

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF CONTRA COSTA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
and for Special Districts, Agencies and Authorities Governed by the Board

Adopted this Resolution on 12/08/2020 by the following vote:

John Gioia
Candace Andersen
Diane Burgis
Karen Mitchoff
Federal D. Glover

AYE:
NO:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:
RECUSE:



Resolution No. 2020/329

IN THE MATTER OF UPDATING THE POLICIES GOVERNING THE ANIMAL BENEFIT FUND

WHEREAS, in 1988, Contra Costa County Animal Services Department established, with Board authorization, the Animal Benefit Fund. The purpose of the Animal Benefit Fund was to receive donations from individuals, animal welfare organizations and businesses to support animal health and welfare projects that are not funded by departmental or general County revenues; and

WHEREAS, since the creation of the Animal Benefit Fund, monetary contributions and donations for services and supplies for animal welfare have provided additional support for unfunded needs of the animals impounded at CCAS and in our community. These donations have come in the form of grants or "soft ask" gifts over the counter or from the Department's website; and

WHEREAS, animal welfare needs, department operating policies, and available resources have changed since the inception of the program, warranting changes to authorized uses and governing policies of the Animal Benefit Fund;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The following programs are authorized for financial support from the Animal Benefit Fund:
 - a. **Medical Assistance Program:** This program is for medical assistance and emergency veterinary care for animals that are in the County's jurisdiction and/or have been accepted into the County shelter's care. Funds will be used for medical care over and above the mandated medical care for animals in the care of the shelter and who need further assistance to be made available for adoption or released to a transfer agency. Funds may also be used to provide necessary medical care to an animal to help keep the animal out of the shelter.
 - b. **Humane Education Program:** This program helps to support humane education services in our county either by bringing people into County shelter(s) or taking County education programs "on the road" into the community. Humane Education support may also be used to help pet owners resolve behavioral problems that might otherwise cause them to give up their pet, to help shelter animals with behavioral issues that might keep them from being easily adopted, and to create humane education programs for school age children.
 - c. **Shelter Intervention Program:** Often, families in a crisis turn to surrendering their pet to a shelter due to lack of financial resources. The intervention program helps to provide resources to keep animals in their homes. Examples of intervention tools: spay/neuter, behavior/training assistance, fence repair and grooming. This program may also be used to help domestic violence victims or seniors on limited incomes to keep their pets in their lives when they may otherwise have had to consider relinquishment due to lack of funds for basic daily needs or medical concerns.
 - d. **Spay Neuter and Wellness Program:** This program would make spay/neuter, vaccinations, and microchips more affordable and accessible in Contra Costa County. Contra Costa Animal Services will accomplish this by establishing partnerships and developing mobile programs to reach into the areas of our county in greatest need, targeting the species/breeds of animals most likely to be found in our shelter, and supporting healthy community cats through TNR/RTF (trap-neuter-return / return- to-field) and Working Cat Adoptions.
2. Gifts by donors may be designated directly to a specific program. As is required by statute, any gifted funds or assets will be used for the purposes prescribed in the terms of the gift, bequest, or devise. Gifts received with no instruction as to the use for a

specific area or program or funds donated for "general animal welfare" will be considered as part of the general Animal Benefit Fund. Monies raised through in-house donations, and/or general fund-raising activities shall be considered undesignated gift funds and will be used for Animal Benefit Fund programs at the discretion of the Animal Services Director.

3. The Animal Services Director is authorized to accept any gift, bequest, or device made for the benefit of animals in the shelter through programs such as a car donation and planned giving programs pursuant to Government Code section 25355. In keeping with this code section, the Director will file a quarterly report with the Board that describes the source and value of each gift.

4. The Animal Services Director will report annually to the Board's Internal Operations Committee on the position of the Animal Benefit Fund and the impact of the Animal Benefit fund on community animals and families.

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an action taken and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on the date shown.

ATTESTED: December 8, 2020

David J. Twa, County Administrator and Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

Contact: Beth Ward (925) 608-8472

By:  June McHuen, Deputy

cc: Animal Services Director, CAO-IOC, CAO-Pub Protection