

**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, Clinics & Animal Services

**DATE:** June 8, 2010

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

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**ACTION REQUESTED:**

Approve the following actions regarding maximum payment authorizations ("umbrella contracts") with various providers for emergency veterinary services:

- a. Approve an amendment to FY 2009-10 Contract CH000016, increasing funding by \$5,000 for a revised total amount not to exceed \$30,000, and
- b. Approve an umbrella contract for FY 2010-11 in an amount not to exceed \$50,000 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 (75 percent) and reimbursements from cities and individuals (25 percent). These costs are included in the Department's FY 2009-10 Final Budget and FY 2010-11 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. Annually, an estimated 325 injured and homeless animals require treatment. 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 veterinary community over the past year to increase the number of emergency services providers.

The requested FY 2009-10 amendment is primarily the result of two unusually high cost cases that occurred unexpectedly near the end of the contract period.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Funding for the amendment is included in the FY 2009-10 Final Budget. Funding for the subsequent term is included in the FY 2010-11 Proposed Budget. These mandated services are funded with County General Funds (75 percent) and reimbursements from cities and individuals (25 percent).

# Attachment A

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Board of Supervisors Agenda Item  
Animal Services Division  
June 8, 2010

## **Veterinarians providing emergency services effective July 1, 2010:**

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  
Crittter 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 Veterinary Hospital, Rocklin