And To Enter Into Contracts During Fiscal Year 2016-17 With Veterinary Clinics And Veterinarians For Community Spay/Neuter Efforts

Supervisory District(s): All

Contact: Dave Dickinson, Director, 916-875-5051

Overview

The Department of Animal Care and Regulation (ACR) is requesting authority to increase an existing contract with Animal Spay and Neuter, a Nonprofit Clinic (ASN), by \$6,000 in the current fiscal year retroactive to June 8, 2016 for community spay/neuter efforts. ACR is also requesting authority for the Director to enter into contracts with various veterinary clinics and veterinarians for high-volume community spay/neuter not to exceed \$50,000 in Fiscal Year 2016-17.

Recommendations

- 1) Adopt the attached resolution to delegate authority to the Director of ACR to enter into a retroactive amendment to increase the contract with ASN by \$6,000 for community spay/neuter services from June 8, 2016 through June 30, 2016.
- 2) Adopt the attached resolution to delegate authority to the Director of ACR to enter into contracts during Fiscal Year 2016-17 with veterinary clinics and veterinarians for high-volume community spay/neuter efforts in amounts not to cumulatively exceed \$50,000.

Measures/Evaluation

Not applicable to this board item.

Fiscal Impact

The delegation of authority to execute the retroactive amendment will facilitate the continued spay/neuter services provided by ASN through the end of FY 2015-16. The delegation of authority for FY 2016-17 will facilitate the continued funding of high-volume spay/neuter services not to exceed \$50,000 for Fiscal Year 2016-17 contingent on Board approval of the budget.

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Page 2

BACKGROUND

On January 6, 2015, the Board approved a request from Supervisor Nottoli to direct \$100,000 of District 5 Community Improvement Project allocation from the Community Investment Fund to provide no-cost spay/neuter programs to residents of Sacramento County. On February 10, 2015, the Board approved requests from Supervisors Peters and Nottoli to direct \$10,000 from each of their assigned community investment funds to community spay/neuter efforts as well as \$10,000 from ACR's donation trust fund. The County Executive Office prepared contracts with Animal Spay and Neuter, a Nonprofit Clinic (ASN), and with the Sacramento Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SSPCA) to effect the transfer of money to these efforts. Ongoing, is a contract with the Sacramento Area Animal Coalition (SAAC) for the grant of monies for spay/neuter in the community approved by the Board on June 19, 2012 and continues in effect to June 30, 2017. That contract allows for the Director of ACR to advance money to SAAC as money is available in budget allocations, grants, spay/neuter trust fund and state impound trust fund.

In ACR's Fiscal Year 2015-16 Adopted Budget, the Board allocated an additional \$125,000 for spay/neuter efforts in communities. On January 26, 2016 the Board delegated authority to the Director of ACR, Resolution No. 2016-0059. ACR entered into contracts with ASN for \$50,000, SSPCA for \$40,000, and SAAC for \$35,000; they have cumulatively provided over 2,700 surgeries so far this year with these funds.

DISCUSSION

ASN notified the County that funds for the no-cost spay/neuter services would be exhausted as of June 8, 2016. To ensure the services continue for FY 2015-16, ACR is requesting authority to execute a retroactive amendment to increase the contract by \$6,000 for the remainder of the fiscal year.

ACR's Fiscal Year 2016-17 Recommended Budget includes \$50,000 for spay/neuter efforts in communities. ACR proposes to continue to sponsor the efforts of ASN, SSPCA and SAAC. ACR is recommending board delegation of authority to the Director to enter into contracts with these organizations to effect the expenditure of the \$50,000 to provide for spay/neuter of privately owned animals at low-cost or no-cost to their owners contingent on Board approval of the budget.

Meyers-Milias-Brown Act. In addition to the compliance with County Charter Section 71J as detailed below, contracting for services provided by county employees is also subject to offer of meet and confer in accordance with the Meyers-Milias-Brown Act (California Government Code Sections 3500-3511). In view of the limited time-frame and budgetary allocation limit under this requested delegation of contracting authority, meet and confer as offered for this request has been satisfied as explained below.

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Page 3

Charter Section 71J. Contracting for veterinary services is subject to the requirements of Sacramento County Charter Section 71J. The County has complied with these requirements as follows:

- 1) No Displacement. No employees will be displaced.
- 2) Publication. An advertisement was placed in a local newspaper on January 8, 2016, offering limited grant funding to high-volume spay/neuter veterinary clinics. No responses were received.
- 3) Economy and Efficiency. The proposed amendment and contracts to be executed by the Director of ACR under the delegation requested are for economy and efficiency. ACR has never had the capacity to regularly spay/neuter privately owned animals in the community that are not housed in the shelter. The shelter's medical unit has only two surgical tables and limited holding area for preparation and recovery of animals both pre- and post-surgery, and the medical unit is located at the back of the shelter, making its accessibility for community spay-neuter more difficult. ACR's mobile clinic has a limited capacity of approximately 12 surgeries per day and cannot be expected to provide the volume of surgeries necessary to make an impact county-wide. For ACR to establish high-volume spay-neuter clinics (lease or build) and hire veterinarians, Registered Veterinary Technicians (RVTs), and administrative staff would cost multiple hundreds of thousands of dollars, if not millions. To expand the shelter would cost at least \$1.5 million or more. The clinic building next door to the shelter is operated under a qualifying managed service agreement with ASN because ACR does not have the resources to operate it. Minimal required staffing is two veterinarians, two RVTs, four technicians, two office assistants and one accounting staff. Approximate cost for this level of staffing is \$868,000 for one year; pharmaceutical supplies and utilities would be additional cost. Several community organizations are well established as high-volume spay/neuter clinics, and contracts with them for the proposed high-volume spay-neuter services in the community will be a more effective and efficient use of the \$56,000 proposed for expenditure for these services, as approximately 138 surgeries of cats can be performed by ASN with the \$6,000, and approximately 1,117 surgeries of dogs and cats can be accomplished with the \$50,000. This same funding would accomplish approximately 694 surgeries (76 and 618, respectively) in the shelter's existing medical unit with current staffing. Compensation under previous contracts has varied based on market rates, species, gender, and weight of animals. ACR anticipates negotiating fees competitive with high-volume low-cost spay/neuter clinics in the region – ranging from a low of \$15 for a male kitten to an approximate high of \$125 for a pregnant large dog. For the reasons outlined above, it remains more economical and efficient for the County to continue contracting for the spay and neuter of privately owned animals.
- 4) Meet and Confer. On June 2, 2016, meet and confer was offered to the Sacramento County Management Association (SCMA), the labor organization representing the shelter

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Page 4

veterinarians, and to Local 39, the labor organization representing the RVTs. Both SCMA and Local 39 have indicated no objection.

MEASURES/EVALUATION

Measures and evaluation are not applicable to this board item.

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

The delegation authority to execute a retroactive amendment will facilitate the continued spay/neuter services provided by ASN through the end of FY 2015-16. The delegation of authority for FY 2016-17 will facilitate the continued funding of high-volume spay/neuter services not to exceed \$50,000 for Fiscal Year 2016-17 contingent on Board approval of the budget.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED:
NAVDEEP S. GILL
County Executive

DAVE DICKINSON, Director
Department of Animal Care and Regulation

By: _____
ROBERT B. LEONARD,
Chief Deputy County Executive

Attachments:

- Resolution – Retroactive ASN Contract Amendment
- Resolution – Community Spay Neuter Contracts for FY 2016-17