

PALM BEACH COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
WORKSHOP SUMMARY

Meeting Date: October 23, 2007

Department

Submitted By: PUBLIC SAFETY
Submitted For: Animal Care and Control

I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Motion and Title: Staff request Board : **A) approve** new Animal Care and Control Rabies License Tag Fees; Service Fees; and Citation Fees; **B) provide direction** regarding mandatory spay/neuter of dogs and cats; and **C) provide direction** regarding backyard breeding of dogs and cats.

Summary: The Division of Animal Care and Control operates two (2) animal shelters that serve the County’s human and animal population and provide various services to the public. The Division has established fees in order to defray the cost of providing services to the public. The schedule of fees and fines previously adopted by the Board has not been amended for eight (8) years and no longer reflect the expenses incurred by the Division. Staff will provide the Board with an outline of the issues related to both mandatory spay/neuter of dogs/cats and “backyard” breeding and also provide a number of options to address the issues. With the number of animals sheltered at the Division continuing to increase annually, the Division has looked toward alternative methods to discourage unnecessary breeding of dogs and/or cats. (COUNTYWIDE) SF

Background and Policy Issues: Animal Care and Control shelters approximately 30,000 animals annually and serves approximately 45,000 animals overall. Animal Control Officers receive upwards of 33,000 requests for service from citizens each year. These requests range from routine stray animal complaints, rabies investigations, and inspections of commercial establishments to dangerous dog investigations. (Continued on Page Three)

Attachments:

- 1. Schedule of Fees
- 2. Overview of Pet Overpopulation, Euthanasia, Sterilization and Options for Mandatory Spay/Neuter
- 3. Overview of Dog and Cat “Backyard” Breeding and Options

Recommended by: *Janine Lave* / 10/17/07
Department Director Date

Approved by: *Vivian J. Bennett* / 10/17/07
Assistant County Administrator Date

II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A. **Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:**

Fiscal Years	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Capital Expenditures					
Operating Costs					
External Revenues	(600,000)	(600,000)	(600,000)	(600,000)	(600,000)
Program Income (County)					
In-Kind Match (County)					
Net Fiscal Impact	(600,000)	(600,000)	(600,000)	(600,000)	(600,000)
 # Additional FTE Positions (Cumulative)	 0				
Is Item Included in Current Budget:	YES	_____	NO	_____	X
Budget Account No.:	Fund _____	Agency _____	Org _____	Object _____	
	Reporting Category _____				

B. **Recommended Sources of Funds / Summary of Fiscal Impact:**

III REVIEW COMMENTS

A. **OFMB Fiscal and/or Contract Administration Comments:**

The projected increase in fee revenue is between \$600,000 and \$800,000 annually.

 10-18-07 OFMB	CN 10/11/17	N/A Contract Administration
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B. **Legal Sufficiency:**

 Assistant County Attorney

C. **Other Department Review:**

 Department Director

This summary is not to be used as a basis for payment.

The projected revenue for fee increases is \$600K to \$800K. One common issue related to both the increasing number of animals sheltered and the increasing number of citizen requests for services is pet overpopulation. The unlimited breeding of intact dogs and cats significantly contributes to the problem of pet overpopulation. Current figures (based on Humane Society United States formula) indicate that Palm Beach County residents own approximately 600,000 companion animals with nearly 450,000 as dogs and cats. Of the 450,000 dogs and/or cats, it is estimated that more than 270,000 are not sterilized. Recent budgetary constraints eliminated community subsidy programs targeted for low-cost or free spaying and neutering. While the Division still operates the Spay Shuttle – the County’s low cost sterilization unit – the number of animals serviced cannot be increased without additional funds and staff. Further, a number of private organizations do offer low cost sterilization surgery but many residents do not take advantage of these services.

Attachment 1

Proposed Summary of Fees and Proposed Fee Schedule

The Division has established fees in order to defray the cost of providing services to the public. The schedule of fees and fines previously adopted by the Board has not been amended for eight (8) years and no longer reflect the expenses incurred by the Division.

Schedule One Fees include Rabies License Tag Fees.

Schedule Two Fees include fees for services such as board fees, microchips, rabies vaccinations, permit fees for commercial animal establishments, medical procedures and adoptions, etc.

Schedule Three provides fees for the various violations of Palm Beach County Ordinance 98-22.

New fees are proposed for redemption of impounded unsterilized dogs/cats; commercial establishments providing pet-sitting services, dog day-care operation and other pet related services or businesses; dangerous/vicious dog classification fee and tattoo fee; removal of animals from traps; and nuisance investigation and affidavit filing fee.

Fee revisions include increases in rabies tag fees, impoundment fees and various other fees itemized in Schedule Two.

**Schedule 1
Rabies/License Tag Fees
Palm Beach County
Animal Care and Control Division**

Description	Current Fee	Proposed Fee
License Tag Costs		
a) Guide Dogs	No Charge	Same
b) Sterilized Police Dogs (Active in municipal police department or Sheriff's office)	No Charge	Same
c) Sterilized Dogs or Cats	No Charge	Same
d) Non-Sterilized Dogs or Cats	\$15	Same
e) Juvenile Tag	\$38	\$75
f) Handling Fee for Veterinarians Selling Rabies Tags	\$8	Same
g) Lost Tag Replacement	\$1.50	Same
h) Guard Dog	\$3	Same
i) Late Penalty	\$50	\$75
	\$10	Same
<p>Note: Senior citizens 65 years of age or older may receive a discount of twenty-five percent (25%) for all regular dog and cat license tags purchased. Discount does not apply to "guard" dogs.</p>		

*Green represents an increase in fees
**Red represents new fees

**Schedule 2
Service Fees
Palm Beach County
Animal Care and Control Division**

Description	Current Fee	Proposed Fee
1. Daily Board Fee (Excluding Livestock)	\$10	\$15
2. Impoundment/Redemption Fee (Excluding Livestock)		
Sterilized Dogs/Cats		
First Offense	\$25	\$30
Second Offense	\$50	\$60
Third Offense	\$100	Same
Non-Sterilized Dogs/Cats	N/A	\$300
Other Small Animals	\$10	\$30
<p>Note: First, second and third offenses are determined by the owner's name, not by each pet, within a twelve month period. Impoundment fees are applicable to all animals redeemed/claimed, including but not limited to animals claimed from bite quarantine and at-large animals picked up. Impound fees may be imposed for animals impounded pursuant to s. 828.073, Florida Statutes.</p>		
3. Electronic Microchip ID Implant for Dog/Cat	\$20	Same
4. Rabies Vaccination Fee		
Upon redemption of impounded animal	\$12	\$15
Owned animal	\$5	\$15
<p>Note: During Alerts/Emergencies Fees set at Director's Discretion.</p>		
5. Beehives		
Impoundment Fee (per Apiary)	\$50	Same
Daily Monitoring/Maintenance	\$15	Same
Beekeeper Expenses	Per Actual Expense	Same
6. Dead Animal Disposal		
Small Animal (0 – 20 lbs)	\$50	Same
Medium Animal (21 – 50 lbs)	\$75	Same
Large Animal (51 – 150 lbs)	\$100	Same

Livestock (151+ lbs)	\$200	Same
7. Animal Euthanasia Fees – Dogs/Cats		
Private (General Public)	\$20	\$30
Unwanted Rabies Quarantine Animal	\$20	\$30

**Schedule 2
Service Fees
Palm Beach County
Animal Care and Control Division**

Description	Current Fee	Proposed Fee
8. Commercial Animal Establishment Annual Operating Permit Fee		
a) Kennel/Breeder, Pet Shop with no dogs/cats, Grooming Parlor or Commercial Stable	\$300	\$400
b) Excess Animal Habitat	\$50	Same
c) Pet Shop with dogs/cats	\$400	Same
d) Mobile Grooming Parlors (Inspected on Grounds of Animal Care and Control)	\$225	Same
e) Reapplication Fee for commercial animal establishment whose permit was revoked or denied	\$100	Same
f) Appeal fee for denial, revocation or suspension of permit	\$50	Same
g) Feral Cat Colony Registration	\$10	Same
h) Dog Day Care Operator	N/A	\$100
i) Pet Sitter Operator	N/A	\$50
j) Other Pet/Animal Related Services (cremation, cemetery, waste removal, trappers, petting zoos, pony rides, traveling exhibits etc)	N/A	\$100
9. Guard Dog Registration Fee (one time assessment per dog)	\$75	\$125
10. Dangerous/Vicious Dog		
a) Appeal Process Fee for Classification of a Dog as Dangerous or Vicious (non-refundable)	\$25	\$50
b) Dangerous Dog Tag (owner in full compliance during previous year)	\$50	\$100
c) Dangerous Dog Tag (owner not in full compliance during previous year)	\$75	\$200
d) Sign (Available only from Animal Care & Control)	\$10	Same
e) Dangerous/Vicious Dog Investigation/Classification Fee	No Charge	\$100
f) Dangerous Dog Tattoo Fee	No Charge	\$20

<p>Note: See also Animal Bite Investigation and Quarantine Fees for applicable fees.</p>		
<p>11. Trap Rental and Service Fees</p> <p>a) Cat Trap</p> <p>b) Dog Trap</p> <p>c) Removal of Animal from Trap</p>	<p>\$20 week \$4 day</p> <p>\$30 week \$5 day</p> <p>No Charge</p>	<p>Same Same</p> <p>Same Same</p> <p>\$20</p>

**Schedule 2
Existing Service Fees
Palm Beach County
Animal Care and Control Division**

Description	Current Fee	Proposed Fee
12. Adoption Fees a) Adult Dog b) 2 weeks since spay/neuter c) 4 weeks since spay/neuter d) Puppies e) 2 weeks since spay/neuter f) 4 weeks since spay/neuter g) Cats h) 2 weeks since spay/neuter i) 4 weeks since spay/neuter <small>Note: Adoption fees include spay/neuter, initial dewormings, initial vaccines, medical testing, rabies vaccination, county rabies/license tag and permanent microchip ID. Medical tests and vaccines for dogs include fecal check, parvovirus, distemper, hepatitis, leptospirosis, kennel cough and occult heartworm test. Medical tests and vaccines for cats include fecal check, calici and panleukopenia, and feline leukemia test.</small>	\$58 \$40 \$20 \$67 \$40 \$20 \$54 \$40 \$20	Same Same Same Same Same Same Same Same Same
13. "Other Adoptions" – Pocket pets, Birds and Livestock	\$3 – 20	Market Value
14. Adopted Dog/Cat Surgery Deposit Fee <small>(Refundable upon proof of sterilization)</small>	\$50	Same
15. Transportation Fee (unwanted animals)	\$30	Same
16.. Nuisance Fees a) Investigation Fee (per complaint) b) Affidavit Filing Fee (per complaint)	No Charge No Charge	\$20 \$5

**Schedule 2
Existing Service Fees
Palm Beach County
Animal Care and Control Division**

Description	Current Fee	Proposed Fee
17. Animal Bite Investigation and Quarantine Fees		
a) Bite incident information w/out officer investigation.	\$35	\$50
b) Field Officer Fee – Necessary bite information unobtainable from owner and an officer is dispatched to secure of obtain information.	\$60	Same
c) Quarantine Pick-Up – Owner of bite animal has failed to quarantine animal at an approved quarantine facility within 24 hours of notification of incident and an officer is dispatched to transport the animal to the division.	\$30	\$60
d) Quarantine Release Fee – Owner fails to notify the division that the bite animal is alive and healthy.	\$30	Same
Note: See also Dangerous/Vicious Dog Fees for applicable fees.		

18. Livestock at Large Fees		
Impound Fee	\$35	\$75
Daily Board		
Up to 150	\$10	N/A
Over 151	\$15	N/A
Up to 10 pounds	N/A	\$5
Over 10 pounds up to 100 pounds	N/A	\$15
Over 100 pounds	N/A	\$25
Notice Service/Advertising	\$30	Same
Personnel Time		
7 am – 11 pm (Hourly rate)	\$30	Same
11 pm – 7 am (Hourly rate)	\$50	Same
(Determine by hourly rate to the nearest 15 minutes from time dispatched to return to shelter. The above hourly rate is used no matter how many employees were required to apprehend or impound an animal.)		
Mileage, per mile for each animal (\$10 minimum)	\$1	Same
Medical expenses (Per veterinarian costs and procedures performed by Animal Care and Control.)	Per Actual Expense	Same

**Schedule 2
Existing Service Fees
Palm Beach County
Animal Care and Control Division**

Description	Current Fee	Proposed Fee
<p>19. Retail Item Fees Staff will set costs of retail items to be sold through Animal Care and Control. Profit "mark up" will usually range from 10 to 100 per cent. Items will include collars, leashes, bowls, harnesses, pet carriers, traps, external parasite controls, etc.</p>	Same	Same

**Schedule 3
Citation Fines
Palm Beach County
Animal Care and Control Division**

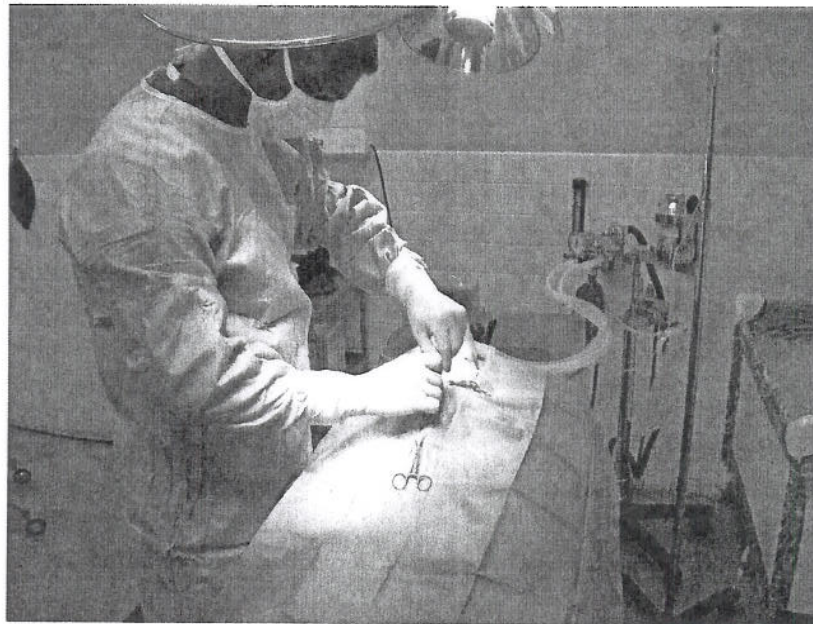
Description	Current Court Costs	Proposed Court Costs
<p>Category I Offenses</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Section 8 - Keeping/Adopting Stray Animal and Maintaining Feral Cats Section 9 - Animal Waste Section 10 - Rabies Vaccinations Section 11 - Dog and Cat Rabies/License Tags Section 18 - Guard Dogs</p> <p>First Offense Second Offense Third and Subsequent Offense</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">\$50 \$100 \$250</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Same Same Same</p>
<p>Category II Offenses</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Section 3 - Females in Heat Section 4 - Dog and Cat Control (On first offense allows for citation to be dropped if unaltered animal is sterilized within 15 days) Section 7 - Injured Animals, Action required Section 22 - Number of Animals; Acreage Restrictions/excess Animal Habitat Section 25 - Dogs and Cats offered for sale; Health requirements Section 26 - Animal Agencies</p> <p>First Offense Second Offense Third and Subsequent Offense</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">\$75 \$150 \$300</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Same Same Same</p>

**Schedule 3
Citation Fines
Palm Beach County
Animal Care and Control Division**

Description	Current Court Costs	Proposed Court Costs
Category III Offenses		
Section 5 - Animals Creating Nuisances		
Section 6 - Scientific Experimentation		
Section 13 - Adoption Fees and Sterilization Requirements for Dogs and Cats		
Section 16 - Animal Bites and Quarantining		
Section 17 - Placement and Impounding of Honeybees		
Section 20 - Disposal of Dead Animals		
Section 21 - Livestock		
Section 23 - Kennel, Excess Animal Habitat, Pet Shop, Grooming Parlor and Commercial Stable Permits		
Section 24 - Animal Care; Manner of Keeping		
Section 27 - Dangerous Dogs and Vicious Dogs		
Section 29 - Interference with Enforcement		
First Offense	\$100	Same
Second Offense	\$250	Same
Third and Subsequent Offense	\$500	Same

Attachment 2

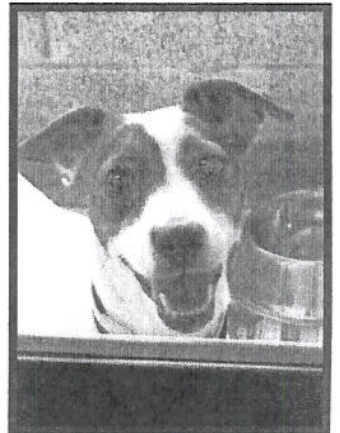
Pet Overpopulation, Euthanasia, and Sterilization in Palm Beach County



Pet Overpopulation, Euthanasia, and Sterilization in Palm Beach County

During the FY 2007, Palm Beach County Animal Care and Control sheltered 27,552 animals. If stood nose to tail, these animals would span more than 13 miles.

The number of animals euthanized during this same period was 18,248, roughly 66 percent of the animals sheltered. Of those animals euthanized, cats accounted for nearly 70 percent.



There have been more than 75,000 animals euthanized at the shelter during the past 5 years. Forming a line, these animals would extend more than 35 miles – roughly the distance from Jupiter to Boca Raton.

Palm Beach County Animal Care and Control operates the only “open-admission” shelter in the area. The term “open-admission” is defined as a facility that does not select animals for admission, or turn away animals requiring shelter. An open-admission shelter does not admit animals based on adoptability, temperament, breed, or space restrictions. As a result, open-admission shelters euthanize animals.

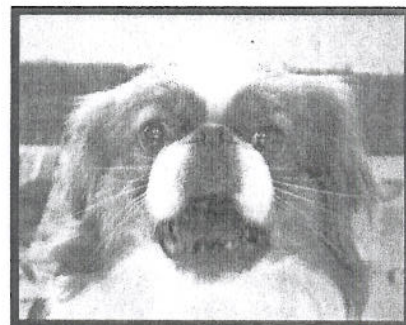
During the 1990’s early sterilization of dogs and cats emerged as a method to assist animal shelters in the effort to prevent unwanted reproduction. Animal Care and Control was the first facility in the State to become a leader in early sterilization with other shelters quickly following this lead. Palm Beach County’s Animal Care Ordinance was changed to prohibit any adopted dog or cat from leaving any shelter without first being sterilized. These early steps began the campaign to halt unwanted births and subsequent euthanasia.

Nearly 17 years later, the battle continues with euthanasia rates continuing to climb. Statisticians might argue that this increase in number of animals sheltered and rate of euthanasia is in direct proportion to our rise in human, and subsequently animal, population. While there is merit to that argument, the ethical issue of killing animals needlessly must be addressed – consistently and continuously.

Sterilization of dogs and cats has become acceptable as a means to end reproduction and euthanasia. Sterilization of companion animals has increased with the advent of education but is still not practiced by the majority of our population. More than 60 percent of all animals admitted to Animal Care and Control are not sterilized, regardless of breed. This is indicative of a pervasive problem within our community as it relates to pet overpopulation. As such, the question must be asked – “if everyone knows that unaltered animals reproduce exponentially for the duration of their lives, and if the result is unwanted kittens and puppies that will ultimately be euthanized, why are people not sterilizing their pets?”

The answer to this question is not simple. For individuals in the field of animal sheltering, the answer to pet overpopulation is simple – halt the reproduction. The larger picture, however, is more complex. Sterilization of companion animals by an owner requires time, commitment, and money. Many people may be committed to their pet but may lack the funds to seek conventional sterilization. Others may have the financial ability to spay or neuter but may be apathetic as it relates to pet overpopulation. Another segment of the population may feel that government has an obligation to provide low-cost or free sterilization options.

Palm Beach County Animal Care and Control offers low-cost and free spaying and neutering to the public via the County's Spay Shuttle. Realistically, the Spay Shuttle can only sterilize up to 20 or 25 animals each day. Currently, the mobile facility operates 4 days each week with services offered to all residents of the County. The average wait for the Shuttle is 4 months compared with the current wait-list for Peggy Adams Animal Rescue League which is 5 months. The County's mobile sterilization's current cost is \$15.00 compared with \$50.00 at the League. The average cost of sterilization at a private veterinary clinic ranges from \$200.00 to \$400.00.



Subsidy funding designated for outside-agency spaying and neutering in Palm Beach County was eliminated as part of the FY2008 budget cuts. Because the funding was available for a limited number of years, it is impossible to determine the overall impact on dog and cat population dynamics.

The debate over mandatory spaying and neutering is being argued on a nation level. Many cities, counties, and states are initiating laws to require sterilization. A few communities are rescinding earlier laws for mandatory spaying and neutering, citing failure to reduce euthanasia rates.

At the center of the storm is the debate on whether government has a responsibility to provide low-cost or free spaying and neutering of companion animals and if so, where the funding for such services will come from. Given the number of communities that are embracing mandatory sterilization, it seems apparent that government feels an obligation to openly discuss the ethics of euthanasia as a form of animal population control and to consider laws that may, eventually, have a positive impact on the number of unwanted animals.

No doubt this debate will continue, both locally and nationally, with both sides equally divided.

National Pet Overpopulation Estimates

- More than 8 million dogs and cats euthanized each year
- Only 2 to 5 % of cats brought to shelters are ever claimed by an owner
- More than 25 percent of all dogs in shelters are purebred; in some areas more than half of all dogs in shelters are purebred
- An average cat litter consist of 5 kittens
- A cat can have 3 litters each year
- A female kitten can begin reproducing before 6 months of age
- In seven years, a female cat and her offspring can theoretically produce 420,000 cats
- An average dog litter consists of 6 to 10 puppies
- A dog can produce 2 litters per year
- In six years, one female dog and her offspring can theoretically produce 67,000 dogs



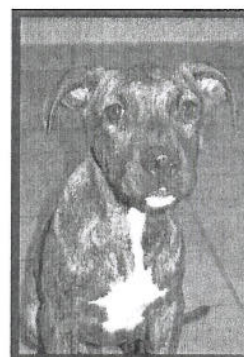
Local Pet Overpopulation Estimates

- 42,000 to 45,000 animals entering PBC shelters each year
- More than 20,000 euthanized in our area each year
- More than 20,000 cats brought to local shelters annually
- It is estimated that there could be as many as 200,000 feral cats in PBC
- It is estimated that PBC is home to 450,000 dogs and cats
- Seasonally, more than half of all dogs in local shelters are Pit Bulls
- Animal Care and Control shelters an average of 700 animals each day – up 24 percent from 2006
- The “per animal cost” for animals sheltered at Animal Care and Control is \$357.00

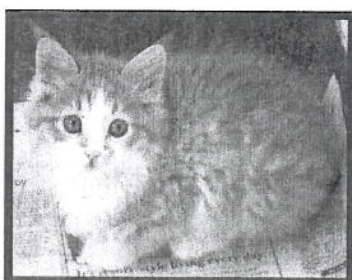
Mandatory Sterilization – Pro’s and Con’s

Supportive Argument for mandatory sterilization:

- Reducing or halting the number of animals born is the only ethical solution to unwanted kittens and puppies.
- Reducing the number of animals born will result in fewer animals being brought to animal shelters. As a result, animal control costs will eventually be reduced.
- Reducing the numbers of animals born will benefit public health and safety by lowering the number of sick or injured stray animals.
- Mandatory sterilization will result in a decline in dog breeds most subjected to cruelty such as pit bulls.
- That many people will not sterilize their pets unless required by law.
- That responsible government must send a message to the public that killing animals is not an acceptable way to control the population of dogs and cats.
- That ability to “enforce” has never been a reason not to place a law in effect.



Individuals against mandatory sterilization argue the following:



- That pet overpopulation is a myth.
- That show dogs/cats cannot be sterilized.
- That mandating sterilization will penalize responsible pet owners.
- That mandatory S/N will not decrease euthanasia rates in shelters
- That mandating sterilization will create an influx of unwanted animals at shelters.
- That cats represent the problem in animal overpopulation, not dogs.
- That the government has no way to enforce such legislation.

Mandatory Sterilization Options

- Mandatory spaying and neutering of all cats and dogs

in Palm Beach County with no exclusion except

medical.

- Mandatory spaying and neutering of all dogs and cats

in Palm Beach County with exclusions such as medical, registered show dog/cat,

or permitted breeding.

- Mandatory spaying and neutering of any animal leaving any shelter in Palm

Beach County as a result of being impounded.

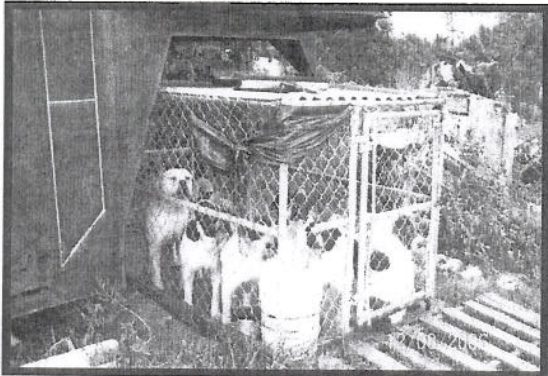
- Mandatory spaying and neutering of all cats in Palm Beach County and any dog

impounded at any shelter.



Attachment 3

Dog and Cat “Backyard” Breeding in Palm Beach County



Dog and Cat Breeding in Palm Beach County

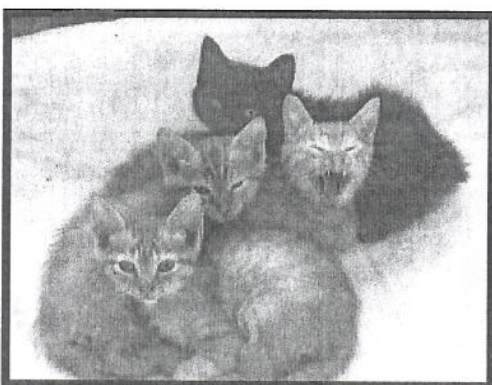
Up to 50 percent of dogs sheltered in the County are purebred and more than 60 percent of all dogs and cats sheltered are not sterilized. Many of these animals show physical signs of previous breeding. As such, the evidence would indicate that unchecked breeding contributes to the logistical, operational, financial, and ethical burden faced by animal control agencies to shelter and care for stray or unwanted dogs and cats.



Animal Care and Control statistics indicate that for every 10,000 dogs brought to the shelter, less than 3,000 are ever claimed by an owner. For every 10,000 cats impounded at the Division, less than 200 are redeemed by an owner.

While these numbers are dramatically different for dogs and cats, the fact remains that the vast majority of animals remain unclaimed or unwanted after impoundment.

Breed statistics for dogs sheltered at the Division show that the Pit Bull often constitutes 50 to 60 percent of all dogs at the facility. This number can seasonally rise to 70 percent for Pit Bull or Pit Mixes. Excluding the Pit Bull, the Division's percentage of purebreds is in line with national numbers of 25 percent.



Cats make up approximately 60 percent of the shelters animal population with approximately 30 percent categorized as "feral".

Up to 50 percent of all dogs and cats brought to the shelter are relinquished by their owners as "owner-surrender". It is estimated that this percentage may be much higher and that residents often turn their dog or cat in as a "stray" in order not to be questioned. The Division estimates that "owner surrender" animals may

actually comprise 70 percent of all companion animals sheltered.

One has only to look at signs along roadsides, or ads in the newspapers, to find an abundance of "free puppies and/or kittens". When called by the Division, the individuals offering "free" puppies or kittens will often state the following:

- 🐾 That the pregnancy was accidental.
- 🐾 That they wanted their children to experience an animal giving birth.
- 🐾 That they do not believe in sterilization.
- 🐾 That the puppies and kittens are being given away unsterilized.
- 🐾 That they do not know who the puppies and kittens were given to.

A recent "sweep" of roaming dogs in the western part of Palm Beach County resulted in 44 dogs being impounded and a number of citations issued. Of the dogs impounded, none were sterilized, all females showed signs of repeated breeding, one female had nursing puppies, and most were sick and/or emaciated.

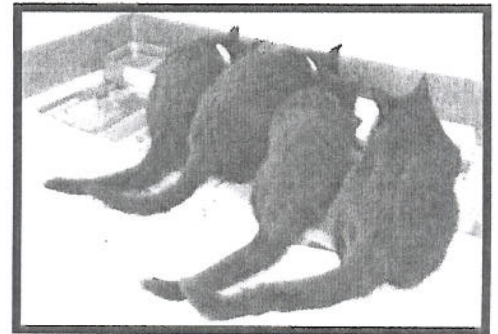
The Division maintains that for every "responsible" breeder of dogs and/or cats, there are dozens of individuals claiming status as "hobby" breeders. Because hobby breeding of dogs and cats is primarily on the "honor" system, it is the opinion of the Division that thousands of animals are being bred each year with no regulation or oversight. Further, it is the opinion of the Division that many individuals claiming status as hobby-breeders are, in fact, commercially breeding animals for profit.

Many cities and counties are initiating laws to require permits for any breeding of animals and groups are as divided on this issue as on mandatory spaying and neutering.

Breeding Regulation – Pro’s and Con’s:

Supportive argument:

- Would eventually reduce the number of unwanted births
- Would eventually reduce the number of animals euthanized
- Would eventually reduce the number of unwanted animals surrendered to the shelter
- Would eliminate the “honor” system for breeders currently operating under the “radar”
- Would require individuals wanting to breed animals to be lawfully permitted and to apply for and obtain a permit and be registered with the Division
- Would allow the Division to deny permits to individuals not in compliance with humane care
- Would allow the Division the ability to hold all breeders of dogs and/or cats to same standards



Areas of Concern:



- The Division would not be able to predict when the numbers of unwanted animals would decrease
- May require an increase in monitoring and enforcement staff
- May require an increase in inspection and permitting staff
- May cause an initial increase in animal euthanasia

Breeding Regulation Options



- Require Breeding Permit for any breeding of dogs

or cats countywide with stiff penalties for non-permitted breeding.

- Require Breeding Permit for breeding of dogs and

cats countywide and limit number of permits

issued. Initiate stiff penalties for non-permitted breeding.

- Ban all breeding countywide for dogs and cats
- Ban all breeding of dogs and cats for a limited number of years