GALVESTON COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT
ANIMAL SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
AGENDA
(Proposed)
9850-A Emmett F. Lowry Expressway, Texas City, Texas 77591
Board Room
Thursday, May 11, 2017 12:00 Noon

CONSENT AGENDA: All items marked with a single asterisk (*) are parts of the consent agenda and require no deliberation by the Animal Advisory Committee. Any Committee member may remove an item from this agenda to be considered separately.

APPEARANCE: A citizen desiring to make comment to the Committee shall submit a written request to the Director by noon on the fifth day preceding the Advisory Committee Meeting. A statement of the nature of the matter to be considered shall accompany the request. The Director shall include the requested appearance on the agenda, and the person shall be heard if he or she appears.

QUORUM: A majority of the members (7) with at least (4) City reps and (1) County rep present shall constitute a quorum.

Meeting Called to Order

Item #1 ACTION............................................ Agenda

Item #2 ACTION............................................ Excused Absence(s)

Item #3 ACTION............................................ Approval of Minutes
- February 9, 2017

Item #4 ACTION............................................ Consider Proposed Changes to Galveston County Animal Services Policy

Item #5.................................................. Animal Services Manager Report

Item #6 ACTION............................................ Financial Report
- March 2017

Item #7 ACTION............................................ Review of Proposed FY18 ARC Fee Schedule

Item #8 ACTION............................................ Discuss New Spay and Neuter Proposal with Animal Alliance

Item #9.................................................. Comparative Data Summary (2017-2016) (Intake and Dispositions)

Item #10 ACTION........................................... Discussion Regarding FY18 Animal Services Budget Process

Item #11.................................................. Update from Animal Services Advisory Committee Members

Item #12.................................................. Public Comments

At the discretion of the Advisory Committee Chair, persons who have not submitted written request may be permitted to comment on posted agenda item(s) (limit three (3) minutes per person). In compliance with Texas Open Meeting Act the Animal Advisory Committee may not deliberate on comments. Personal attacks will not be allowed and personnel matters should be addressed to the Animal Services Manager during normal business hours.

Adjournment

Tentative Next Meeting: August 10, 2017

MEMBERS MAY BE REACHED DURING THE MEETING AT 409-938-2288
ANY PERSON REQUIRING SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION SHOULD CONTACT
AMANDA WOLFF AT (409) 938-2273 48 HOURS PRIOR TO THE MEETING.

Posted by: [Signature]
Animal Services Advisory Committee
May 11, 2017
Item #2
Excused Absences

1. City of Tiki Island
Animal Services Advisory Committee
May 11, 2017
Item #3
Approval of Minutes

February 9, 2017
Animal Services Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes  
February 9, 2017 12:00 Noon

In Attendance:
James Osteen, City of La Marque  
Dee Ann Haney, City of Texas City  
Nick Finan, City of Texas City  
Mark Johnston, City of Bayou Vista  
Fard Abdullah, City of Hitchcock  
Curtis Klages DVM, DACLAM, UBOH  
Eric Froeschner, UBOH  
Jonathon Givens, DVM  
Sherlyn Linton, Galveston County  
Lark Tedesco, Animal Welfare  
Cynthia Kelley, Animal Welfare  
Amber Adams, Daily Operator of an Animal Shelter

Absent:
Commissioner Stephen Holmes,  
Galveston County  
Kyle Burks, City of Kemah

GCHD Staff:
Kathy Barroso, Chief Executive Officer  
Scott Packard, Public Information Officer  
Amanda Taber, Executive Assistant III

Guest:
Commissioner Apffel and Seth Collins

Unexcused Absences:
None

Item #1 Agenda
James Osteen, Chair, asked for a motion to approve the February 2017 agenda. A motion was made by Mr. Froeschner, seconded by Ms. Haney and unanimously approved by the Committee.

Item #2 Excused Absences
James Osteen, Chair, asked for a motion to approve the excused absence for the City of Kemah. A motion was made by Ms. Haney, seconded by Mr. Froeschner and unanimously approved by the Committee.

Item #3 Approval of Minutes
James Osteen, Chair, asked for a motion to approve the November 10, 2016 minutes. A motion was made by Ms. Haney, seconded by Ms. Linton and unanimously approved by the Committee.

**A request was made to discuss all action items prior to the ARC manager report.

Item #5 Update on In-House Surgical Suite
Dr. Klages presented an update on the possibility of the Animal Resource Center building an in house surgical suite for spay and neuters. All cities agreed that this idea should be explored further. A motion was made by Ms. Haney for staff to come back to this Committee with more
specific numbers regarding how the budget would be affected, how much of a financial increase there would be to the member cities, and how much the County would or would not be willing to contribute to this project. Mr. Froeschner seconded this motion and the Committee unanimously approved the motion.

**Item #6 Consider for Approval December 2016 Financial Report**
Kathy Barroso, Chief Executive Officer, presented the financial report for December 2016 to the Committee. A motion to accept the December 2016 financial report as presented was made by Mr. Froeschner and seconded by Ms. Haney. The Committee unanimously approved the financial report.

**Item #7 Consider for Approval Recommendations to the Animals Services Policy**
Kathy Barroso, Chief Executive Officer, presented the recommended changes to the Animal Services policy to the Committee. Committee members had a few suggested wording changes. A motion was made by Ms. Haney to approve the Animal Services policy as written with County Legal review and approval. The motion was seconded by Mr. Froeschner and unanimously approved by the Committee.

**Item #4 ARC Manager Report**
Amber Adams, Animal Services Manager, presented the manager’s report and also the day to day challenges that the staff endures.

**Item #8 Comparative Data Summary (FY2017-2016) (Intake and Dispositions)**
Kathy Barroso, Chief Executive Officer presented the comparative data summary 2017-2016 (intake and disposition).

**Item #9 Update from Animal Services Advisory Committee Members**
Updates from the Animal Service Advisory Committee members were given by each member city.

**Item #10 Public Comments**
No public comments.

____________________  ______________________
Chair  Secretary/Treasurer

____________________  ______________________
Date  Date

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Animal Services Advisory Committee  
May 11, 2017  
Item #4  
Consider Proposed Changes to Galveston County Animal Services Policy
POLICY/ORDER

A Galveston County United Board of Health Policy

GALVESTON COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT ANIMAL SERVICES
LOCAL REGULATIONS AND RABIES CONTROL

WHEREAS, the Galveston County United Board of Health (Board) is a policy-making board of public health district, established under Chapter 121, §121.002 of the Texas Health and Safety Codes encompassing fourteen (14) local governments: Galveston County, Bayou Vista, Clear Lake Shores, Dickinson, Friendswood, Galveston (city), Hitchcock, Jamaica Beach, Kemah, La Marque, League City, Santa Fe, Texas City and Tiki Island; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 826 (Rabies Control Act of 1981) provides Health Authorities of public health districts to enforce state law and rules and establish a local rabies control program; and

WHEREAS, the Galveston County Health District (District) provides animal services to the following participating county and cities through an Interlocal Agreement, Galveston County, Bayou Vista, Clear Lake Shores, Dickinson, Hitchcock, Kemah, La Marque, Santa Fe, Texas City and Tiki Island; and

WHEREAS, it is the intention of this Board policy/order to be written pursuant to and in conformity with Chapters 481, 821, 822, 823, 826, and 828 of the Texas Health and Safety Code; Chapter 169 of the Texas Administrative Code; and Chapter 42.092 of the Texas Penal Code as amended. Said rules and law are incorporated herein by reference, provided that the exceptions and/or additions contained herein shall also apply.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED by the Galveston County United Board of Health of the Galveston County Health District as follows:
SCOPE OF SERVICES

Section 1 Authority to Enforce State Law and Rule

The Galveston County Health Authority is the person designated as the Local Rabies Control Authority for Galveston County pursuant to section 826.017 of the Health and Safety Code. The Animal Services Division shall act as the Health Authority’s designated animal control authority for purposes of Chapter 822 of the Texas Health and Safety Code. The Animal Services Division is authorized to enforce these Regulations and all laws applicable to the District’s local rabies control authority and animal control authority and is authorized to issue citations in the unincorporated area of Galveston County to enforce these regulations pursuant to Texas Health and Safety Code 121.003 (c).

These Regulations apply to all portions of the unincorporated Galveston County. These Regulations apply to incorporated cities that adopt these Regulations and execute cooperative agreements with the District for their enforcement.

Section 2 Animal Services Advisory Committee

In accordance with its charge from the Galveston County United Board of Health, the Animal Services Advisory Committee shall assist the Animal Services Division by reviewing and recommending necessary changes in operations, budget matters, and compliance with all applicable laws, rules, regulations, and ordinances; this includes, but is not limited to, review of operating rules and policies and procedures for Animal Services. The Advisory Committee shall report to the Chief Executive Officer of the GCCHD (CEO) or the CEO’s designee. The Advisory Committee consists of a minimum of eleven (11) and not more than eighteen (18) members as follows: One (1) member for each City who is Party hereto; One (1) member for the County who is a County Official; One (1) member for the County who is not required to be, but may be, a County Official (for a total of two (2) County representatives); One (1) member for the GCUBOH who is not required to be, but may be, a member of the GCUBOH or an employee of the GCCHD; Two (2) members from animal welfare groups that are non-profit organizations (non-profit animal welfare group) as follows: a total of two (2) representatives with each of the two being from a different non-profit animal welfare group; One (1) veterinarian licensed by the Texas State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners in accordance with the Veterinary Licensing Act to practice veterinary medicine in the State of Texas whose license is in an active status, whose license is not a provisional license, whose license is not a special license, and who practices veterinary medicine in the County of Galveston, Texas; One (1) member whose duties include the daily operations of a shelter.
REGULATIONS FOR ANIMAL CONTROL

Section 3 Mission and Purpose

The mission purpose of the Animal Service Division is to control and eradicate the spread of rabies among the county’s animals, prevent rabies in the human population by controlling the animal population and establishing uniform rules for the control and eradication of rabies. In addition, Animal Services will promote responsible pet ownership through public education.

Section 4 Definitions

See Appendix 1

Section 5 Rabies Vaccination Required

Purpose: The purpose of this section is to require a licensed veterinarian to vaccinate every domestic dog, cat, and domestic ferret located within the jurisdictional area outlined in the Galveston County Animal Services Interlocal Agreement at least every three (3) years depending on the type of vaccine. Once vaccinated, a certificate of vaccination will be issued and certain confidential information about the owner will not be divulged. This requirement conforms to Texas Health and Safety Code (THSC) Chapter 826 Rabies, Subchapter C. Rabies Vaccinations.

A. Rabies Vaccination Period (THSC Section 826.021)

The owner or custodian (excluding animal shelters) of each domestic dog, cat, or ferret shall have the animal vaccinated against rabies by four months of age as required in Section 169.29 of the Texas Administrative Code. The animal must receive a booster within the twelve-month interval following initial vaccination. Every domestic dog or cat must be re-vaccinated against rabies at a minimum of at least once every three years with a rabies vaccine licensed by the United States Department of Agriculture. The vaccine must be administered according to label recommendations and by a licensed veterinarian.

B. Certificate of Rabies Vaccination (THSC Section 826.021)

Official rabies vaccination certificates shall be issued by the vaccinating veterinarian and contain the following information:

1. Owner’s name, address, and telephone number;

2. Animal identification—species, sex (including neutered if applicable), approximate age (three months to 12 months, 12 months or older), size (pounds), predominant breed, and color;
(3) Vaccine used-producer, expiration date, and serial number;

(4) Date vaccinated;

(5) Date vaccination expires (revaccination due date);

(6) Rabies tag number if a tag is issued;

(7) The licensed veterinarian's signature or signature stamp and license number;

(8) A copy of each rabies vaccination certificate issued shall be retained by the issuing veterinarian and readily retrievable for a period of not less than five years from the date of issuance.

C. Confidentiality of Certain Information in Rabies Vaccination Certificate; Penalty (THSC Section 826.0211)

(1) Information contained in a rabies vaccination certificate or in any record compiled from the information contained in one or more certificates that identifies or tends to identify an owner or an address, telephone number, or other personally identifying information of an owner of a vaccinated animal is confidential and not subject to disclosure under Public Information Act, Government Code Chapter 552.

(2) The information may be disclosed only to a governmental entity for purposes related to the protection of public health and safety. A governmental entity that receives the information, including a county or municipality that registers dogs and cats under this Subsection, must maintain the confidentiality of the information, may not disclose the information under Public Information Act, Government Code Chapter 552, and may not use the information for a purpose that does not directly relate to the protection of public health and safety.

(3) A person commits an offense if the person distributes information that is confidential under this section. Penalties are listed in THSC Section 826.0211.

Section 6 Registration of Dogs, Cats and Ferrets

Purpose: The purpose of this section is to outline requirements for owners of a dog, cat or ferret to register said animal with the District. This information will be retained in the files of the District and will assist officials with a count of animals located within the District’s jurisdictional boundaries. Identify gender and track the number of animals that are spayed and neutered. In addition, this information will assist District personnel in public health disaster preparedness planning. All animals that are registered will be issued a license or
A microchip that may assist owners in the recovery of a missing animal. This requirement conforms to Texas Health and Safety Code (THSC) Chapter 826 Rabies, Subchapter D. Registration and Restraint of Dogs and Cats and Texas Administrative Code Chapter 169, Vaccination Requirement.

A. Registration for Each Animal (THSC Section 826.031)

The owner or custodian of a dog, cat or ferret is hereby required to register and to obtain from the licensing authority for each dog, cat or ferret a license tag or microchip that must be obtained within seven (7) days following its original rabies vaccination as required herein.

The owner or custodian of a dog or cat commits an offense if:

1. The owner or custodian fails or refuses to present for registration a dog or cat owned by the owner or custodian; and

2. The animal is required to be registered by District Policy/Ordinance.

3. If a person fails to register the animal, District personnel will issue a citation to the owner. A reasonable amount of time will be given to the owner to complete the registration.

4. An offense under this section is a Class “C” misdemeanor.

B. Proof of Rabies Vaccination (Texas Administrative Code Rule §169.29)

A license tag or microchip for a dog, cat or ferret shall not be issued unless there is exhibited to the licensing authority a certificate from a licensed veterinarian showing that the animal to be licensed has been inoculated with an approved rabies vaccine, in accordance with the recommendations of the manufacturer.

C. Valid Period

The license as required in this section shall be valid for the lifetime of the animal as set by the Galveston County United Board of Health as long as the animal does not change ownership. If the animal changes ownership a new registration is required.

D. Animals Brought Into District

Any new permanent resident covered by this policy that owns a dog, cat or ferret brought into the District from other areas shall within seven (7) days of arrival obtain a license tag or microchip for each dog, cat or ferret and register each dog, cat or ferret as required herein. Said registration shall be valid for the time stated in this section of this rule.
E. License Tags or Microchip Required

Upon acceptance of the registration application, rabies vaccination certificate and payment of the registration fee, the District shall issue a microchip or durable tag, stamped with an identifying number. Failure to present the microchip information or license tag, as required herein, shall constitute a violation of this rule.

F. Identification Required

The owner of every dog, cat or ferret shall make sure that the animal is microchipped or that a license tag is attached to a collar or harness and said collar or harness with tags shall be worn by the dog, cat or ferret at all times when off the premises of the owner. Tags shall not be switched from one animal to another.

G. Registration Information

The District shall maintain a record of the identifying numbers of all microchips or tags issued and this record shall be available to the public, provided however that information in the record that identifies or tends to identify the owner or an address, telephone number, or other personally identifying information of the owner of the registered dog, cat or ferret is confidential and not subject to disclosure except as provided by Sections 826.0211 or 826.0311 of the Texas Health and Safety Code.

H. Registration Fees (THSC Section 826.031)

Any person required under this section of this rule to obtain registration for a dog, cat or ferret shall pay a registration fee set by the Galveston County United Board of Health. The registration fee will include microchipping of the animal, unless the owner can provide proof that the animal has already been microchipped. The fees collected for the registration of a dog, cat or ferret shall be deposited in the Animal Services Division of the District's General Fund and used only to help defray the cost of administering this subchapter in the District, including the costs of registration.

I. Registration Fees Prerequisite

All registration fees shall be paid to and collected by the District before any license tag or microchip will be issued.

J. Exceptions

The provision of this Section requiring the registration of dogs, cats and ferrets shall not apply to the following:

(1) Dogs, cats and ferrets under the age of four (4) months if kept confined.
(2) Dogs, cats and ferrets owned by persons who are non-residents of the District, traveling through the District or temporarily sojourning therein for a period not exceeding thirty (30) days. Upon request, the owner show proof of current rabies vaccination certification.

(3) Dogs, cats and ferrets brought to the District for not more than 10 days exclusively for the purpose of entering the same in any show or exhibition, breeding purposes or trial.

(4) Dogs duly and properly trained (assistance animal) to aid or assist blind persons when such dogs are actually used by blind persons for the purpose of aiding or assisting such blind persons in going from place to place. These animals should be registered with the District without paying a fee.

(5) Dogs duly and properly trained to aid or assist deaf persons when such dogs are actually used by deaf persons for the purpose of aiding or assisting such deaf persons in going from place to place. These animals should be registered with the District without paying a fee.

(6) Dogs, cats and ferrets kept in qualified institutions, approved by the Health Authority, for teaching or research purposes.

(7) Dogs, cats and ferrets kept in veterinary hospitals or recognized animal shelters.

K. Registration; Penalty

(1) A person commits an offense if:

(a) The person fails or refuses to register or present for registration a dog or cat owned by the person; and

(b) The animal is required to be registered under this policy adopted by the District’s Board of Health.

(2) An Animal Control Officer will investigate all cases of non-registration. If the Animal Control Officer determines that a violation exists, the Animal Control Officer will issue a warning or citation.

(3) An offense under this section is a Class “C” Misdemeanor.

(4) An Animal Control Officer will issue a citation to an owner of an animal that is not registered and each day that the animal is not registered is considered a new offense.
Section 7 Adoption and Sterilization

Purpose: The purpose of this section is to establish adoption standards of the District that reasonably promote the responsible management of dogs and cats by requiring spaying and neutering prior to release or in certain circumstances require the use of a signed sterilization agreement for every animal adopted. Every animal adopted from the Animal Resource Center needing to be spayed or neutered shall be micro chipped or tattooed in accordance with state law. These identification methods can be useful to animal owners in the event that their animal may become lost. Registered rescue organizations that pull animals from the Galveston County Animal Resource Center shall submit a completed and signed sterilization agreement for every animal.

A. Requirements for Adoption (THSC Section 828.002 and 828.003)

The District shall not release a dog or cat for adoption unless the animal has been spayed or neutered or under special circumstances the release is made to a new owner who signs an agreement to have the animal sterilized. The Animal Services Manager or designee must approve these special circumstances. The Animal Services Manager or designee will develop procedures to cover sterilization requirements, nonsurgical sterilization, confirmation of sterilization, letters concerning animal’s death, letters concerning lost or stolen animals, notice of failure to receive a letter, and reclamation of owned animals.

B. Exceptions (THSC Section 828.013)

This chapter does not apply to a dog or cat that is claimed from the District by a person who already owns the animal.

C. Microchipping or Tattooing

Any animal adopted under this policy shall be sterilized and must be identified by a microchip and/or a tattoo indicating that it has been sterilized. The Animal Services Manager or designee will develop procedures that will fully explain the standards for microchipping and tattooing along with the penalties associated with not complying with this requirement.

D. Refund Policy

There are no refunds.

Section 8 Restraint, Impoundment and Disposition of Dogs and Cats to Prevent a Public Nuisance

Purpose: The purpose of this section is to make certain that every owner of an animal exercises proper care and control to prevent their animal from running at large or becoming a public nuisance. This section also empowers Animal Control Officers to capture any and all animals deemed running at large or creating a public nuisance. Once captured, the Animal Control Officer impounds the animal and documents all known information. For unhealthy stray animals, the Animal Services Manager or designee at his or her discretion may humanely euthanize the dog.
A. Restraint (THSC Section 826.033)

(1) Every owner shall exercise proper care and control of his or her animal by keeping the animal restrained and not allowing the animal to become a stray while in the jurisdiction of the District and to prevent them from becoming a public nuisance.

(2) All of the following conditions, situations or occurrences are hereby declared to be a public nuisance and constitutes failure of the owner to exercise proper care and control of his animal and/or the premises where said animal or animals are or have been kept:

(a) Every stray animal is a public nuisance. The District receives and responds to animal public nuisances that involve dogs and cats. Local municipalities and/or the county’s sheriff office handle livestock that are public nuisances. District personnel respond to wildlife nuisances and may request assistance from other governmental agencies and/or a certified wildlife rehabilitator.

(b) Any animal that turns over garbage containers or scatters garbage or which otherwise damages private or public property.

(c) Any dog, livestock or fowl at large or free-roaming off of private property owned or controlled by the owner of said dog, livestock or fowl.

(d) Any animal which barks, whines, howls or makes other sounds or noises in an excessive, continuous or untimely fashion.

(e) Any building, room, cage, kennel, yard, run or any other place or facility where animals are kept or harbored which is not maintained in a clean and sanitary condition so as to prevent obnoxious odors, the attraction, breeding or potential breeding of flies, the attraction, harboring or breeding of rodents or potential breeding of rodents or the creation of any other public health nuisances.

B. Impoundment

(1) Animal Control has the authority to impound the following:

(a) All stray animals however in extenuating circumstances that involve the impoundment of other animals the Animal Services Manager or designee shall approve.

(b) Any animal that has bitten or scratched a person; and

(c) Any animal that has been exposed to rabies or potentially exposed.

(2) All animals seized and confined under this section should be impounded in an impoundment facility designated by Animal Control and shall supply the animal with sufficient wholesome food and water during its confinement. All animals seized will be
held in impoundment for a minimum of three (3) business days open to the public, with
the exception of litters.

(a) All impounded litters (2 or more in a litter) will not be subject to the 3 business
day stray hold if they are under 4 months of age. These animals can be available
for adoption, rescue or foster on day 1, if approved by the Animal Services
Manager or designee.

(3) Any person may take and deliver to Animal Control or an Animal Control Officer any
stray dog or cat to impound.

(d) Any person may surrender an owned animal to Animal Control if the following criteria are
met:

(a) The associated fee is paid in full
(b) The Animal Resource Center has available space and resources to properly care
for the animal

C. Impoundment of Owned Animals - Unrestrained (Running At Large)

When animals are unrestrained or stray and the Animal Control Officer knows their ownership, the
Officer may secure/impound the animal and issue a citation to the owner of the animal to appear in a
court to answer charges of violation of this Policy/Order.

D. Unrestrained (At Large) - Riding in Vehicle

Unrestrained animals in the back of pickup trucks, which are not covered with a camper cover or other
such device, shall be considered at large. When animals are unrestrained the Animal Control Officer can
secure the animal and issue a citation to the owner of the animal to appear in a court to answer charges of
violation of this Policy/Order; or impound the animal and issue a citation to the owner of the animal to
appear in a court to answer charges of violation of these Policy/Order. Animals in vehicles shall be
restrained in a manner, which will not cause injury and will prevent the animal from reaching the outside
of the vehicle.

E. Unrestrained (At Large) – on Private Property

Any dog found running at large upon any private property other than that of the owners may be taken up
by any person and delivered to the Galveston County Animal Resource Center without fee or charge, and
the District shall thereupon hold and dispose of such animal as though such animal had been found
running at large and impounded by Animal Control. All dogs impounded under this section shall be held
for a minimum of three (3) business days open to the public. At the end of these three (3) days the District
will determine its disposition.

F. Unlawful Restraint of a Dog - Anti-Tethering Law (THSC Section 821.077)

An owner may not leave a dog outside and unattended by use of a restraint that unreasonably limits the
dog’s movement.
(1) Between the hours of 10 pm and 6 am;

(2) Within 500 feet of the premises of a school; or

(3) In the case of extreme weather conditions in which:
   (a) The actual or effective outdoor temperature is below 32 degrees Fahrenheit;
   (b) A heat advisory has been issued by a local or state authority or jurisdiction; or
   (c) A hurricane, tropical storm, or tornado warning has been issued for the jurisdiction by the National Weather Service.

In this section, a restraint unreasonably limits a dog’s movement if the restraint:

(1) Uses a collar that is pinch-type, prong-type, or choke-type or that is not properly fitted to the dog;

(2) Is a length shorter than the greater of:
   (a) Five times the length of the dog, as measured from the tip of the dog’s nose to the base of the dog’s tail; or
   (b) 10 feet;

(3) Is in an unsafe condition; or

(4) Causes injury to the dog.

G. Anti-Tethering Law: PENALTY (THSC Section 821.079)

The owner of any dog shall comply with all requirements found in the Chapter 821, Texas Health and Safety Code, Subchapter D Unlawful Restraint of dog, in addition to the ones found below.
(1) A person commits an offense if the person knowingly violates this subchapter.

(2) A Peace Officer or Animal Control Officer who has probable cause to believe that an owner is violating this subchapter shall provide the owner with a written statement of that fact. The statement must be signed by the Officer and plainly state the date on which and the time at which the statement is provided to the owner.

(3) A person commits an offense if the person is provided a statement described by Subsection (2) and fails to comply with this subchapter within 24 hours of the time the owner is provided the statement. An offense under this subsection is a Class C misdemeanor.

(4) A person commits an offense if the person violates this subchapter and previously has been convicted of an offense under this subchapter. An offense under this subsection is a Class B misdemeanor.

(5) If a person fails to comply with this subchapter with respect to more than one dog, the person’s conduct with respect to each dog constitutes a separate offense.

(6) If conduct constituting an offense under this section also constitutes an offense under any other law, the actor may be prosecuted under this section, the other law, or both.

Section 9 Reporting and Quarantine of Rabies Suspect

Purpose: The purpose of this section is to insure uniform and consistent reporting, investigating and quarantining of any animal that the Health Authority or his or her designee believes to be rabid, may have been exposed to rabies, or may have exposed a person to rabies.

A. Reporting (THSC Section 826.041)

A person who knows of an animal bite or scratch to an individual that the person could reasonably foresee as capable of transmitting rabies, or who knows of an animal that the person suspects is rabid, shall report the incident or animal to the local rabies control authority, in which the animal is located, or in which the exposure occurs. The report shall include all information necessary to assist in the investigation.

B. Quarantine of Animals (THSC Section 826.042)

(1) Whenever and wherever in this Policy/Order an animal is required to be confined in quarantine, the time, place and method of confinement shall be at the discretion of the Health Authority or designee. Animals required to be confined shall be quarantined at the Galveston County Animal Resource Center, a veterinary clinic or a state approved quarantine facility. No home quarantine is allowed.

(2) The Health Authority or designee may order the quarantine or testing in accordance with this policy for any animal that the Health Authority or designee has probable cause to
believe is rabid, may have been exposed to rabies, or may have exposed a person to rabies. Testing requires euthanasia of the animal, then removal of the head with laboratory analysis at a state approved laboratory.

(3) An owner shall submit to the Health Authority or designee for quarantine an animal that is reported to be rabid or to have exposed an individual to rabies or the owner knows or suspects is rabid or has exposed an individual to rabies, as soon as possible, but not later than twenty-four (24) hours from the time of the reported incident.

(4) The quarantine period shall be at least ten (10) days or 240 hours from time of bite in a place of confinement designated or approved by the local rabies control authority and under such conditions and in such a manner as may be prescribed by the Health Authority or designee.

C. Release or Disposition of Quarantined Animal (THSC Section 826.043)

(1) If the Health Authority or designee determines that a quarantined animal does not show the clinical signs of rabies, the Health Authority or designee shall release the animal to its owner when the quarantine period ends if:

(a) The owner has a valid rabies vaccination certificate for the animal; or

(b) The animal is vaccinated against rabies by a licensed veterinarian at the owner’s expense.

(2) If the Health Authority or designee determines that a quarantined animal shows the clinical signs of rabies, the Health Authority or designee shall humanely euthanize the animal. If an animal dies or is euthanized while in quarantine, the Health Authority or designee shall remove the head or brain of the animal and submit it a state approved laboratory for testing.

(3) The owner of an animal that is quarantined under this chapter shall pay to the District the reasonable costs of the quarantine and disposition of the animal. The Health Authority or designee may bring suit to collect those costs.

(4) The Health Authority or designee may keep, grant, or euthanize an animal if the owner does not take possession of the animal before the fourth day following the final day of the quarantine period.

(5) It shall be a violation of this Policy/Order for the owner or any other person to remove any animal that is required to be quarantined or euthanized or which is otherwise in violation of this Policy/Order from the jurisdiction of the District without written permission from the Health Authority or designee and release or movement from the place of approved confinement shall only be in accordance with this section.
(6) No animal shall be released or moved from the place of quarantine, except by the Health Authority or designee until after the ten (10) day quarantine period and then only after inspection of the animal has been made and its release approved by the Health Authority or designee.

D. Quarantine: Penalty

(1) A person commits an offense if the person fails or refuses to quarantine or present for quarantine or testing an animal that:

(a) Is required to be placed in quarantine or presented for testing under this section; and

(b) An offense under this section is a Class C misdemeanor.

J. Exceptions (THSC Section 826.048)

Police service animals are exempt from the quarantine requirements of this chapter if the animal meets the standards in §826.048 of the Texas Health and Safety Code.

K. Fees and Cost

Transportation, capture, laboratory costs, veterinarian impound fees, quarantine costs, euthanasia, body disposal, vaccination costs, and any and all other fees, costs, charges and duties for quarantine and disposition of the animal shall be the direct responsibility of the animal owner or custodian. Failure of the owner or custodian to pay such costs and fees shall constitute a violation of this Policy/Order.

Section 11 Cruelty to Animals and Dog Fighting

Purpose: The purpose of this section is to define the roles and responsibilities of the District in the investigation of cruelty to animals. The District may provide for the initial investigation into the claims of animal cruelty, assess the health and welfare of the animal, inform the owner of the suspected cruelty, advise owner of proper care and management of animals and provide for the necessary enforcement when applicable. If an animal must be seized as part of cruelty investigation, the District will assist law enforcement in the removal of animals during a law enforcement directed seizure, assist in the transportation of the animals to a licensed veterinarian for an evaluation of the animal’s health and welfare, and upon request, house and provide care for all animals obtained during a seizure. All warrants directing the seizure of animals shall be served by a certified Peace Officer. The District will work the Galveston County District Attorney’s Office to seek restitution for the expenses associated with the seizure and the care of the animals. These sections conform to Penal Code Title 9.

A. Cruelty (Penal Code, Title 9, §42.092)

A person commits an offense if the person intentionally knowingly, or recklessly:

(1) Tortures an animal or in a cruel manner kills or causes serious bodily injury to an animal,

Deleted: Currently vaccinated and registered assistance, therapy and police dogs are exempt from the quarantine requirements found in this section.

Deleted: Section 10 Number of Dogs and Cats Limited

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Purpose: The purpose of this section is to allow individuals to keep, harbor, possess, maintain or allow to be kept an unlimited number of dogs and cats as long as all of the dogs and cats are spayed or neutered. If an individual chooses to keep, harbor, possess, maintain or allow to be kept dogs and or cats that are not spayed or neutered, the policy limits the number of dogs and or cats not to exceed four (4). Individuals maintaining more than four unaltered animals will be required to apply for a kennel permit and meet all of the construction standards of a kennel.

A. Private Premises ¶

Any person may keep, harbor, possess, maintain, or allow to be kept, harbor, possessed or maintained any number of animals if the following requirements are met: all of the animals are spayed or neutered and all are registered with the District. If one or more of the animals are not spayed or neutered, an individual may not possess or maintain more than four (4) dogs or four (4) cats or a combination of said animals with the total number exceeding four (4), over three (3) months old, upon or within any premises owned, occupied or under the control of such person within the District except where specifically exempt in this rule. Any local code, rule, or regulation that is more limiting on the number of dogs and cats supersedes this section.

B. Multiple Dwellings ¶

It shall be unlawful for any person to keep, harbor, possess, maintain or allow to be kept, harbored, possessed or maintained more than two (2) dogs or two (2) cats or a combination of said animals with the total number exceeding two (2), over three (3) months old, upon any premises or within any apartment of a multiple dwelling structure within the District. The Health Authority shall have full authority to limit the number of dogs, cats and any and all other animals per apartment, in any specific area of the complex, or in the multiple dwelling complex as a whole and he or she shall have the authority to enforce any such regulation as he or she may deem necessary for the control of rabies and for the health and safety of the people within such multiple dwelling complexes.

C. Exceptions ¶

The provision of this section limiting the number of animals shall not apply to the following: ¶

Deleted: will
(2) Without the owner's effective consent, kills, administers prison to, or causes serious bodily injury to an animal;

(3) Fails unreasonably to provide necessary food, water, care, or shelter for an animal in the person's custody;

(4) Abandons unreasonably an animal in the person's custody;

(5) Transports or confines an animal in a cruel manner;

(6) Without the owner's effective consent, causes bodily injury to an animal;

(7) Causes one animal to fight with another, if either animal is a dog;

(8) Uses a live animal as a lure in dog race training or in dog coursing on a racetrack; or

(9) Seriously overworks an animal.

B. Exceptions

It is an exception to the application of this section that the conduct engaged in by the person is a generally accepted and otherwise lawful:

(1) Form of conduct occurring solely for the purpose of or in support of:

(a) Fishing, hunting, or trapping; or

(b) Wildlife management, wildlife or depredation control, or shooting preserve practices is regulated by state and federal laws; or

(2) Animal husbandry or agriculture practice involving livestock animals.

Section 12 Seizure of Animal(s)

_Purpose: The District's Role in the seizure of dogs causing death or serious bodily injury to a person is to assist law enforcement agencies and fulfill the orders of any court with jurisdictional authority to seize a dog. The District shall seize the dog and shall provide impoundment of the dog in secure and humane conditions until time that the court orders the disposition of the dog. Trained personnel will provide for the humane euthanasia of the dog at the order of the court._

Section 13 Dangerous Dogs

_Purpose: The purpose of this section is to assess dog behavior and determine if this behavior is classified as dangerous. The Animal Services Manager or designee reviews all dangerous dog determination cases._
Once identified as a dangerous dog, the owner is required to follow the requirements for the owner of a dangerous dog as outlined in this section. An owner of a dangerous dog can appeal the decision of the Animal Control Officer to the Animal Services Manager or designee to the Health Authority. The decision of the Health Authority is final. The owner may appeal this final decision to the local court system.

A. Dangerous Dog Behavior

(1) A dog that makes an unprovoked attack on a person that causes bodily injury and occurs in a place other than an enclosure in which the dog was being kept and that was reasonably certain to prevent the dog from leaving the enclosure on its own; or

(2) Commits unprovoked acts in a place other than an enclosure in which the dog was being kept and that was reasonably certain to prevent the dog from leaving the enclosure on its own and those acts cause a person to reasonably believe that the dog will attack and cause bodily injury to that person.

B. Requirements for Owner or Custodian of Dangerous Dog (THSC Section 822.042)

(1) Not later than the 10th day after a person learns that the person is the owner of a dangerous dog, the person shall:

(a) Annually register the dangerous dog with the District; and

(b) Restrain the dangerous dog at all times either on a leash in the immediate control of a person or in a secure enclosure; and

(c) Obtain liability insurance coverage or show financial responsibility in an amount of at least $100,000 to cover damages resulting from an attack by the dangerous dog causing bodily injury to a person and provide proof of the required liability insurance coverage that identifies in the policy that the dangerous dog is covered or financial responsibility to the District. The insurance shall be for a twelve month period and shall not be cancelled unless the animal is no longer kept by the owner; and

(d) The dangerous dog when taken outside of the enclosure must be securely muzzled in a manner that will not cause injury to the dangerous dog nor interfere with its vision or respiration but shall prevent it from biting any person or animal; and the dangerous dog must be restrained by high visibility collar marked with the words “dangerous dog” on the collar and must be connected to a substantial chain or cable leash having a minimum tensile strength of 1000 pounds and not to exceed 6 feet in length; and

(e) The owner shall post a sign on his or her premises warning that there is a dangerous dog on the property. This sign shall be visible and capable of being read from the public street or highway; and
(f) The dangerous dog shall be spayed or neutered and microchipped; and

(g) The owner shall notify the District as soon as possible, but under any circumstance not later than twenty-four (24) hours, if a dangerous dog is loose, stolen, unconfined in a secured enclosure, has attacked another animal, has attacked a person, or has died; and

(h) The District may at its discretion allow or disallow the relocation of a dangerous dog. Approval to relocate a dangerous dog shall be in writing. If the owner or custodian of a dangerous dog obtains approval to relocate, the owner or custodian shall provide the District with the name, address and telephone number of the new location of the new secure enclosure. The new secure enclosure shall comply with all of the requirements of owners or custodians of dangerous dogs immediately. If the relocation is outside the jurisdictional boundaries of the District, the Animal Services Division shall notify the appropriate animal control authority in that jurisdiction.

(2) The owner of a dangerous dog who does not comply with this section by the 10a day after the owner learns that the dog is a dangerous dog, the owner shall deliver the dog to the Galveston County Animal Resource Center.

(3) If, on application of any person, the District, after notice and hearing as provided by this section, that the owner of a dangerous dog has failed to comply with this section, the District shall file in court for an order to seize the dog. The warrant will authorize the seizure. The Animal Services Division shall seize the dog or order its seizure and shall provide for the impoundment of the dog in secure and humane conditions.

(4) The owner shall pay any and all cost or fee assessed by the District related to the seizure, acceptance, impoundment, or destruction of the dog. The fees are set by the Galveston County United Board of Health.

(5) The Health Authority or designee shall order the Animal Services Division to humanely destroy the dog if the owner has not complied with this section before the 4th day after the date on which the dog is seized or delivered to the Galveston County Animal Resource Center. The Health Authority or designee shall order the Animal Services Division to return the dog to the owner if the owner complies with this section before the 4th day after the date on which the dog is seized or delivered to the Galveston County Animal Resource Center.

(6) The Health Authority or designee may order the humane destruction of a dog if the owner of the dog has not been located before the 4th day after the seizure and impoundment of the dog.

(7) For purposes of this section, a person learns that the person is the owner of a dangerous dog when:

(a) The owner knows of an attack as described in the definition of dangerous dog behavior; or
(b) The owner receives notice that a justice court, county court, or municipal court has found that the dog is a dangerous dog under this section; or

(c) The owner or custodian is informed by the Animal Control Authority that the dog is a dangerous dog under this section.

C. Determination that Dog is Dangerous and Appeal Process (THSC Section 822.0421)

1. If a person reports an incident described in dangerous dog behavior, the Animal Services Division shall investigate the incident. An Animal Control Officer will conduct a thorough investigation of the incident and will recommend to the Animal Services Manager or designee if a dangerous dog declaration is appropriate. If, after receiving the recommendation of the Animal Control Officer and the sworn statements of any witnesses, the Animal Services Manager or designee will make the determination that the dog is dangerous. The manager shall notify the owner of that fact by certified letter or by hand delivery of that letter.

2. An owner, not later than the 5th day after the date the owner is notified that a dog owned by the owner is a dangerous dog may appeal the determination of the Animal Services Manager or designee. An owner of the dangerous dog may appeal the decision, to the Health Authority. The Decision of the Health Authority is final.

3. The owner of the dangerous dog shall comply with the requirements for owners of dangerous dogs during the appeal process.

D. Registration of Dangerous Dog (THSC Section 822.043)

Annually register the dangerous dog with the Animal Services Division in compliance with the Texas Health and Safety Code.

1. Presents proof of:

   (a) Liability insurance or financial responsibility, as required by this section.

   (b) Current rabies vaccination of the dangerous dog; and

   (c) The secure enclosure in which the dangerous dog will be kept.

2. Pays an annual registration fee as approved by the Galveston County United Board of Health.

3. The Animal Services Division shall provide to the owner registering a dangerous dog a registration tag. The owner must place the tag on the dog’s collar.

4. If an owner of a registered dangerous dog moves the dog to a new address, the owner or, not later than the 14th day after the date of the move, shall notify the Animal Services Division for the area in which the new address is located. On presentation by the current owner of the dangerous dog’s prior registration tag and payment of a fee as approved by the Galveston
County United Board of Health, the Animal Services Division shall issue a new registration tag to be placed on the dangerous dog’s collar.

(5) An owner of a registered dangerous dog shall notify the Animal Services Division of any attacks the dangerous dog makes on people.

I. Dangerous Dog at Large

Any dangerous dog found at large after the owner thereof has previous knowledge or notice that such dog is dangerous may be tranquilized, captured, impounded and humanely euthanized with or without notifying the owner.

Section 14-15 Keeping of Dangerous Wild Animals Prohibited with Exceptions

Purpose: The purpose of this section is to stop any additional importation of dangerous wild animals into Galveston County. Current registered dangerous wild animals may remain within the county until time that the dangerous wild animal is moved to another area outside of Galveston County or the animal becomes deceased. A person that owns, harbors or has custody of a registered wild animal shall comply with all of the registration requirements of the District and hold a valid certificate of registration as issued by the District.

A. Applicability (THSC Section 822.102)

(1) The District shall not allow for the importation of any dangerous wild animal into the jurisdictional area served by this Policy/Order.

(2) This subchapter does not apply to:

(a) Any current registered dangerous wild animal located in Galveston County.

(b) A District, county, municipality, or agency of the State or an agency of the United States or an agent or official of a county, municipality, or agency acting in an official capacity;

(c) A research facility, as that term is defined by Section 2(e), Animal Welfare Act (7 U.S.C. Section 2132), and its subsequent amendments, that is licensed by the secretary of agriculture of the United States under that Act;

(d) An organization that is an accredited member of the American Zoo and Aquarium Association;

(e) An injured, infirm, orphaned, or abandoned dangerous wild animal while being transported for care or treatment;

(f) An injured, infirm, orphaned, or abandoned dangerous wild animal while being

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Section 14. Vicious Dogs

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Purpose: The purpose of this section is to assess dog behavior and determine if the behavior is classified as vicious. An assessment that a dog is a vicious dog may be found upon the filing of appropriate affidavits with the Galveston County Health Authority or designated by a veterinarian or the attending veterinarian or the attending veterinarian, where appropriate, attesting to the occurrence of the following acts:

A. Vicious Dog

1. An owner or handler shall take reasonable measures to protect the public from accidental contact with a dog that, by nature or by training, is dangerous to people or other animals.

2. An owner or handler may not keep or permit a dog to be in the District if the dog has:

(a) on at least three separate occasions been bited or scratched a person in the District;

(b) on at least one occasion been bited or scratched a person to an extent that the attending veterinarian has prepared an affidavit to the health authority stating that the person’s life may have been endangered by the dog;

(c) on at least one occasion killed another dog, cat, or other domestic pet, livestock, or seriously injured another animal by an effect that the attending veterinarian has prepared an affidavit to the health authority stating that the injured animal’s life was seriously endangered or taken by the dog, or that the dog caused a significant permanent impairment of the injured animal’s basic bodily functions or mobility, provided, however, that when the incident occurred, the injured animal was not in violation of a provision of this title relating to confinement or physical control of animals in the District;

(d) the Galveston County Health Authority or designee may not deem a dog vicious if the attack occurred in an enclosure in which the dog was being kept and;

(e) The enclosure was reasonably certain to prevent the dog from leaving the enclosure on its own and provided notice of the presence of a dog;

B. Registration Revocation

(1) After a hearing, the health authority may revoke a registration issued to the owner of a dog if...
rehabilitated, treated, or cared for by a licensed veterinarian, an incorporated humane society or animal shelter, or a person who holds a rehabilitation permit issued under Subchapter C, Chapter 43, Parks and Wildlife Code;

(g) A dangerous wild animal owned by and in the custody and control of a transient circus company that is not based in this state if:

(1) The animal is used as an integral part of the circus performances; and

(2) The animal is kept within this state only during the time the circus is performing in this state or for a period not to exceed 30 days while the circus is performing outside the United States;

(h) A dangerous wild animal while in the temporary custody or control of a television or motion picture production company during the filming of a television or motion picture production in this state;

(i) A dangerous wild animal owned by and in the possession, custody, or control of a college or university solely as a mascot for the college or university;

(j) A dangerous wild animal while being transported in interstate commerce through the state in compliance with the Animal Welfare Act (7 U.S.C. Section 2131 et seq.) and its subsequent amendments and the regulations adopted under that Act;

(k) A nonhuman primate owned by and in the control and custody of a person whose only business is supplying nonhuman primates directly and exclusively to biomedical research facilities and who holds a Class "A" or Class "B" dealer's license issued by the secretary of agriculture of the United States under the Animal Welfare Act (7 U.S.C. Section 2131 et seq.) and its subsequent amendments;

(l) A dangerous wild animal that is:

(1) Owned by or in the possession, control, or custody of a person who is a participant in a species survival plan of the American Zoo and Aquarium Association for that species; and

(2) An integral part of that species survival plan.

(m) Only owners of dangerous wild animals currently registered with the District prior to January 1, 2007 may retain or renew registration for dangerous wild animals. An applicant for a renewal certificate of registration for a dangerous wild animal must file an application with the District on forms provided by the District. The applicant shall pay a reasonable fee established by the Galveston County United Board of Health to recover the costs with the administration and enforcement of this section of the Policy/Order. A certificate of registration issued under this section is not transferable and is valid for one year after its date of issuance or renewal unless revoked under the powers of the Health Authority or designee.
Section 15.16 Animal Shelters (THSC Chapter 823)

The Galveston County Animal Resource Center is operated in compliance with Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 826. The Animal Resource Center serves the current members to the Galveston County Animal Services Interlocal Agreement. All Animal Resource Center personnel are trained as prescribed by the Texas Department of State Health Services standards for the humane treatment and care of animals, animal disease, and the transportation of animals. In addition, the Galveston County Animal Services Advisory Committee as described in Section 3 of this policy/order serves the Galveston County Animal Resource Center.

The Animal Resource Center is designated the owner of every animal immediately upon impoundment, intake or surrender of the animal to the Animal Resource Center subject to procedures, other sections of this policy, and in accordance with the Texas Occupations Code 801.004. “Owner” in this section includes the temporary assumption of ownership for the purposes of, but not limited to, administering core intake vaccinations and performing euthanasia as directed by procedures. After three (3) business days open to the public, animals that are not claimed and redeemed by the original owner or custodian may be adopted, rescued, or humanely euthanized.

Section 16.17 Euthanasia of Animals (THSC Chapter 821, Subchapter C)

The District administers sodium pentobarbital to euthanize animals in the custody of the Animal Resource Center in accordance with the requirements and procedures established by the Texas Health and Safety Code Section 821.051. An approved sponsor and curriculum in the proper methods and techniques for euthanizing animals train all Animal Services Division employees.

Section 17.18 Disposal of Carcasses

The owner of an animal that has control of the animal before or at the time of the animal’s death shall be responsible for the proper disposal of the animal carcass and shall assume all costs associated with this disposal. If the owner of a dead animal cannot be identified, the property owner or the person having control of the property containing the carcass shall be responsible for the disposal of the carcass and shall also assume all of the costs associated with the proper disposal.

Section 18.19 Permits Required for Animal Establishments and Kennels—

Purpose: The purpose of this section is to establish a pre-construction plan review program to determine compliance with the approved construction standards for animal establishments, kennels, pet shops, groomers, etc. Once approved a permit for each facility is issued along with a permit fee. The permit is valid for one year and each animal establishment or kennel is considered a separate facility. Prior to the issuance of the valid permit or prior to the re-issuance of the permit, District personnel will inspect the facility for compliance with all standards promulgated for animal establishments and kennels.
A. Valid Permit Required:

Any person conducting, managing, owning, or maintaining an animal establishment or kennel as defined in Appendix 1 must have a valid permit for said establishment.
B. Permit Fees

Any person in the District conducting, managing, owning, or maintaining an animal establishment or kennel shall obtain a permit from the District and pay a permit fee as established by the Galveston County United Board of Health. Certified checks, cashier’s checks, personal checks, or money orders shall be sent to the Galveston County Health District, Attn: Accounts Payable, P.O. Box 939, La Marque, Texas 77568, and shall be made payable to Galveston County Health District.

C. Each Facility Separate

Each and every facility regulated by this Policy/Order shall be considered a separate enterprise and requires an individual permit.

D. Construction Plans

All plans for construction of animal establishments and kennels shall be submitted to and approved by the District before any valid permit is issued or any construction is begun. Submission of plans and general compliance with the provisions of this rule shall be the responsibility of the owner.

E. Exceptions

No fee is required of any veterinary hospital, animal shelter, government operated zoological park or institutions approved by the Health Authority for teaching or research purposes.

F. Application for Permit

Any person desiring to construct or operate an animal establishment or kennel shall make written application for a permit on forms provided by the District.

G. Plans Inspected

Prior to the approval of an application for a permit the District shall inspect the plans and specifications of the proposed establishment to determine compliance with this rule and the District’s “Construction Standards for Animal Establishments.”

H. Validation Period

The District shall issue a permit to the applicant if the District’s final inspection reveals that the said animal establishment or kennel complies with the requirements of this rule and the District’s “Construction Standards for Animal Establishments.”
Each permit issued under the provisions of this rule shall be valid for a period of one year.

I. Inspections

It shall be a condition of the issuance of any permit or license that the Health Authority or designee shall be permitted to inspect all animals and the premises where the animals are kept at a reasonable hour and shall, if permission for such inspection is refused, revoke the permit.

K. Animal Cruelty

No person who is or has been convicted of criminal cruelty to an animal, or ever had animals seized under civil seizure proceedings within the State of Texas shall be issued or allowed to hold a permit to operate an animal establishment or kennel.

L. Failure to Comply

The Health Authority or designee may, after providing an opportunity for a hearing, revoke a permit for: serious, willful or repeated violations of any of the requirements of this policy/order or any state, federal, or local law or ordinance or for interference with the Health Authority or designee in the performance of his or her duties. Two (2) or more convictions within a twelve (12) month period shall constitute repeated violations. The Health Authority or designee may revoke a permit if the applicant withholds, falsifies or misrepresents any information on the application form.

M. Appeal Request

Prior to revocation, the Health Authority or designee shall notify the holder of the permit, or the person in charge, in writing of the reason for which the permit is subject to revocation, and that the permit shall be revoked at the end of the ten (10) days following service of such notice unless a written request for an appeal is filed with the Health Authority or designee by the holder of the permit within such ten (10) day period. If no request for an appeal is filed within the ten (10) day period, the revocation of the permit becomes final and no part of the permit fee shall be refunded.

N. Service of Notice

A notice provided for in this Policy/Order is properly served when it is delivered to the holder of the permit or the person in charge, or when it is sent by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, to the last known address of the holder.
of the permit, regardless of whether the letter is or is not received by the holder of the permit.

Q. Hearings

The hearings provided for in this section shall be conducted by the Health Authority's designee at a time and place designated by the District. Based upon the evidence of such hearing, the Health Authority's designee shall make a determination of the revocation and shall sustain, modify or rescind any notice or order of revocation. The person requesting a hearing may appeal the decision of the Health Authority's designee to the Health Authority. The decision of the Health Authority is final.

P. Disposition of Animals Following Revocation

Any person whose permit is revoked shall, within ten (10) days after revocation:

(1) Humanely dispose of all animals owned, kept, or harbored by such person in a manner approved by the District; or

(2) Relocate animals to areas or places approved by the Health Authority or designee. The Health Authority or designee may at its or her discretion allow or disallow relocation; or

(3) Release animals to the District and pay all costs incurred in the handling of said animals such as transporting, housing, feeding and disposal.

Q. Application Following Revocation

Whenever a revocation has become final, the person whose permit has been revoked may not apply for or receive a new permit or license for a period of (1) year from the date of the revocation. One (1) year after the date of revocation a person may re-apply for a permit and shall include with the application verification that all reasons and conditions, which led to the revocation, have been rectified. Any person re-applying for a permit under this section shall be subject to all requirements as stated in this Policy/Order. Any person having a permit revoked for the second time shall not be eligible for a new permit.

Section 19 Releasing or Abandonment of Animals

A. Violation to Release or Abandon an Animal

It shall be a violation of this Policy/Order for any person to release or abandon any animal, dog, cat or other whatsoever on any property, whether public or private, within the District. An animal shall be considered abandoned if the owner has not provided care, including food, water or shelter, for three (3) or more consecutive days.

B. Person Having Knowledge of Releasing and Abandoning

Any person having knowledge of an animal which has been or is believed to have been released or
abandoned shall so notify the Animal Services Division and shall give all pertinent information including description and location of the animal and the name, address, car license number, or any other information or description of the person who dumped, released or abandoned the animal, if known.

C. Keeping, Harborizing or Feeding Strays

Any person who keeps, harbors, feeds, shelters or otherwise allows any stray animal or any animal, which has been released or abandoned, to remain on the person’s property for three (3) or more days without notifying the District, shall hereby be deemed the owner of said animal.

Section 20 Wildlife

A. Keeping of Wildlife

No person may collect, hold, possess, display, transport, release, or propagate protected wildlife, as defined under the laws of this state or federal law, for the purposes of this subchapter without a permit issued under the Parks and Wildlife Code, Chapter 43 Special Licenses and Permits.

Section 21 Right to Enter Property

A. Right to Enter

(1) Animal Control Officers are authorized to enter any unsecured or unfenced lot, tract or parcel of land for the purpose of capturing any animal running at large.

(2) Nothing in this Policy/Order shall be construed as authority for Animal Control Officers, employees or their agents to enter buildings unless:

(a) The owner or other person with control over the premises consents to entry,

(b) A valid warrant is obtained, or

(c) Exigent circumstances exist such that there is necessity to act immediately to protect or preserve life or to prevent serious injury to a person or an animal.

Section 22 Interference with Animal Control Officer

No person may interfere with, hinder or molest any Animal Control Officer, or other party designated by Animal Control, in the performance of any duty delegated in this Policy/Order, nor shall any person seek to release any animal impounded under the provisions of this Policy/Order except as herein provided.

Section 23 Duties of Health Authority (THSC Section 121.024)

(1) A health authority is a state officer when performing duties prescribed by state law.

(2) A health authority shall perform each duty that is
(a) Necessary to implement and enforce a law to protect the public health; or

(b) Prescribed by the board.

(3) The duties of a health authority include:

(a) Establishing, maintaining, and enforcing quarantine in the health authority's jurisdiction;

(b) Aiding the board in relation to local quarantine, inspection, disease prevention and suppression, birth and death statistics, and general sanitation in the health authority's jurisdiction;

(c) Reporting the presence of contagious, infectious, and dangerous epidemic diseases in the health authority's jurisdiction to the board in the manner and at the times prescribed by the board;

(d) Reporting to the board on any subject on which it is proper for the board to direct that a report be made; and

(e) Aiding the board in the enforcement of the following in the health authority's jurisdiction:

   (A) Proper rules, requirements, and ordinances;

   (B) Sanitation laws;

   (C) Quarantine rules; and

   (D) Vital statistics collections.

Section 24 Health Authority may Promulgate Rules

The Health Authority shall have the power, with the approval of the Board, to prescribe and promulgate such policy/orders, not inconsistent with any law of the State, as may be deemed necessary to protect the health and safety of the people and to effectively perform the duties imposed herein.

Section 25 Enforcement

The Health Authority of the Galveston County District or delegated representative shall enforce the provisions of this policy/order. It shall be a violation of this rule to interfere with the Health Authority or his delegated officer or any other delegated representative of the Health Authority in the performance of their duties.

Section 26 Issuance of Citations
In addition to or in lieu of impounding an animal which is in violation of or has violated any section or subsection of this rule or in addition to or in lieu of suspension or revocation of a license or permit, the Animal Services Division may issue to the owner of such animal or holder of such license or permit a penalty which shall be stated on the notice, which may, at the discretion of the animal owner or holder of the permit or license, be paid to the agency designated by the Animal Services Division within the time specified on the notice in full satisfaction of the assessed penalty. In the event that such penalty is not paid within the time period prescribed, a complaint will be filed in a court of law and upon conviction of a violation of this rule and the owner shall be punished as provided in this rule.

Section 27 Liability

Any suit brought against any officer or employee of the District because of some act performed by the officer or employee in the enforcement of any provision of this rule shall be defended by legal counsel of the District’s liability insurance until the final termination of the proceedings.

Section 28 Invalidity

In the event any section, clause, sentence or paragraph or any part of this rule shall for any reason be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such invalidity shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder of this rule.

Section 29 Rules in Conflict Repealed

All ordinances, rules or parts of ordinances or rules in conflict herewith are, to the extent of such conflict, hereby repealed.

Section 30 Effective Date

This rule shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and its publication as provided by law. Publication shall be by caption only in a newspaper of general circulation within the County of Galveston. Passed and approved on second reading the 21st day of October, 1981, and amended on second reading on this 23rd day of February, 1983, and amended on second reading on this 27th day of July, 1988 and amended on second reading on the 13th day of December, 1995, and amended on second reading this 26th day of June, 2002, and amended on second reading this 30th day of July, 2003. Passed and approved on second reading on this 26th day of September 2007. Passed and approved on second reading on this 25th day of March 2009. Passed and approved on second reading on this 25th day of April 2012. Passed and approved on second reading on this 25th day of April 2014. Passed and approved on this 25th day of April 2015. **Passed and approved on this **
Appendix 1 – Definitions

The word “Abandon” shall mean the abandoning of an animal in the person’s custody without reasonable arrangements for assumption of custody to another person.

The word “Animal” shall mean a non-human warm or cold-blooded animal, every living dumb creature, or any mammal, domesticated or wild.

The words “Animal Services Division” shall mean the Animal Services Division of the Galveston County Health District.

The words “Animal Shelter” shall mean a facility that keeps or legally impounds stray, homeless, abandoned, or unwanted animals.

The words “Animal Control Officer” shall mean the person or persons employed by the Galveston County Health District, Animal Services Division.

The words “Animal Establishment” shall mean any pet shop, zoological park, or grooming facility be it a fixed facility or mobile, any building, establishment, place or premises wherein any person, business or corporation engages in boarding, breeding, buying, selling, letting for hire, or training for a profit any animal; or wherein any person keeps, harbors, possesses, or maintains more than four (4) dogs or four (4) cats or a combination of said animals with the total number exceeding four (4) over three (3) months old, and at least one (1) of the animals is not spayed or neutered. All animal establishments shall be in compliance with all sitting and construction standards as outlined in any local or municipal code, ordinance, rule, regulation or any deed restriction of the property where the construction of a kennel is proposed.

The words “Animal Shelter” shall mean any facility keeps or legally impounds stray, homeless, abandoned, or unwanted animals.

The words “Assistance Animal” shall meaning assigned by Section 121.002, Human Resources Code.

The word “Bite” shall mean any abrasion, scratch, puncture, tear, or piercing of the skin that causes bleeding and is caused by or suspected of being caused by an animal.

The word “Cat” shall mean Felis catus.

The word “Circus” shall mean a commercial variety show featuring animal acts for public entertainment.

The word “Collar” shall mean any collar constructed of nylon, leather, or similar material specifically designed to be used by a dog, cat or ferret.
The words “Confined or Confinement” shall mean confined within a building, house or structure or within a fenced yard or premises, so that the animal cannot escape from said building, house, structure or fenced yard or premises without human assistance.

The words “Cruel Manner” or “Cruelly Treated” shall mean a manner that causes or permits unjustified or unwarranted pain or suffering, tortured, seriously overworked, unreasonably deprived of necessary food, care, or shelter, cruelly confined or caused to fight with another animal.

The word “Custody” shall mean the responsibility for the health, safety, and welfare of an animal subject to the person's care and control, regardless of ownership of the animal.

The words “Dangerous Dog” shall mean a dog that makes an unprovoked attack on a person that causes bodily injury and occurs in a place other than an enclosure in which the dog was being kept and that was reasonably certain to prevent the dog from leaving the enclosure on its own or commits unprovoked acts in a place other than an enclosure in which the dog is being kept and that was reasonably certain to prevent the dog from leaving the enclosure on its own and those acts cause a person to reasonably believe that the dog will attack and cause bodily injury to that person.

The words “Dangerous Wild Animals” mean, mean and, any mammal, amphibian, reptile or fowl which is of a species which is wild by nature, and of a species which, due to size, vicious nature or other characteristic is or may be dangerous to human beings. Such animals shall include, but not limited to, lions, tigers, ocelots, cougars, leopards, cheetahs, jaguars, bobcats, panthers, lynx, servals, caracals, hyenas, bears, wolves, coyotes, jackals, raccoons, skunks, (whether deodorized or not), baboons, chimpanzees, orangutans, gorillas, and other non-human primate mammals; foxes; elephants; rhinoceroses; alligators; crocodiles; all forms of poisonous reptiles and any hybrid of these animals. The term “wild animal” as used in this rule shall not include gerbils, hamsters, guinea pigs, mice or rabbits.

The word “District” shall mean the Galveston County District.

The word “Dog” shall mean a domesticated animal that is a member of the canine family.

The words “Health Authority” shall mean a licensed physician designated by the Galveston County United Board of Health and having filed an oath of office and appointed by the Board to fulfill the statutory requirements of the Texas Health and Safety Codes provide for animal control and rabies eradication.

The word “Facility” shall mean the same as animal establishment.

The word “Foster” shall mean to give care and to promote growth and development of animals.

The word “Kennel” shall mean any building, establishment, place or premises wherein any person, business or corporation engages in the boarding, breeding, buying, selling.
Letting for hire, or training for a profit any canine or feline animal or animals, or wherein any person, keeps, harbors, possesses, or maintains more than four (4) dogs or four (4) cats or a combination of said animals with the total number exceeding four (4) over three (3) months old and at least one (1) of the animals is not spayed or neutered. All kennels shall be in compliance with all siting and construction standards as outlined in any local or municipal code, ordinance, rule, regulation or any deed restriction of the property where the construction of a kennel is proposed.

The words “Licensed Veterinarian” shall mean a veterinarian licensed in the State of Texas to practice veterinary medicine.

The word “Livestock” shall mean exotic livestock as defined by Section 161.001, Agriculture Code.

The word “Microchip” shall mean a transponder that is placed under an animal’s skin by an injector and can be read by a microchip scanner.

The words “Multiple Dwelling” shall mean any structure designed and intended to accommodate more than one (1) family and includes but is not limited to duplex buildings and apartment buildings.

The words “Necessary food, care, or shelter” shall mean food, care, or shelter provided to the extent required to maintain the animal in a state of good health.

The words “New Owner” shall mean a person who is legally competent to enter into a binding contract and who is legally competent to enter into a binding contract and who is adopting an animal from a releasing agency.

The word “Owner” shall mean any person or agency, which feeds, shelters, harbors, has possession or control, or has the responsibility to control an animal.

The word “Permanent Resident” means the place where a person has his or her true, fixed and permanent home and principal establishment to which, whenever absent, he or she has the intention of returning.

The word “Person” shall mean one as a human being, a partnership, or a corporation.

The words “Pet shop” shall mean any building, establishment, premises or places used for or in the business of buying, selling, trading or boarding any species of animal which shall include but not be limited to gerbils, hamsters, guinea pigs, mice, rabbits, birds, dogs, cats and reptiles. This does not include a licensed kennel or individual sales of animals by owners. This definition shall not include hobby breeders, or persons engaging in the raising or breeding or large domesticated animals such as cattle, horses or sheep.

The words “Properly Fitted” shall mean, with respect to a collar, a collar that measures the circumference of a dog’s neck plus at least one inch.
The word "Quarantine" shall mean the strict confinement of an animal in such a manner and period of time as prescribed by the Health Authority.

The word "Rabies" shall mean an acute viral disease of man and animal affecting the central nervous system and usually transmitted by an animal bite.

The word "Restraint" shall mean a chain, rope, tether, leash, cable, or other device that attaches a dog to a stationary object or trolley system.

The words "Running at large" or "at large" shall mean that a dog is not under the control of the owner, or that of a person or persons authorized by the owner to care for said dog, either by cord, leash, chain or confinement.

The words "Secure Enclosure" means a fence area or structure that is locked, capable of preventing the entry of the general public, including children, capable of preventing the escape or release of a dog, clearly marked as containing a dangerous dog and in conformance with the requirements of the District. The structure/pen shall provide enough room for the animal on all four limbs to turn around without touching the sides of the structure/pen. The structure/pen shall provide protection from the elements for the dangerous dog. The Health Authority shall have the right to require more stringent logistics for the structure/pen based upon the type of dog to be kept in the enclosure and its anticipated ability to escape.

The words "Severe Bodily Injury" shall mean an injury characterized by severe bit wounds or severe ripping and tearing of the muscle that would cause a reasonably prudent person to seek treatment from a medical professional and would require hospitalization without regard to whether the person actually sought medical treatment.

The word "Sterilization" shall mean the surgical removal of the reproductive organs of animals or the use of nonsurgical methods and technologies approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration or the United States Department of Agriculture to permanently render the animal unable to reproduce.

The word "Stray" shall mean roaming with no physical restraint beyond the premises of an animal's owner or keeper.

The word "Trip" shall mean to use an object to cause a horse to fall or lose its balance.

The word "Tattoo" shall mean a permanent etching formed by injecting ink into the basal layer of the epidermis of an animal.

The words "Veterinary Hospital" shall mean any establishment maintained and operated by a licensed veterinarian for surgery, diagnosis and treatment of diseases and injuries of animals.
The words "Zoological Park" shall mean a tract of land set aside in a natural or man-made state, which displays or exhibits one (1) or more non-domesticated animals which are under the control and supervision of a trained, experienced professional animal handler and cared for by a licensed veterinarian. The Director may require proof of training and experience. The park shall be constructed in such a manner as to preclude the possibility of an animal escaping from such park and/or cages or pens. Parks, construction, pens, cages and equipment shall be designed and constructed in such a manner as to protect the animals and the public. The regulatory authority may require proof of acceptable design and construction. All animals therein and their enclosures shall be approved by the Director. Where required, all zoological parks shall be federally inspected and licensed. A park attendant shall be on duty at all times the park is open or accessible to the public.
Purpose: The purpose of this section is to allow individuals to keep, harbor, possess, maintain or allow to be kept an unlimited number of dogs and cats as long as all of the dogs and cats are spayed or neutered. If an individual chooses to keep, harbor, possess, maintain or allow to be kept dogs and/or cats that are not spayed or neutered, the policy limits that individual to four (4) dogs, four cats or a combination of said animals not to exceed four (4). Individuals maintaining more than four unaltered animals will be required to apply for a kennel permit and meet all of the construction standards of a kennel.

A. Private Premises

Any person may keep, harbor, possess, maintain, or allow to be kept, harbor, possessed or maintained any number of animals if the following requirements are met: all of the animals are spayed or neutered and all are registered with the District. If one or more of the animals are not spayed or neutered, an individual may not possess more than four (4) dogs or four (4) cats or a combination of said animals with the total number exceeding four (4), over three (3) months old, upon or within any premises owned, occupied or under the control of such person within the District except where specifically exempt in this rule. Any local code, rule, or regulation that is more limiting on the number of dogs and cats supersedes this section.

B. Multiple Dwellings

It shall be unlawful for any person to keep, harbor, possess, maintain or allow to be kept, harbored, possessed or maintained more than two (2) dogs or two (2) cats or a combination of said animals with the total number exceeding two (2), over three (3) months old, upon any premises or within any apartment of a multiple dwelling structure within the District. The Health Authority shall have full authority to limit the number of dogs, cats and any and all other animals per apartment, in any specific area of the complex, or in the multiple dwelling complex as a whole and he or she shall have the authority to enforce any such regulation as he or she may deem necessary for the control of rabies and for the health and safety of the people within such multiple dwelling complexes.

C. Exceptions

The provision of this section limiting the number of animals shall not apply to the following:

(1) Veterinary Hospitals
(2) Pet Shops
(3) Kennels
(4) Animal Shelters
(5) Registered Fosters, if the following conditions are met:
   (a) Persons that foster dogs and cats shall be registered with the District by
turning in an application and the application is approved by the Animal Services Manager or designee; and

(b) Persons that foster dogs and cats shall have no more than two (2) fostered dogs and cats over the limits as described in this section. If animals are altered, foster can have more than two (2) over the limit.

Purpose: The purpose of this section is to assess dog behavior and determine if this behavior is classified as vicious. A determination that a dog is a vicious dog may be found upon the filing of appropriate affidavits with the Galveston County Health Authority or designee by affected or interested persons and the attending physician or veterinarian, where appropriate, attesting to the occurrence of the following acts:

A. Vicious Dog

(1) An owner or handler shall take reasonable measures to protect the public from accidental contact with a dog that, by nature or by training, is dangerous to people or other animals.

(2) An owner or handler may not keep or permit a dog to be in the District if the dog has:
(a) on at least three separate occasions bitten or scratched a person in the District;
(b) on at least one occasion bitten or scratched a person to an extent that the attending physician has presented an affidavit to the health authority stating that the person’s life may have been endangered by the dog; or
(c) on at least one occasion killed another dog, cat, or other domestic pet, fowl, or livestock; or seriously injured another animal to an extent that an attending veterinarian has presented an affidavit to the health authority stating that the injured animal’s life was seriously endangered or taken by the dog, or that the dog caused a significant permanent impairment of the injured animal’s basic bodily functions or mobility; provided, however, that when the incident occurred, the injured animal was not in violation of a provision of this title relating to the confinement or physical control of animals in the District.
(d) the Galveston County Health Authority or designee may not deem a dog vicious if the attack occurred in an enclosure in which the dog was being kept and:
   (1) The enclosure was reasonably certain to prevent the dog from leaving the enclosure on its own and provided notice of the presence of a dog.
B. Registration Revocation

(1) After a hearing, the health authority may revoke a registration issued to the owner of a dog if:

(a) The health authority determines that a dog is vicious under Section 14 Vicious Dog.

(b) If the health authority revokes the registration issued to the owner of a dog, the health authority shall send written notice of revocation to the owner at the most current address available to the health authority, by certified mail, return receipt requested.

(c) An owner or handler of a dog that has had its registration revoked shall remove the dog from the city limits not later than 10 days after the date the health authority mailed the notice of revocation to the owner.

C. Interference with Enforcement Prohibited

(1) A person may not interfere with, hinder, or molest a city employee in the performance of the employee's duties under this title.
Animal Services Advisory Committee
May 11, 2017
Item #5
Animal Services Manager Report
Animal Services: Management Report
May 11, 2017

1) Vacancies:

   Shelter:
   1 Part Time ACT – Position posted and collecting applications
   1 Full Time Shelter Coordinator – Position posted and collecting applications

2) Rabies Cases:
   There were 0 reported case of rabies.

3) Events/Programs:
   a. February 4: City of Webster Pet Health/Safety Fair = 3 adoptions
   b. February 15: Fix Felix – Houston Humane = 13 ARC cats neutered
   c. February 25: Pet Vaccination Services (PVS) at ARC = 38 animals serviced
   d. February 26: Mutt Mesh Event – Arms Room – League City = 0 adoptions
   e. March 4 -5: Paws for Cause (2 Day Event) – Pasadena = 8 adoptions
   f. March 25: Mothers of Galveston County Event (AcroSports) = 0 adoptions
   g. March 25: Pet Vaccination Services (PVS) at ARC = 48 animals serviced
   h. March 26: Mutt Mesh Event – Arms Room – League City = 0 adoptions
   i. March 31: Foot Truck Friday – Texas City = 1 adoption
   j. April 6: Galveston County Commissioner Senior Shape Up Event (Promo)
   k. April 19-20: Hosted DSHS Animal Control Basic Certification Course at MCA
   l. April 22: Pet Vaccination Services (PVS) at ARC = 48 animals serviced
   m. April 22: Feline Frenzy Event – Webster, TX = 3 adoptions
   n. April 27: Officer Hall presented to the Dickinson USPS re: Dog Bite Awareness
   o. April 28: Foot Truck Friday – Texas City = 2 adoptions
   p. April 29: San Leon Oyster Fest = 2 adoptions
   q. April 29: National Adopt a Shelter Pet Day (offered half price adoptions) = 9 adoptions
   r. May 4: Officer Hall spoke to the La Marque Citizens Police Academy

4) Media Releases:
   a) **Videos of the Pets of the Week** can be viewed on www.facebook.com/garcpets and www.youtube.com.

   b) **ARC Pets of the Week** appear in the Galveston County Daily News and in The Post in a weekly rotation

   c) **Pet Vaccination Services** – Released in the following ways:
      a. News release to my media distribution list
      b. E-mail to city communication departments and elected officials asking them to share on their public engagement platforms
      c. GCHD website
         i. News post: http://www.gchd.org/Home/Components/News/News/1432/65
ii. Calendar event post:
http://www.gchd.org/Home/Components/Calendar/Event/1630/20

d. Social Media
i. GCHD Facebook: www.facebook.com/gchdinfo
ii. GCHD Twitter: www.twitter.com/gchdinfo
iii. ARC Facebook: www.facebook.com/garcpets
iv. ARC Twitter: www.twitter.com/arcpets

d) National Adopt-a-Shelter Pet Day set for Saturday, Galveston County Daily News, 04/25/17:
http://www.galnews.com/news/article_ec4fd8b7-b66e-55e3-aa9c-dcad9e194536.html
a. This is our news release

e) Animal Resource Center says thank you during National Pet Week, May 7-13, Galveston County Daily News, 05/08/17:
http://www.galnews.com/opinion/guest_columns/article_643c0702-446b-547f-8166-83252c3189d5.html
a. This is our guest column for National Pet Week

f) A special week and a special shelter for pets in need, The Post Newspaper, 05/07/17:
http://thepostnewspaper.net/2017/05/06/a-special-week-and-a-special-shelter-for-pets-in-need/
a. This is our guest column with a few changes by the Post

5) Live Release Programs:
   a) Heal A Heart Program
   b) Sponsor A Heart Program
   c) Senior Animal Program – Supported by Bingo funds
   d) Black Animal Program – Supported by Bingo funds
   e) Pets of the Week: Offered for half price
   f) Pre - Altered Pets (altered upon intake): Offered for half price

6) Animal Services would like to thank the Boot Kikkers Bingo Charity Fund/Animal Alliance for the use of funds to support the discounted adoption programs.

Challenges:

1) Understaffed
   a. Lack of full shift coverage, no back up coverage, no lunch break coverage
   b. Duties/tasks are growing faster than our resources
   c. Potential for flagship facility

2) Surgery appointment management is overwhelming
   a. Multiple clinics with various rules/expectations
   b. High volume of animals
   c. Numerous reschedules and tracking
   d. Takes 4 staff members on a daily basis to keep up
Animal Services Advisory Committee
May 11, 2017
Item #6
Financial Report

- March 2017
## Animal Services - Field Operations

### Revenue and Expenses Actual versus Budget with Variance Annual

**March 31, 2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Annual Budget</th>
<th>PTD Actual 3/31/2017</th>
<th>PTD Budget 3/31/2017</th>
<th>Variance 3/31/2017</th>
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<td>County Revenue</td>
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<td>Hourly Pay</td>
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<td>Part-Time Hourly Pay</td>
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<td>SUTA</td>
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<td>Employer Paid Health Insurance</td>
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<td>Worker's Compensation Insurance Expense</td>
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<td>Temporary Staffing</td>
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<td>Association Dues</td>
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<td>Professional Services</td>
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<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
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<td>18,219.50</td>
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### Animal Services - Shelter Operations

**Revenue and Expenses Actual versus Budget with Variance Annual**

**March 31, 2017**

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>518,737.00</td>
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<td>43,229.00</td>
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<td>County Revenue</td>
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Page 2
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|Annual Budget |            |            |          |            |            |              |
| Change in Net Assets | 3,618.77 | 3,618.77 |            | (5,373.78) | 0.00       | (5,373.78)   |
Animal Services - Donations
Revenue and Expenses Actual versus Budget with Variance Annual
March 31, 2017

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<td>ARC Donations - Heal a Heart</td>
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<td>ARC Donations - Promotional Items</td>
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<td>0.00</td>
<td>1,115.00</td>
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<td>Total Revenue</td>
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<td>0.00</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>359.57</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>(359.57)</td>
<td>359.57</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>(359.57)</td>
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<td>Tangible Reinforcements, Outreach, Incentives, etc.</td>
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<td>359.57</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>(359.57)</td>
<td>359.57</td>
<td>0.00</td>
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<td>Total Expenses</td>
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<td>755.43</td>
<td>3,810.59</td>
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<td>Change in Net Assets</td>
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Animal Services Fund Balance Reserve
Status as of 03.31.17

**Field Services:**

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beginning Fund Balance @ 9/30/16</td>
<td>$191,194</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY17 YTD Surplus / (Loss)</td>
<td>$19,719</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Field Services Fund Balance @ 03.31.17</strong></td>
<td><strong>$210,913</strong></td>
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**Shelter Services:**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beginning Fund Balance @ 9/30/16</td>
<td>$29,747</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY17 YTD Surplus / (Loss)</td>
<td>($5,374)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Shelter Services Fund Balance @ 03.31.17</strong></td>
<td><strong>$24,373</strong></td>
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**Donations:**

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<tr>
<td>Beginning Fund Balance @ 9/30/16</td>
<td>$39,263</td>
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<td>FY17 YTD Surplus / (Loss)</td>
<td>$3,811</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Donations Fund Balance @ 03.31.17</strong></td>
<td><strong>$43,074</strong></td>
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**Summary:**

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<tr>
<td>Field</td>
<td>$210,913</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shelter</td>
<td>$24,373</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td>$43,074</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Summary Fund Balance @ 03.31.17</strong></td>
<td><strong>$278,360</strong></td>
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Animal Services Advisory Committee
May 11, 2017
Item #7
Review of Proposed FY18 ARC Fee Schedule
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Service /Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Fee Basis</th>
<th>Current Fee</th>
<th>Proposed Fee</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adoption Fee</td>
<td>Adoption including spay/neuter, rabies and micro</td>
<td>Fee for adopting animals under our GCHD Animal Services Policy. Fee is allowed under Chapter 828 of the Health and Safety Code.</td>
<td>$85.00</td>
<td>$85.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>*Adoption Fee Seniors for Seniors Program</td>
<td>Reduced adoption fee for eligible seniors to adopt older animals. Includes spay/neuter, rabies and microchip.</td>
<td>Fee for adopting animals under our GCHD Animal Services Policy. Fee is allowed under Chapter 828 of the Health and Safety Code. Spay/Neuter costs covered by a special animal program.</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>*Adoption Fee for Black Animals Program</td>
<td>Reduced adoption fee for animals 90% or more black in color. Breed restrictions apply. Includes spay/neuter, rabies and microchip.</td>
<td>Fee for adopting animals under our GCHD Animal Services Policy. Fee is allowed under Chapter 828 of the Health and Safety Code. Spay/Neuter costs covered by a special animal program.</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
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<td>Adoption Fee for Already Altered, At Risk or Pet of the Week</td>
<td>If animals are sterilized upon impoundment, listed as at risk for euthanasia or listed as pet of the week. Includes spay/neuter, rabies and microchip.</td>
<td>Fee for adopting animals under our GCHD Animal Services Policy.</td>
<td>$42.50</td>
<td>$42.50</td>
<td>This fee has already been approved and implemented. It just needs to be added to the fee schedule.</td>
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<td>Impoundment First Time</td>
<td>Impoundment fees for animal first offense</td>
<td>Fee for the impoundment of an animal under the GCHD Animal Services Policy. Fee is allowed under Chapter 826 of the Health and Safety Code.</td>
<td>$40.00 + Daily Board</td>
<td>$40.00 + Daily Board</td>
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<td>Impoundment First Time After Hours</td>
<td>Impoundment fees for animal first offense after hours pickup</td>
<td>Fee for the impoundment of an animal under the GCHD Animal Services Policy. Fee is allowed under Chapter 826 of the Health and Safety Code.</td>
<td>$100.00 + Daily Board</td>
<td>$100.00 + Daily Board</td>
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<tr>
<td>Service /Item</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Fee Basis</td>
<td>Current Fee</td>
<td>Proposed Fee</td>
<td>Notes</td>
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<td>-------------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Impoundment Second Time</td>
<td>Impoundment fees for animal second offense</td>
<td>Fee for the impoundment of an animal under the GCHD Animal Services Policy. Fee is allowed under Chapter 826 of the Health and Safety Code</td>
<td>$75.00 + Daily Board</td>
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<td>Impoundment Second Time After Hours</td>
<td>Impoundment fees for animal second offense after hours pickup</td>
<td>Fee for the impoundment of an animal under the GCHD Animal Services Policy. Fee is allowed under Chapter 826 of the Health and Safety Code</td>
<td>$135.00 + Daily Board</td>
<td>$135.00 + Daily Board</td>
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<td>Impoundment Third and Subsequent Times</td>
<td>Impoundment fees for animal third offense and each subsequent occurrence</td>
<td>Fee for the impoundment of an animal under the GCHD Animal Services Policy. Fee is allowed under Chapter 826 of the Health and Safety Code</td>
<td>$100.00 + Daily Board</td>
<td>$100.00 + Daily Board</td>
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<tr>
<td>Impoundment Third and Subsequent Times After Hours</td>
<td>Impoundment fees for animal third offense and each subsequent occurrence after hour pickup</td>
<td>Fee for the impoundment of an animal under the GCHD Animal Services Policy. Fee is allowed under Chapter 826 of the Health and Safety Code</td>
<td>$160.00 + Daily Board</td>
<td>$160.00 + Daily Board</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daily Board</td>
<td>Boarding fee to cover expenses of housing animal</td>
<td>Fee for the daily boarding of an animal under the GCHD Animal Services Policy. Fee is allowed under Chapter 169 of the TAC</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quarantine Impound</td>
<td>Quarantine for ten (10) days following animal to human bite</td>
<td>Fee for the impoundment of an animal under the GCHD Animal Services Policy. Fee is allowed under Chapter 826 of the Health and Safety Code</td>
<td>$250.00 flat fee</td>
<td>$250.00 flat fee</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Quarantine Impound (Pro Rated)
If an animal is surrendered “on time” and is transferred to another rabies quarantine facility during the 10 days. This will not apply for animals who are impounded late and finish the quarantine at ARC.

Fee for the impoundment of an animal under the GCHD Animal Services Policy. Fee is allowed under Chapter 826 of the Health and Safety Code.

$25.00/per day

### Head to Lab Rabies Suspect
Fee assessed for submittal of head to lab for rabies testing.

Fee approved by Board of Health

$200.00

### Registration Fee
Lifetime Pet Registration Fee for both altered and unaltered animals. Includes microchip.

Fee for the annual licensing of an animal under the GCHD Animal Services Policy. Fee is allowed under Chapter 826 of the Health and Safety Code.

$20.00
$20.00 (if 65 years of age or over)

### Microchip Only
Microchip service for residents outside of jurisdiction (No county registration necessary)

Microchip service for residents outside of jurisdiction.

$20 flat fee

To increase the number of microchipped pets in order to expedite return to owner.

### Service / Item | Description | Fee Basis | Current Fee | Proposed Fee | Notes
--- | --- | --- | --- | --- | ---
Owner Surrender Fee | Fee for an owner surrender of an animal | Fee approved by Board of Health | $30.00 | $30.00 | 
Owner Surrender Fee with young | Fee for an owner surrender includes mother with litter of young | Fee approved by Board of Health | $50.00 | $50.00 | 
Euthanasia Request | Fee for an owner requesting humane euthanasia | Fee approved by the Board of Health | $50.00 | $50.00 | 
Disposal | Fee for animal carcass disposal | Fee approved by the Board of Health | $25.00 | $25.00 |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service /Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Fee Basis</th>
<th>Current Fee</th>
<th>Proposed Fee</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cremation Services</td>
<td>Fee assessed for cremation services. Fee includes ashes returned in a standard tin container, carry bag, and cremation certificate.</td>
<td>Fee approved by Board of Health $75.00 + $1.00/pound if ashes returned $75.00 + $1.00/pound if ashes returned</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cremation Services - Urn</td>
<td>Fee assessed for the ordering, shipping, and up charge</td>
<td>Fee approved by Board of Health Cost of urn + shipping cost + 10% handling (current market price may vary) 100% mark up (double price) + $5 flat fee</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dangerous Dog Declaration</td>
<td>Annual fee for the registration of a dangerous dog</td>
<td>Fee for annual registration of dangerous dogs under the GCHD Animal Services Policy. Fee allowed under Chapter 822.043 of the Health and Safety Code</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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</table>

*Discounted adoption programs are subject to change based on availability of funds.*
Animal Services Advisory Committee
May 11, 2017
Item #8
Discuss New Spay and Neuter Proposal with Animal Alliance
MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

Between

The Galveston County Health District &
Animal Alliance of Galveston County

This is an Agreement by and between the Galveston County Health District ("GCHD"), d/b/a the Galveston County Animal Resource Center ("ARC"), and Animal Alliance of Galveston County ("Provider"). For the purposes of this Agreement, ARC and Provider are sometimes referred to individually as a "Party," or collectively as "Parties."

I. PURPOSE & SCOPE

The intention of this Agreement is to clearly delineate the means in which Provider shall offer spaying and neutering services, and rabies vaccinations (collectively "Surgical Services") to canines and felines ("Animals") under ownership of the ARC, and to recently adopted Animals from the ARC referred to Provider by ARC staff to receive the aforementioned Surgical Services.

II. PARTIES

The ARC is located at 3412 Loop 197 North, Texas City, Texas 77590. Provider, with its primary place of business located at 1014 Bayou Rd, La Marque, Texas 77568, will render services under the scope of this Agreement from the Provider’s mobile unit ("Unit").

III. ARC RESPONSIBILITIES

In accordance with this Agreement, ARC agrees to assume the following responsibilities:

1. Make a good faith attempt to schedule spay/neuter and/or rabies vaccination services with Provider, via Google Calendar as specified by Provider, on behalf of any individual who adopts an animal from ARC that shall require Surgical Services and/or to arrange for ARC owned animals to receive Surgical Services by Provider on an as-needed basis.
   a. Notifications for each surgery, transmitted via Google Calendar, be populated by noon on the day prior to the Surgical Services being administered, and shall contain all information pertinent to the requested Surgical Service including, but not limited to:
      i. the type of surgery to be performed;
      ii. the breed, sex, size and identification number of the animal to be operated on;
iii. whether the animal has been adopted or is considered property of ARC;
iv. an approximate time during which the animal will be transported to and picked-up from the Unit; and
v. if the party responsible for transporting the animal to and from the Unit will be ARC personnel or an independent party.

2. Ensure that animals receiving Surgical Services arrive at the Unit no later than the agreed upon time for rendering of services and, unless otherwise notified by Provider or designee, retrieved from Unit no later than 3:00 pm on the same day.
   a. In the case that an adopted Animal’s owner neglects to retrieve said Animal by 3:00 pm, the Animal shall be transported to Provider’s primary building.
   i. Under such circumstances, ARC representatives shall notify owners of the Animal’s whereabouts and instruct the owner how he/she should commence in retrieving the Animal.

3. Reimburse Provider for billed Surgical Services within thirty (30) days of receipt of invoice.
   a. Reimbursement for Surgical Services completed under the scope of this Agreement shall be paid for by the ARC (via GCHD), regardless of whether recipient animal of services has been adopted or remains property of ARC.
   b. Reimbursement amounts shall be based off of the criteria defined in Exhibit A.

4. Designate a parking area accessible to an ARC facilitated electrical source for the Unit while the Unit is providing Surgical Services to the ARC and/or its customers.

IV. PROVIDER RESPONSIBILITIES

In accordance with this Agreement, Provider agrees to assume the following responsibilities:

1. Offer appointments for requested Surgical Services in the ARC’s parking lot from 7:30 am – 3:00 pm every Tuesday, so long as appointments are scheduled in accordance with mandates stipulated by the Provider’s memo, affixed hereto as Exhibit B.

2. Provide Surgical Services at rates set forth within the fee schedule affixed to this Agreement as Exhibit A.

3. Electronically invoice the ARC for Surgical Services performed within fifteen (15) calendar days from the time in which Surgical Service occurs by sending invoices electronically to aadams@gchd.org and smryans@gchd.org.
   a. Invoices should include:
      i. date of Surgical Services performed with animal identification number;
      ii. type of Surgical Services performed; and
      iii. any unforeseen supplemented expense(s) related to Surgical Services which Provider, in good faith, believes should be remunerated by GCHD.

V. MUTUAL COVENANTS

1. Modification Clause: This Agreement may be modified by written amendment, so long as the amendment is consented to and signed by both Parties.

2. Term and Termination: This Agreement shall commence at the time in which it is duly executed, and shall remain in full force and effect for one (1) year from that date. After this initial term, the
Agreement will renew in successive one (1) year terms. Termination of this Agreement can be made by either Party by providing written notification to the counterparty at least thirty (30) days in advance. Termination of this Agreement can be made for any reason, with or without cause.

3. **Refusal of Treatment:** Provider may, under sole discretion, refuse the provision of Surgical Services to an animal scheduled for operation if Provider in good faith believes that the animal is unfit for or will be at risk by undergoing requested service.

4. **Notice:** Any notice required to be given pursuant to the terms and provisions of this Agreement shall be set forth in writing and sent via certified mail to the applicable address presented below:

   **Provider:** Animal Alliance  
   ATTN: Tiffany R. Flowers, DVM  
   1014 Bayou Rd  
   La Marque, TX 77568

   **GCHD:** Galveston County Health District  
   ATTN: Kathy Barroso, CPA  
   P.O. Box 939  
   La Marque, TX 77568

**VI. INDEMNIFICATION**

Parties agree to indemnify and hold the other Party, its officers, employees, and agents and their officers, employees and agents harmless from and indemnify each against any and all liabilities, actions, damages, suits, proceedings, judgments, and costs (including attorney’s fees) for claims resulting from the acts or omissions of the other Party or the acts or omissions of others under each Party’s supervision and control. The indemnity contained herein shall survive the termination of this Agreement for any reason whatsoever.

**VII. EFFECTIVE DATE AND SIGNATURE**

This Agreement shall be deemed effective and enforceable at the time in which it is duly executed.

By signing below, GCHD and Provider indicate their respective intents to agree to the terms and conditions set forth herein.

*Galveston County Health District*  
By: ____________________________  
Kathy Barroso, CPA  
Chief Executive Officer

*Animal Alliance of Galveston County*  
By: ____________________________  
Dr. Tiffany Flowers, DVM  
Director

Date: ____________________________  
Date: ____________________________
Exhibit A
Fee Schedule for Surgical Services

1. Spay fees.
   a. Cat (all weights): $49.50
   b. Dog:
      i. 0-30 lbs: $67.50
      ii. 31-60 lbs: $81.00
      iii. 61-90 lbs: $94.50
      iv. 91+ lbs: $108.00
   c. If animal is pregnant at time of surgery: Fee + $25.00
   d. If animal is in heat at time of surgery: Fee + $15.00

2. Neuter fees:
   a. Cat (all weights): $40.50
   b. Dog:
      i. 0-30 lbs: $49.50
      ii. 31-60 lbs: $58.50
      iii. 61-90 lbs: $71.00
      iv. 91+ lbs: $85.50

3. Rabies treatment: $10.80
Animal Services Advisory Committee
May 11, 2017
Item #9
Comparative Data Summary (2017-2016) (Intake and Dispositions)
Galveston County Animal Resource Center
Comparative Data Summary FY2017

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<th></th>
<th>Oct</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Nov</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Dec</th>
<th>%</th>
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<th>Feb</th>
<th>%</th>
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<td>532</td>
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<td>25%</td>
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<td>35%</td>
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<td>33%</td>
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<td>32%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rescued</td>
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<td>50</td>
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<td>16%</td>
<td>62</td>
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<td>46%</td>
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<td>42%</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>23%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Summary FY17

- Incoming: 2,380
- Redeemed: 314 (13%)
- Adoptions: 757 (32%)
- Rescued: 323 (14%)
- Euthanized: 809 (34%)

Summary FY16

- Incoming: 2,323
- Redeemed: 292 (13%)
- Adoptions: 764 (33%)
- Rescued: 342 (15%)
- Euthanized: 849 (37%)

Net Change

- Incoming: 57 (2%)
- Redeemed: 22 (8%)
- Adoptions: (7) (-1%)
- Rescued: (19) (-6%)
- Euthanized: (40) (-5%)
### Incoming Animals

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Jurisdiction</th>
<th>Incoming Field</th>
<th>Incoming Shelter</th>
<th>Adoptions</th>
<th>Foster</th>
<th>Rescued by Group</th>
<th>Redeemed by Citizen</th>
<th>Escaped</th>
<th>Euthanized</th>
<th>Euthanization Request by Owner</th>
<th>Disposal Request by Owner</th>
<th>Quarantine Return</th>
<th>Died in Care</th>
<th>Dead on Arrival</th>
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### Euthanasia Breakdown

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<th>Behavior Issue</th>
<th>Health Condition</th>
<th>Illness</th>
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<td>Hitchcock</td>
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<td>Cat</td>
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### Euthanasia Tots

- **Dogs**: 364
- **Cats**: 411
- **Other**: 3
- **Grand Total**: 809

### ACO Activities

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<tr>
<th>Jurisdiction</th>
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<th>Avg Response Time</th>
<th>Assist Law Enforcement</th>
<th>Bite Reports</th>
<th>Carcass Retrieval</th>
<th>Contained by Citizen or Trap</th>
<th>Other</th>
<th>Owner Surrender</th>
<th>Sick or Injured</th>
<th>Stray</th>
<th>Transport</th>
<th>Trap Drop off/Pick up</th>
<th>Unrestrained/Property</th>
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<th>Wildlife Assist</th>
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### Additional Information

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<th>Quarantines</th>
<th>Citations issued</th>
<th>Notices issued</th>
<th>Registration</th>
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**Notes:**

1st Quarter
- Physical Count of animals at ARC on 1/31/16: 224
- Physical Count of animals at ARC on 3/31/16: 198
- Physical Count of animals at ARC on 12/31/16: 214

2nd Quarter
- Physical Count of animals at ARC on 3/31/17: 188
- Physical Count of animals at ARC on 2/28/17: 198
- Physical Count of animals at ARC on 3/31/17: 168
Animal Services Advisory Committee
May 11, 2017
Item #10
Discussion Regarding FY18 Animal Services Budget Process
Animal Services Advisory Committee
May 11, 2017
Item #11
Update from Animal Services Advisory Committee Members