

**MEMORANDUM**  
**PLACER COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**  
**Animal Services Division**

**TO:** Honorable Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Richard J. Burton, M.D., M.P.H.  
Placer County Health Officer and Director of Health & Human Services  
Mark Starr, D.V.M., M.P.V.M., Director of Community Health and Clinics

**DATE:** June 9, 2009

**SUBJECT:** Umbrella Contract for Emergency Veterinary Services

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**ACTION REQUESTED:**

Approve a maximum payment authorization ("umbrella contract") with various veterinary providers for emergency veterinary services in an amount not to exceed \$25,000 for FY 2009-10, and authorize the Director of Health and Human Services to amend the list of providers as necessary. These mandated services are funded with County General Funds (90 percent) and reimbursements from cities and individuals (10 percent). These costs are included in the Department's FY 2009-10 Proposed Budget.

**BACKGROUND:**

Emergency veterinary services are necessary when injured animals are picked up in the community. The animal is taken to the nearest veterinarian who is willing to perform services for the County. These services are performed at the usual and customary fees for each veterinary practice. As these services may be provided by any willing veterinary office, the providers may include any Placer County veterinarian. Emergency services costs associated with existing city animal care contracts are reimbursed by cities. In addition, in situations where the emergency services arise from abuse, the abuser is held responsible for all treatment costs. An estimated 325 injured and homeless animals will be treated during the term of this payment authorization. The current list of 17 providers is shown in Attachment A.

The veterinarians willing to perform these services for the County change as the veterinarians change within the community. In order to maximize the number of facilities providing services to these animals, an umbrella contract is being recommended. The umbrella contract will allow multiple providers to be tied to one aggregate total contract amount controlled through the Performance Accounting System. This offers the County the flexibility to use the most appropriate provider available at the time that services are needed, within the funding limits authorized by the Board. It is also requested that HHS be authorized to update the provider list throughout the year as additional providers are identified. Animal Services has worked closely with the veterinarian community over the past year to increase the number of emergency services providers.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

This contract amount remains unchanged from the previous year. Fees cover approximately 10 percent of emergency veterinarian services, while the remainder is supported by County General Funds for injured stray animals. Funding for these services is included in the Department's FY 2009-10 Proposed Budget.

# Attachment A

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Board of Supervisors Agenda Item  
Animal Services Division  
June 9, 2009

## **Veterinarians providing emergency services effective July 1, 2009:**

Agate Bay Animal Hospital, Kings Beach

Animal Emergency Center, Reno

Animal Medical Center, Auburn

Animal Spay & Neuter, Auburn

Atlantic Street Veterinary Hospital, Roseville

Bowman Veterinary Hospital, Auburn

Burton Creek Veterinary Clinic, Tahoe City

Colfax Veterinary Hospital, Colfax

Companion Veterinary Clinic, Auburn

Critter Creek Veterinary Hospital, Lincoln

Edgewood Veterinary Clinic, Auburn

Loomis Basin Large Animal Veterinary Clinic, Loomis

Loomis Basin Small Animal Veterinary Clinic, Loomis

Meadow Vista Veterinary Clinic, Meadow Vista

North Fork Veterinary Clinic, Auburn

Sierra Pet Clinic, Truckee

Sunset Whitney Vet Hospital, Rocklin