COUNTY OF MARIN

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April 21, 2015

Marin County Board of Supervisors
3501 Civic Center Drive
San Rafael, CA 94903

SUBJECT: Agreement for Animal Services

Dear Board Members:

RECOMMENDATION: Authorize President to execute three-year agreement with the Marin Humane Society in the total amount of $9,839,232 to provide animal services for members of the Joint Powers Agency.

BACKGROUND

Marin County and all of Marin's cities and towns provide animal services through a joint powers agency (JPA). The cost of services is shared 30% by the County, with 70% apportioned between the member cities and towns. Marin County contracts with the Marin Humane Society (MHS) to provide animal services on behalf of the JPA. The current three-year agreement expires on June 30, 2015.

SUMMARY

The JPA negotiation team has been meeting regularly with the Marin Humane Society since February 2015 to negotiate a new agreement. The team included representatives from the County Administrator's Office, the Executive Director of Marin General Services Authority, and Managers of the City of Corte Madera and Town of Belvedere.

Given that there were no annual increases in the last 2012-2015 contract, potential cost increase options and minor contract revisions were discussed. The recommended new 3-year agreement for FY 2015-16 through FY 2017-18 includes contract increases of 4.0% in year 1; 3.0% in year 2; and 2.0% in year 3. This represents a cumulative 9.3% increase over the 3-year term, or the same cumulative percentage increase as 3.0% per year for three years.

The contract increases are largely to provide salary adjustments to Marin Humane Society staff after three years of no COLA adjustments. In addition, the new contract affords MHS the ability to add 1.0 FTE Field Services Officer during the contract term to bring the JPA closer to National Animal Control Association recommendations for a jurisdiction the size of Marin County. The new contract reinstates some cuts to phone/dispatch coverage on Mondays eliminated in the current contract, and also affords MHS some limited one-time support for facilities improvements. Also included in the new contract is a reopener in the event that Marin Emergency Radio Authority (MERA) capital costs are required during the term of the agreement, in light of passage of Measure A in November for a next generation radio system.

Any contract changes would require subsequent approval by your Board and concurrence by the city and town councils. The County will also make efforts to improve dog licensing by improving the visibility of links to the MHS website, and will encourage member cities and towns to do so as well - which will improve compliance and generate additional revenues to the Animal Services Authority.

FISCAL IMPACT: The proposed three-year agreement with the Marin Humane Society would result in annual costs of $3,193,934 for FY 15-16; $3,289,752 for FY 16-17; and $3,355,547 for FY 17-18 for a total of $9,839,233 for the three-year term from July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2018.

The County is responsible for approximately 30% of these costs. The County's share of cost is anticipated to increase from $811,217 in FY 2014-15 to approximately $844,000 in FY 2015-16, an increase of approximately $33,000 - or 4.1%, including other net minor adjustments to program costs outside of the MHS contract. Funds will be included in the FY 2015-16 proposed budget to cover the County's obligations.

Marin City and Town Managers were presented a summary of the tentative contract at its meeting of March 26, 2015 and are in agreement with the proposal.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

REVIEWED BY:	[ ] Department of Finance	Not Applicable [X]
	[X] County Counsel	Not Applicable [ ]
	[ ] Human Resources	Not Applicable [X]

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel Eilerman
Assistant County Administrator

Reviewed by,

Matthew H. Hymel
County Administrator

Attachment

c: City/Town Managers
Marin Humane Society
Marin General Services Authority