

COUNTY OF EL DORADO

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Olivia Byron-Cooper, MPH
Interim Director



MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 2, 2023

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors
Tiffany Schmid, Interim Chief Administrative Officer

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

SUBJECT: Retroactive Renewal of Agreement for Services – Item 23-1119
Animal Outreach of the Motherlode Agreement 4735

This memo is to provide notification of a retroactive contract renewal request that has been created and is set for the Board of Supervisor's Agenda on June 27, 2023 (File ID: 23-1119).

California Penal Code section 597.1 mandates care and treatment of animals in the County's care to include routine and emergency services. Food and Agricultural Code section 30503 and 31751.3 mandates the spay and neuter of dogs and cats prior to adoption from an animal shelter. To ensure availability of emergency veterinary services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, timely spay and neuter surgeries and to alleviate transporting injured animals too far, Health and Human Services Agency contracts with as many veterinarians as possible.

Animal Outreach of the Motherlode has been a contracted service provider for the County since 2010. Funds under the most recent agreement were fully expended in January 2023 due to an influx of incoming animals to the shelter that were not spayed or neutered. In addition to routine and emergency care, this vendor is Animal Services' main vendor for providing required spay and neuter surgeries. This retroactive request will allow for payment of invoices for emergency services and spay and neuter surgeries so that animals could be adopted from the shelter.

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 4735 has a retroactive increase in NTE of \$60,000 with a term of June 29, 2020, through December 31, 2023. Any lapse 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.