



Staff Report – December 11th, 2012

For: Prineville City Council
Thru: City Manager Steve Forrester

Topic: Animal Control Contract Renewal

Department: Police

Staff: Chief Eric Bush

Overview:

The City entered into a written agreement with the Humane Society of the Ochocos (HSO) in September of 2012. The agreement, by design was short term and is scheduled to expire on December 31st, 2012.

Discussion:

After operating for several years without a contract, the City and the HSO entered into the current agreement. Please refer to past staff reports regarding the previous discussion of rates and services.

From September 1st to November 30th, 2012 the Prineville Police Department responded to 156 calls for service report a “dog at large”. By far the majority of these calls were resolved without the assistance of the HSO, most being returned to their owners by the Police.

38 dogs were transported to the HSO for lodging. During this 90 day period, the HSO modified it's hours due to personnel reductions and was closed to the public for one week in October. On two occasions during this period Police attempted to take a dog to the shelter, but were turned away due to capacity issues.

Attachments

-Previous staff reports and workshop materials.

Budgetary Impact

- Budget authorizes \$36,000 for animal control for FY 12/13.
- Average cost per dog housed in the last 90 days was **\$236.84**.
- Dog licensing revenues for the City in 2011 were \$2,360.18.
- Average cost per call for service in 2011: \$177
- Average cost per enforcement action (case report) in 2011: \$1,340.32

The funding for the fee paid to the HSO comes from the City General Fund. 52% of all revenues to this fund come from property taxes. Current revenues from dog licensing represents less than 7% of the current fee paid to the HSO. There were 782 animal related calls for service in 2011 and of those 34 resulted in a crime report. Approximately \$177,969 or 6.7% of the total Police budget was spent on responding to and enforcing ordinances and crimes related to animals in 2011.



Staff Report – August 24th, 2012

For: Prineville City Council
Thru: City Manager Steve Forrester

Topic: Animal Control Workshop

Department: Police

Staff: Chief Eric Bush

Overview:

The City entered into a verbal agreement with the Humane Society of the Ochocos (HSO) in 2009 to pay \$3,000 monthly, on a temporary basis, for the use of Animal Shelter facilities. This was an annual increase of \$25,000 from the previous amount of \$11,000. City Staff has made efforts to obtain concurrence with HSO leadership on a written agreement, which to date, has not been accomplished. Estimates of the dog population in Crook County range from 7000 – 9000. There is currently fewer than 1000 dogs licensed County wide.

Discussion:

Last year the Police Department brought 160 dogs to the HSO. Animal (Dog) control has always been a designated function of the Police Department, which is further codified in City Ordinance.

Staff has held several meetings over the last 18 months with representatives of the HSO and has responded to procedural requests. Staff submitted a revised draft agreement to HSO leadership on May 24th, 2012 and an updated draft agreement language again on July 26th, 2012.

Staff have held preliminary discussions with at least one other Humane Society outside Prineville and determined that facility would be open to contract negotiations with the City of Prineville.

Other Communities

The City of Bend recently updated their formal agreement with their local Humane Society and will pay \$50,400, annually (FY 12-13) for the Police and all other City of Bend Citizens to be able to bring dogs and cats to the Bend Humane Society. Bend has a population of 77,905 people and had 733 dogs taken to the Bend Humane Society under their contract in 2011 for a cost per dog estimate of **\$68.76** per dog, or \$0.65 per citizen.

The City of Redmond agreement pays the Redmond Humane Society \$35,126 per year. The City of Redmond has a population is 26,646 people and had 389 dogs taken to the Redmond Humane Society in 2011 for a total cost per dog of **\$90.30** per dog or \$1.32 per citizen.

The Deschutes County Sheriff has contracts with both the Redmond and Bend Humane Societies and pays based on a "per dog" model. DSCO pays \$26.00 per day, per dog with a five day maximum (**\$26.00 - \$130.00**). For administrative / judicial orders the fee is \$26 per day for the first ten days, \$12 per day for days 11-16 and \$6 per day starting at day 17, until the hold is terminated. Only data from the Redmond Humane Society was available, but according to those records Deschutes County brought 223 dogs into the Redmond Humane Society in 2011 and paid \$23,520 (\$30,000 minus an estimated \$6,480 in license reimbursement fees) for the service, for a cost per dog of **\$105.47**.

All animal control in Jefferson County is handled by County Public Works. The City of Madras, nor the Sheriff's Office pay any fees related to those expenses. Sunriver has no standing agreement.

Prineville

The Prineville Police Department took 160 dogs to the HSO in 2011. This equates to a per dog cost of **\$225.00** or \$3.92 per citizen, at the current rate. In a typical year Prineville has less than five dogs that are held administratively or due to judicial order.

Staff reviewed other options for the City to consider, in the event the preferred course of action cannot be achieved;

1. Seek a contract with a Humane Society outside of the community.
2. The City of Prineville opens a public shelter.
3. By policy end the practice of apprehending nuisance dogs.
4. Repeal the current animal control ordinance.

Discussion of these options will be in more detail during the workshop session.

Staff Recommendation:

-Establish a formal agreement to competitively contract with our local Humane Society that will dictate the responsibilities of each party in consideration for any tax payer funding.

-Fee: If the City of Prineville paid at the rate the City of Bend pays its Humane Society our fee for FY 11/12 would have been **\$11,001.60**. If the City paid at the rate of Deschutes County in Redmond, the fee for FY 11/12 would have been **\$16,875.20**. This would equate to a cost per Prineville citizen of \$1.20 to \$1.84, respectively. In both the Bend and Redmond agreements the respective shelters are obligated to take in strays not just from the Police Departments, but from everyone who resides in those communities.

-Consider a strategy of shifting cost burden to individuals responsible for the demand for service.

- City Dog Licensing program
- Administrative fees for handling nuisance dogs

Attachments

- 2002 agreement with the HSO.
- Draft agreement currently pending comment by the HSO.
- Current City of Bend Humane Society agreement.

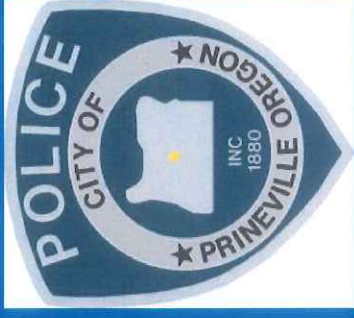
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Prineville Police Department



Alternative Courses of Action for
Operations and supporting
Revenues.



Contract with the Redmond Humane Society

- o Estimated shelter annual fee at current rates would be \$16,875 based on the per day rate used by Deschutes County
- o An estimated additional \$12,800 in “soft” costs to the City would be incurred based on estimates of the time related to transportation of stray dogs. These costs could be mitigated by the following;
 - Using existing volunteers to transport animals.
 - Transporting multiple animals whenever possible.
- o **Total Estimated Annual Expenses: \$29,675.**



Redmond Humane Society

Pros

- Reduced cost.
- Track record of acceptable operating agreements.
- No Capitalization requirements in the near term – fiscally stable.
- Employees will issue citations related animal enforcement.

Cons

- Reduces support / use of local Humane Society.
- Distance.
- Soft costs (380 hours) reflect personnel time spent on logistics rather than in the community on other issues.

City of Prineville opens and operates a public shelter

- Estimated Initial Capitalization of \$130,000, followed by an annual operating budget of \$
 - Assumes City already possesses acceptable site.
- Personnel Services \$37,314.07 (.5 FTE, loaded).
 - 730 hours
 - Managed by the City
- Services and Supplies: \$9,600.
 - Veterinarian
 - Supplies and equipment
- Facilities: \$12,000.
 - Utilities plus 40% for on-going maintenance and insurance.
- **Total Annual Operating Cost: \$58,914.07.**



Public Shelter

Pros

- Reduced complexity, no reliance on outside organizations.
- Maximum flexibility to fit community demands.
- Maximize revenue.
- Direct link between animals and public safety resources.
- Most simple for Citizen – one stop shop.

Cons

- Initial capitalization.
- Annual operating costs.
- Added operational requirement for public safety
- Soft costs reflect personnel time spent on logistics (730 hours) rather than in the community on other issues.

Revenue Options

- o Establish a City Dog Licensing program. \$80,000
 - 4000 x \$20 (one example)
 - Established by ordinance
 - More robust enforcement
 - Currently 771 active dog licenses, County wide.
 - 340 City
 - 431 County
- o Administrative Fees for handling animals. \$8,000
 - 160 x \$50
 - Established by ordinance.
- o Partnering with Crook County Sheriff: \$3,000.
 - 30 x \$100
 - Cost sharing