

COUNTY OF EL DORADO

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

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Interim Director

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AGENCY DIVISIONS

Administration & Finance
Behavioral Health
Community Services
Protective Services
Public Health
Self-Sufficiency

Date: April 5, 2023

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors

Cc: Tiffany Schmid, Interim Chief Administrative Officer

From: Olivia Byron-Cooper, Interim Director of Health & Human Services *OBC*

Subject: Retroactive Agreement for Services – Item 23-0684, 5/16/23
ZZ Veterinary Corporation, APC, dba Crossroads Veterinary Hospital Agreement 7597

This memo is to provide notification of a retroactive contract request that has been created and is set for the Board of Supervisor's Agenda on May 16, 2023 (File ID: 23-0684).

California Penal Code section 597.1 mandates care and treatment of animals in the County's care to include routine and emergency services. To ensure availability of emergency veterinary services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and to alleviate transporting injured animals too far, Health and Human Services Agency contracts with as many veterinarians as possible.

Crossroads Veterinary Hospital has been a contracted service provider for the County since 2010. The most recent agreement expired March 31, 2023. In addition to routine and emergency care, this vendor also provides on-site visits and expert testimony on criminal animal abuse and neglect cases. Furthermore, the Manager of Animal Services has negotiated a reduced fee for an initial exam to keep costs down. This retroactive request will allow for payment of invoices should emergency services be rendered prior to approval of the new contract.

The Health and Human Services Agency remains focused on process and procedure improvements to reduce retro requests within our control and improve upon our contractual commitments. Staffing shortages within the Animal Services department resulted in this oversight and we are working to build in safeguards to prevent similar issues from occurring in the future. Agreement for Services 7597 has a retroactive term of April 1, 2023 through March 31, 2026. Any laps in services can be detrimental to the treatment of animals needing this level of care.

As always, please let me know if you have any questions or would like to discuss anything further.