TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Jeffrey S. Brown, M.P.H., M.S.W., Director of Health and Human Services

SUBJECT: Umbrella Contract for Emergency Veterinary Services

ACTION REQUESTED

1. Authorize the Auditor-Controller's Office to establish a maximum payment authorization ("umbrella contract") for FY 2016-17 in an amount not to exceed $50,000 ($37,500 net County cost) for the provision of emergency veterinary services by an identified list of providers; approve the provider list, and authorize the Director of Health and Human Services, or designee, to amend the list of providers as necessary as long as any amendments are reflected in next year's annual list; and authorize the Director of Health and Human Services, or designee, to execute any needed provider agreements or other documents utilizing applicable County processes.

BACKGROUND

Emergency veterinary services are necessary when Animal Control Officers, or a Good Samaritan, picks up an injured animal in the community. The Food and Agricultural Code defines the degree of veterinary care necessary when an Animal Control Officer impounds an animal. The animal is taken to the nearest veterinarian who is willing to perform services for the County, after authorization by the Director of Animal Services, or designee. These services are performed at the usual and customary fees for each veterinary practice.

Annually, an estimated 250 injured and homeless animals require treatment. Over Seventy-Three percent of these animals recover and are either reunited with their owner or, if stray, adopted out. Due to the service authorization and review process, and the collaboration of the veterinary partners, the average cost per visit is less than $150 and the annual total cost of providing this care is usually under $40,000.

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 again being recommended. The umbrella contract allows 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. The current list of 18 providers is shown in Attachment A.

It is also requested that Health and Human Services be authorized to update the provider list throughout the year as additional providers are identified. Animal Services has worked closely with the veterinary community over the past few years to increase the number of emergency services providers.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funding for these services is included in the FY 2016-17 Proposed Budget. The requested maximum amount of $50,000 is unchanged from FY 2015-16. These mandated services are funded with County General Funds (75 percent) and reimbursements from cities and individuals (25 percent).

The contract template is on file with the clerk of the board.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A – Emergency Veterinary Providers
Veterinarians Providing Emergency Services Effective July 1, 2016

1. Agate Bay Animal Hospital, Kings Beach
2. Animal Emergency Center, Reno
3. Animal Medical Center, Auburn
4. Animal Spay & Neuter, Auburn
5. Atlantic Street Veterinary Hospital, Roseville
6. Bowman Veterinary Hospital, Auburn
7. Burton Creek Veterinary Clinic, Tahoe City
8. Colfax Veterinary Hospital, Colfax
9. Companion Veterinary Clinic, Auburn
10. Critter Creek Veterinary Hospital, Lincoln
11. Donner Truckee Veterinary Hospital, Truckee
12. Edgewood Veterinary Clinic, Auburn
13. Loomis Basin Equine Medical Center, Inc., Loomis
14. Meadow Vista Veterinary Clinic, Meadow Vista
15. North Fork Veterinary Clinic, Auburn
16. Sperka, Twylah., D.V.M., dba Sierra Pet Clinic, Truckee
17. Sunset Whitney Veterinary Hospital, Rocklin
18. VCA Animal Hospitals, Inc., dba VCA Loomis Basin Veterinary Clinic, Loomis