



WASHOE COUNTY

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: June 8, 2021

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TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Tammy Wines-Jennings, Assistant Director, Regional Animal Services
353-8945, twines-jennings@washoecounty.us

THROUGH: Shyanne Schull, Director of Regional Animal Services

SUBJECT: Recommendation to approve an extension for Washoe County Regional Animal Services and the Nevada Humane Society to complete their respective periodic facility evaluations, as required within the amended Professional Services Agreement between Regional Animal Services and Nevada Humane Society to June 30, 2022, due to the pandemic. (All Commission Districts)

SUMMARY

Washoe County Regional Animal Services (WCRAS) and the Nevada Humane Society (NHS) cooperatively occupy the Regional Animal Services Facility on Longley Lane. The Professional Services Agreement defines operational responsibilities for each party. See NHS-WCRAS Professional Services Agreement dated January 2015, included as Attachment A. Section 5.2 of the Agreement includes a requirement for a periodic operational facility evaluation to be completed by a qualified organization, minimally every five years. This periodic evaluation was due in October 2020. WCRAS and NHS are in agreement to proposing an extension to complete this requirement by June 30, 2022 due to complications arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. See NHS Letter dated May 5, 2021, included as Attachment B.

Washoe County Regional Animal Services Strategic Objective supported by this item: Greater Community Presence and Collaboration

PREVIOUS ACTION

On August 27, 2002, the Board approved a Memorandum of Understanding which outlined Washoe County and the Nevada Humane Society's responsibility to enter into a detailed Professional Services Agreement to clarify and specify each party's understanding of the duties, services, and responsibilities necessary to operate and maintain a new Regional Animal Services Shelter.

On December 13, 2005, the Board approved and executed the Professional Services Agreement between Washoe County and the Nevada Humane Society defining operational responsibilities for each, including services provided at the center, animal handling, compensation, periodic facility evaluation and standards of care.

AGENDA ITEM # _____

On March 10, 2015, the Board Approved the amended Professional Services Agreement dated January 2015, between Washoe County and Nevada Humane Society.

BACKGROUND

The current Professional Services Agreement, approved on March 10, 2015, Section 5.2, includes a requirement for both WCRAS and NHS to have their respective operations evaluated by a qualified organization at a minimum of every five years.

WCRAS completed an evaluation in October 2015. WCRAS has been in touch with three professional evaluation groups to attempt to select and schedule an evaluation. Due to the pandemic, most services are limited or not available due to travel and other precautionary measures.

WCRAS and NHS agree that it has proven difficult to identify qualified organizations to provide this required assessment due to the pandemic. NHS and WCRAS both propose an extension to June 30, 2022 to complete this requirement to allow adequate evaluation options.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with extending the deadline to complete the facility evaluations.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners approve an extension for Washoe County Regional Animal Services and the Nevada Humane Society to complete their respective periodic facility evaluations, as required within the amended Professional Services Agreement between Regional Animal Services and Nevada Humane Society to June 30, 2022, due to the pandemic.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: "Move to approve an extension for Washoe County Regional Animal Services and the Nevada Humane Society to complete their respective periodic facility evaluations, as required within the amended Professional Services Agreement between Regional Animal Services and Nevada Humane Society to June 30, 2022, due to the pandemic."