MEMORANDUM

Date: March 2, 2017

To: The Honorable Chair and Members
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: C.H. Huckelberry
County Administrator

Re: Town of Marana and Animal Care Services

Recently, an article appeared in the Green Valley News regarding the Town of Marana's concerns over animal care services provided by Pima County. These services are currently regional and provided through intergovernmental agreements.

Marana issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for animal care services; and on February 3, 2017, the Humane Society of Southern Arizona responded to that RFP. Marana may make a decision as early as March 14 regarding contracting with the Humane Society for animal care services.

Marana can certainly contract for these services as they wish, and we have no objection to them doing so. However, in order to not transfer costs to the other jurisdictions that will remain regional partners in animal care, appropriate ordinances and code amendments will be necessary to ensure costs are not shifted from Marana to other jurisdictions.

I have advised the Humane Society of our intent to adopt ordinance amendments in five specific areas as identified in the attached March 1, 2017 letter. Should Marana decide to contract with the Humane Society, I will forward appropriate ordinance and code amendments for Board approval and adoption to be made effective July 1, 2017. These proposed code amendments will be vetted with our remaining regional partners for animal care services.

Please contact me if you would like to receive a copy of Marana's RFP and the Humane Society's response.

CHH/anc

Attachment

c: Jan Lesher, Deputy County Administrator for Community and Health Services
March 1, 2017

Brandy Burke, Chief Operations Officer
Humane Society of Southern Arizona
3450 E. Kelvin Boulevard
Tucson, Arizona 85716

Re: Provision of Animal Care Services to the Town of Marana

Dear Ms. Burke:

We have reviewed your response to the Town of Marana’s Request for Proposals for animal care services.

Jurisdictions are certainly free to provide animal care services in any manner they desire; however, the provision of these services and/or transition of services to another provider should be closely coordinated to ensure there is no significant disruption in service to the community, which relies on these services for the humane and compassionate treatment of animals.

The County is currently developing our Fiscal Year 2017/18 budget for all departments and agencies, including the Pima Animal Care Center (PACC). In order to appropriately plan for a transition of services should one occur, we will be modifying County animal care codes to ensure County animal care costs being incurred by a community that is not part of the regional system are not transferred to other jurisdictions who remain in the regional system.

The County will be required to adopt additional ordinances and fees associated with drop-off of animals at our facilities where the town or city is not a participating member through an intergovernmental agreement in the regional delivery of animal care services. These ordinances require 60 days of preparation and advertising in order to become effective; and if any jurisdiction, city or town is not a member for receiving regional services, such an ordinance and revised fee schedule must be in place by the beginning of the new fiscal year.
on July 1, 2017. The ordinance amendments will generally accomplish the following to ensure equitable sharing of service costs:

1. Marana Town residents will pay a fee for any animal surrendered to the PACC based on the anticipated cost to PACC.
2. Pima County will be fully reimbursed for any emergency field enforcement services required or requested by the Humane Society on behalf of Marana.
3. Pima County will be full reimbursed for all veterinary or medical care provided for any animal referred by the Humane Society on behalf of the Town of Marana.
4. Pima County will be fully reimbursed for all sheltering services requested by the Humane Society on behalf of Marana due to quarantine or disease outbreak.
5. Pima County will be fully reimbursed for all vaccines or spay/neuter services requested by the Humane Society on behalf of the Town of Marana.

I have asked our staff to coordinate these code amendments with you so the Humane Society is also not adversely affected.

If you have any questions regarding how the County intends to modify our fee schedule or ordinances, please contact Deputy County Administrator Jan Lesher at 520.724.8977 or Jan.Lesher@pima.gov

Sincerely,

C.H. Huckleberry
County Administrator

CHH/mjk

c: Jan Lesher, Deputy County Administrator for Community and Health Services
Dr. Francisco Garcia, Director, Health Department
Chris Slaney, Chair, Humane Society of Southern Arizona Board of Directors