



# WASHOE COUNTY

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## STAFF REPORT

**BOARD MEETING DATE:** April 22, 2025

**DATE:** March 11, 2025

**TO:** Board of County Commissioners

**FROM:** Tammy Wines-Jennings, Assistant Director, Regional Animal Services  
775.353.8945, [twines-jennings@washoecounty.gov](mailto:twines-jennings@washoecounty.gov)

**THROUGH:** Shyanne Schull, Director of Regional Animal Services

**SUBJECT:** Recommendation to accept a grant award from the Best Friends Animal Society in the amount of [\$15,000; no County match] retroactive for the period March 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025 for the Peer Mentor Project, where Washoe County Regional Animal Services will assist Wasco Animal Services to improve its save rate to 90%; authorize the Purchasing and Contracts Manager to retroactively execute the award documents; and direct Finance to make the necessary budget amendments. (All Commission Districts.)

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### **SUMMARY**

Best Friends Animal Society ("Best Friends") will provide grant funding to Washoe County Regional Animal Services ("WCRAS") as the Peer Mentor for Wasco Animal Services, located in the Kern County, California. Best Friends' goal is for WCRAS to help the Wasco Animal Services create a sustainable plan, through program development, aimed to achieve and maintain a 90% save rate.

**County Priority/Goal supported by this item:** Quality Public Service

### **PREVIOUS ACTION**

No previous action

### **BACKGROUND**

Best Friends Animals Society is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation based in Kanab, Utah, whose mission is No More Homeless Pets®. Best Friends helps save lives by working with organizations and agencies by providing funding for specific projects and/or needs.

Washoe County Regional Animal Services has been selected to receive a one - time grant award of \$15,000.00, paid in three installments, from the Best Friends Animal Society to build upon our leadership position as a regional and national leader in animal lifesaving.

**AGENDA ITEM # \_\_\_\_\_**

Washoe County Regional Animal Services was chosen as a Peer Mentor because of our high Return to Owner (RTO) percentage (63% for dogs, 9% for cats) and the innovative programs we have put into place to help us sustain these percentages. A portion of the funds will be used to order supplies and equipment that will ship directly to Wasco Animal Services at 801 8th Street, Wasco, CA 93280.

Best Friends paid one installment on March 20, 2025 of \$6,000 and another installment of \$4,500.00 on April 1, 2025. The third payment of \$4,500.00 will be paid on August 1, 2025.

### **GRANT AWARD SUMMARY**

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Project/Program Name:</b>               | Peer Mentor Project  |
| <b>Scope of the Project:</b>               | 2025 calendar year mentorship between WCRAS and Wasco Animal Services  |
| <b>Benefit to Washoe County Residents:</b> | Collaborative information sharing to help improve animal welfare practices in under-resourced regions, based upon successful principles implemented in our region. |
| <b>On-Going Program Support:</b>           | This is one-time funding   |
| <b>Award Amount:</b>                       | \$15,000.00  |
| <b>Grant Period:</b>                       | March 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025  |
| <b>Funding Source:</b>                     | Best Friends Animal Society  |
| <b>Pass Through Entity:</b>                | Wasco Animal Services  |
| <b>CDFA Number:</b>                        | N/A  |
| <b>Grant ID Number:</b>                    | Non-Governmental Grant – No ID Number  |
| <b>Match Amount and Type:</b>              | No County Match  |
| <b>Sub-Awards and Contracts:</b>           | None   |

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Should the board accept this grant award and approve these amendments, the Animal Services Fund (205) FY25 adopted budget will be increased by \$15,000 in both revenues and expenditures in the following accounts:

| <b>Cost Object</b> | <b>G/L Account</b>               | <b>Amount</b> |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|---------------|
| IO- 29072          | 484195 – Non-Governmental Grants | \$ 15,000.00  |

|           |                             |              |
|-----------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| IO- 29072 | 710300 – Operating Supplies | \$ 12,000.00 |
| IO- 29072 | 710500 – Other Expense      | \$ 1,000.00  |
| IO- 29072 | 711210 – Travel             | \$ 2,000.00  |

**RECOMMENDATION**

Recommendation to accept a grant award from the Best Friends Animal Society in the amount of [\$15,000; no County match] retroactive for the period March 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025 for the Peer Mentor Project, where Washoe County Regional Animal Services will assist Wasco Animal Services to improve its save rate to 90%; authorize the Purchasing and Contracts Manager to retroactively execute the award documents; and direct Finance to make the necessary budget amendments.

**POSSIBLE MOTION**

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: "Move to accept a grant award from the Best Friends Animal Society in the amount of [\$15,000; no County match] retroactive for the period March 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025 for the Peer Mentor Project, where Washoe County Regional Animal Services will assist Wasco Animal Services to improve its save rate to 90%; authorize the Purchasing and Contracts Manager to retroactively execute the award documents; and direct Finance to make the necessary budget amendments."