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AGENDA COVER MEMO

AGENDA DATE: October 31, 2007
TO: Board of County Commissioners
DEPARTMENT: Health & Human Services
PRESENTED BY: Rob Rockstroh



AGENDA TITLE: ORDER / _____ IN THE MATTER OF CHANGING THE NAME OF LANE COUNTY ANIMAL REGULATION AUTHORITY TO LANE COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES, CREATING THE LANE COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (LCASAC) AND DIRECTING STAFF TO BRING FORWARD MODIFICATIONS TO LANE CODE AND LANE MANUAL

I. MOTION

Order / _____ In The Matter Of Changing The Name Of Lane County Animal Regulation Authority to Lane County Animal Services, Creating The Lane County Animal Services Advisory Committee (LCASAC) And Directing Staff To Bring Forward Modifications To Lane Code And Lane Manual

II. AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

The scope of services at Lane County Animal Regulation is greater than the name implies. Lane County provides services above and beyond regulation and the name should indicate this expanded scope. This order will also create the Lane County Animal Services Advisory Committee (LCASAC) as directed through Board Order 07-10-3-12. Concurrent with this request for a name change to more accurately indicate the breadth of services provided and the creation of the LCASAC, Lane Code and the Lane Manual need to be reviewed and changes should be made which encompass the breadth of services, the creation of the LCASAC and any other changes as directed by the Board.

III. BACKGROUND/IMPLICATIONS OF ACTION

A. Board Action and Other History

The Board has had regular updates on Animal Regulation services, including work sessions on November 30, 2005, October 25, 2006, February 21, 2007, and September 19, 2007. These sessions have included issues such as shelter remodel, provision of services and euthanasia of animals. In all of these sessions, it has been

clear that the mission of Lane County Animal Regulation goes beyond regulation into providing services to animals and their families in Lane County. The most recent Board action (BO#07-10-3-12) directed Health and Human Services to create an advisory committee.

B. Policy Issues

Lane Manual and Lane Code will need to be reviewed and modified in conjunction with the name change and committee creation. Staff will review Lane Code and the Lane Manual to modify the name where appropriate, to include the creation of the LCASAC, to verify that all information contained in Lane Code and the Lane Manual is accurate and to incorporate any changes indicated by the Board, including those as a result of the review of the report submitted by the Save Adoptable Animals Task Force.

C. Board Goals

The Strategic Plan states "Lane County will actively seek to improve the efficiency, effectiveness, and quality of public service by considering reorganization of service delivery systems both within county government and across government agencies." Enhancing the services provided by Lane County Animal Regulation supports the goal of improving the quality of public service. The services have already been enhanced; the name needs to be changed, an advisory committee created and regulations, policies and procedures updated to reflect this enhancement.

D. Financial and/or Resource Considerations

The expense of changing the name from Lane County Animal Regulation Authority to Lane County Animal Services is small. New signage would need to be developed, trucks would need to be painted with the new name and uniform patches would need to be changed. The cost for repainting trucks is \$600 per truck. The three trucks owned by Lane County have already been repainted. Truck signage is estimated at \$550 per vehicle for four vehicles. The remaining leased trucks can either be painted with signage replaced or used as is until they are rotated out of service. Street signage is estimated at under \$1,000. New patches are estimated to cost approximately \$250. Stationary will be used until it is gone, new stationary would be ordered with the new name. The only expense to creating the advisory committee and modifying the Lane Manual and Lane Code is staff time.

E. Analysis

Both Lane County staff and the community would like to see Lane County adopt a broader mission than just regulation around services to animals and the community. Regulation would certainly remain an integral part of animal services provided by Lane County, but regulation is but one part. The Lane County Animal Regulation Authority web site lists the goals of the program as:

- Prevention of animal neglect, cruelty and irresponsibility through public education and training of animal laws, ordinances, and codes
- Improvement of animal-related public health and safety programs through public education and training
- Enforcement of animal laws, ordinances, and codes with discretion, fairness, and equality
- Provision of high standards in shelter care for the animals in our possession
- Promotion of adoptions through progressive programs within the shelter, off-site adoption locations, media, and through the use of technology
- Placement of all adoptable animals in a safe and loving home
- Creation and maintenance of stable resource opportunities
- Maintenance of progressive and positive relations with the community, offering community involvement and volunteer opportunities
- Support and implementation of the No Kill philosophy as resources allow
- Elimination of the euthanasia of healthy adoptable animals
- Provision of a unified, harmonious, and safe working environment

As evidenced by these goals, Lane County Animal Regulation Authority has a broader mission than just regulation. Changing the name to Lane County Animal Services would reflect this broader mission.

In response to the Board's direction, this order will also create the Lane County Animal Services Advisory Committee (LCASAC). This committee will advise the Health and Human Services Director and the Board of County Commissioners on matters of current animal service operations, program improvements, model and state of the art animal welfare, care control programs and facilities after a review of regional and national facilities. Staffing for the committee will be provided by the Department of Health and Human Services. The committee will meet monthly. Seven people will serve on the LCASAC. Each commissioner will appoint a member and the LCASAC will appoint the two at large members.

F. Alternatives/Options

Staff is requesting the Board approve three directives as part of this order: 1) The name change from Lane County Animal Regulation Authority to Lane County Animal Services; 2) The creation of the Lane County Animal Services Advisory Committee; and 3) Directing staff to review Lane Manual and Lane Code for applicable changes. The Board has the option of approving all, none or any combination of these directives.

G. Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Board approve all three and renames Lane County Animal Regulation Authority as Lane County Animal Services, creates a Lane County Animal Services Advisory Committee and directs staff to bring forward recommended changes to Lane Manual and Lane Code in response to the name change, committee creation and any other changes as directed by the Board.

H. Timing/Implementation

Upon approval the Department of Health & Human Services will begin implementing the name change through signage, trucks, staff uniforms, etc. Staff will work with Commissioners to bring forward a Board Order appointing staff to the Lane County Animal Services Advisory Committee. Staff will also begin review of Lane Code and the Lane Manual.

IV. ATTACHMENTS

Board Order

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, LANE COUNTY, OREGON

ORDER:) IN THE MATTER OF CHANGING THE NAME OF LANE
) COUNTY ANIMAL REGULATION AUTHORITY TO LANE
) COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES, CREATING THE LANE
) COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
 (LCASAC) AND DIRECTING STAFF TO BRING FORWARD
 MODIFICATIONS TO LANE CODE AND LANE MANUAL

WHEREAS, the scope of services at Lane County Animal Regulation Authority is greater than the name implies; and

WHEREAS, a name change from Lane County Animal Regulation Authority to Lane County Animal Services will better reflects the fact that services such as adoption are goals of the program; and

WHEREAS, the Save Adoptable Animals Task Force recommended and the Board of County Commissioners approved the creation of an advisory committee on animal services; and

WHEREAS, The Lane Manual and Lane Code should be reviewed to ensure that they are both in line with the scope of services, direction of the Board and reflect the creation of the Lane County Animal Services Advisory Committee;

NOW THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED AND ORDERED that Lane County Animal Regulation Authority be renamed Lane County Animal Services, and it is

FUTHER ORDERED that a seven (7) member Lane County Animal Services Advisory Committee be created to advise the Director of Health and Human Services and the Board of County Commissioners on animal services issues; and

FURTHER ORDERED that staff be directed to review Lane Code and the Lane Manual and bring forward modifications for review by the Board.

DATED this ____ day of October, 2007.

Faye Stewart, Chair
Lane County Board Of Commissioners

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Date 10-19-07 lane county


OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL