Print Form

COUNTY DEPARTMENT AGENDA REQUEST

Department/Division: Animal Control

Department Head: Miguel Abi-Hassan

Presenter, if needed: Miguel Abi-Hassan

Preferred Meeting Date: Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Wording for the Agenda:

Approval of the New Fee Schedule and Microchipping Service as proposed by Animal Control.

Background/History/Details:

On March 5, 2008, Animal Control Director Miguel Abi-Hassan presented the new Fee Schedule for Animal Control Shelter Services.

The Director is also requesting authorization for the addition of microchipping services to adoption process and as an optional service to parties reclaiming their animal.

What action are you seeking from the Board of Commissioners?

Approve proposal to implement the microchipping program for Animal Control. Also, approve new schedule of fees so that Legal can prepare a resolution for same.

If this item requires funding, please describe:

Funding already exists, additional consent item submitted to move these finances into a new account

Has this issue come before the Commissioners in the past? Yes

If so, when? Wednesday, March 5, 2008

Do you need audio-visual for the presentation? No

Back-up Material Submitted? Yes

STAFF USE ONLY

Approved by Finance? Yes

Reviewed by Legal? Yes

Approved by Purchasing? Yes

Approved by Administrative Staff? Yes

Staff Notes

Administrator's Approval Yes

Confirmed Meeting Date Wednesday, May 7, 2008

- ○ Recognition/ Presentation
- ○ Public Hearing
- ◉ Old Business
- ○ New Business
- ○ Consent
- ○ Report
- ○ Other

Purpose

To provide policy direction on the installation, data entry and selling of Microchipping services at the Fayette County Animal Shelter.

Policy

Fayette Animal Shelter recognizes the importance of permanent pet identification to facilitate fast and effective reclaims. As such, the shelter offers a permanent Microchip implantation with all adoptions and as a discounted service to the public.

Procedure

All shelter pets must be Microchipped prior to adoption, but not before the owner default period is met (*see Adoption Assessment policy*). Injection site, implant and registration should be pursuant to manufacturer standards. Finally, the Microchip Identification number, along with all pet details shall be recorded on the Adopt-A-Friend® Shelter Database.

As an additional service, Microchipping is also offered to the Public at the time of reclaiming a pet. The fee is $20.00 and covers both the implant and the registration.

Microchips may not be sold or distributed directly to the public. All implants must occur on shelter grounds with proper receipt given at the time of payment.

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 and detracts repeat offenders of various ordinances

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	10/30*
Kenneling	2/5*
Bite Case Euthanasia	25

**elevated pricing reflects emergency or voluntary boarding fees*

The True Cost of Adoption

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

= $187.84 per animal average (9 day period)

- 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 backyard/occasional 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

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	20

Suggested pricing not only matches comparables at a "fair value for service" average but it also allows for ***expansion of our services without increasing cost****.*

* $35 reclaim fee reserved for those lacking proof of rabies and Emergencies
* per diem elevates to $10 once contact is established or during quarantines

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
  - Improves reclaim and save rate
  - Improves turnover time
  - Saves costs in short & long-term