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COUNTY DEPARTMENT AGENDA REQUEST

Department/Division: Animal Control

Department Head: Miguel Abi-hassan

Presenter, if needed: Miguel Abi-hassan

Preferred Meeting Date: March 5, 2008

Wording for the Agenda:

Consideration of a proposed new fee schedule and the addition of microchipping services at Animal Control.

Background/History/Details:

Fayette County Animal Control has not changed it's current fee schedule since 1980. Recent changes in service costs and a holistic expansion of services have warranted a comparison study of our fee structure. The new fee schedule will provide for the addition of microchipping services and will further supplement the vaccination of animals at no additional cost.

What action are you seeking from the Board of Commissioners?

Would like input and direction from the Board. It is staff's desire and recommendation that a new fee schedule be adopted to become effective 7/1/08.

If this item requires funding, please describe:

Has this issue come before the Commissioners in the past? No

If so, when?

Do you need audio-visual for the presentation? Yes

Back-up Material Submitted? Yes

STAFF USE ONLY

- (●) Finance Review Complete
- (●) Purchasing Review Complete
- (●) Legal Review Complete
- (●) Administrative Staff Review Complete

Administrator's Approval Yes

Confirmed Meeting Date Wednesday, March 5, 2008

- ( ) Recognition/ Presentation
- ( ) Public Hearing
- ( ) Old Business
- (●) New Business
- ( ) Consent
- ( ) Report
- ( ) Other

Proposal to Restructure Animal Control's Fee Schedule

Presented by Director of Animal Control: Miguel Abi-hassan

Project at Hand

To review current fees and services, evaluating the intrinsic costs associated with impounds, husbandry and adoption and subsidize these further with effective services that promote pet adoption and retention.

Purpose of Fees

- Generates revenue for animal control operations and important animal care expenses
- Offsets costs of services that supplement adoptions
- Instills commitment/responsibility, adds monetary significance into the investment of pet ownership
- Detracts impulse buying, lowers return rate

Need for Review

- Fees have not been reviewed since 1980
- Current fee structure is set to offer only the barebones adoption, recently shelter services have been enhanced to add several services and increase husbandry standards without offsetting costs in the price of adoptions (vaccinations, kennel upgrades, etc…)
- Industry standards have changed to supplement adoptions in the interest of adopters retaining their pet for its entire life
- Current boarding fees are far below standards in both private and public facilities

Our Current Fee Schedule

Fayette County Animal Control

Dog Adoption	20
Cat Adoption	15
Kitten Adoption	5
Puppy Adoption	5
Reclaim Pet	10
Kenneling	2/5
Bite Case Euthanasia	25

The True Cost of Adoption

<u>Budget Line Items relevant to adoption</u>
Intake in that FY

= $187.84 per animal average

- Generally, all shelters and Humane Societies operate adoptions at a loss. The key is to close this gap as best as possible without losing the potential adopters business.
- In addition we must consider our “competitors”. Other animal controls, pet stores and even backyard breeders.

Comparative Analysis

	Cobb	Spalding	Clayton	Coweta	Fulton
Dog	40	20	60avg	20	85
Cat	35	20	60avg	15	65
Kitten	30	20	60	10	65
Puppy	30	20	60	15	85
Reclaim	50	20	25	25	35
w/out rabies		32	60	50	60+
Kenneling	5	7	10	15	10

Suggested Pricing

Fayette County Animal Control

Dog Adoption	30
Cat Adoption	20
Kitten Adoption	15
Puppy Adoption	15
Reclaim Pet	20/35
Kenneling	3/10
Bite Case Euthanasia	25
Optional Microchipping	25

Suggested pricing not only matches comparables at a “fair value for service” average

Benefits of New Fee Schedule

- Subsidizing Improved Services
  - Vaccinations
  - Microchipping
- Penalizing Owners that don't have Rabies Shots
  - Generates revenue
  - Promotes public health
  - Will reduce 2nd offenders
- Raising Quarantine Prices
  - Reflects standard pricing scheme at similar facilities
  - Will reduce shelter elected quarantines

Expanding Current Services

- Microchipping Implementation
  - Free with adoption, optional with reclaim
  - Microchips implanted at cost
  - Registration maintained off-site
  - Using Donated funds to purchase buy-in, program well self sustain thereafter

- Microchipping Benefits
  - Improve reclaim and save rate
  - Improves turnover
  - Saves costs in short & long-term