

**PALM BEACH COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

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| | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Meeting Date: June 5, 2012 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Consent | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Regular |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Ordinance | <input type="checkbox"/> | Public Hearing |

Department: Department of Public Safety
Submitted By: Department of Public Safety
Submitted For: Division of Animal Care and Control

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I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Motion and Title: Staff recommends motion to adopt: a resolution of the Board of County Commissioners of Palm Beach County Florida, amending Resolution No R95-625, which will permit the use of any excess fees collected and allocated from the first \$1 of the sterilized tag fee revenue and the first \$5 of non-sterilized tag fee revenues for the Mobile Spay/Neuter Program be used to support the other cost of the Animal Care and Control's operating budget.

Summary: In May 1995, the BCC adopted resolution R95-625 which established a Mobile/Spay Neuter Program for dogs and cats and also created a dedicated funding source comprised of \$1 from all sterilized tags and \$5 from all non-sterilized tags sold to support the operation of this program. The intent of this resolution was to use the revenue generated from these fees to entirely fund the spay/neuter program and not use any ad valorem tax dollars to support this program. However, due to increase tag fee sales, a surplus of approximately \$250,000 has been generated over the past several years. Staff will continue to allocate the first \$1 and \$5 of tag fees to support the entire cost of the Mobile Spay/Neuter Program; however, staff is requesting approval to allocate these surplus tag fees and future excess tag fees to support the other cost of the Animal Care and Control operating budget. By utilizing these surplus funds, staff will be able to reduce the ad valorem funding support by \$250,000 for next fiscal year.
Countywide (SF)

Background and Policy Issues: The Mobile Spay/Neuter Program was established to aid in reducing the surplus dog/cat population in Palm Beach County. The intent of the designated funding allocation was to not use County ad valorem dollars to support the program. The set funding allocation has created a surplus of \$250,000 that can be used to offset existing and future ad valorem operating costs for Animal Care and Control.

- Attachments:**
- 1) Amended Resolution
 - 2) Resolution 95-625

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| | | |
|------------------------|--|----------------|
| Recommended by: |  | 5/16/12 |
| | Department Director | Date |

| | | |
|---------------------|--|----------------|
| Approved By: |  | 5/16/12 |
| | Assistant County Administrator | Date |

II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact

| Fiscal Years | <u>2012</u> | <u>2013</u> | <u>2014</u> | <u>2015</u> | <u>2016</u> |
|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Capital Expenditures | | | | | |
| Operating Costs | | \$263,000 | | | |
| External Revenues | | (\$513,000) | | | |
| Program Income (County) | | | | | |
| In-Kind Match (County) | | | | | |
| Net Fiscal Impact | | (\$250,000) | | | |

ADDITIONAL FTE

POSITIONS (Cumulative) 0 0 0 0 0

Is Item Included In the proposed Budget? Yes X No _____

Budget Account Exp No: Fund 1420 Department var Unit var Object var
Rev No: Fund 1420 Department var Unit var Object var

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

Fund: 1420 Mobile Spay/Neuter Program

Departmental Fiscal Review: Stephanie Sepiore 5/17/12

III. REVIEW COMMENTS

A. OFMB Fiscal and/or Contract Dev. and Control Comments:

[Signature] 5/23/2012
OFMB
SN 5/24/12
5/21/12

[Signature] 5/23/12
Contract Administration
5-23-12 B. Wheeler

B. Legal Sufficiency:

[Signature]
Assistant County Attorney

C. Other Department Review:

Department Director

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

RESOLUTION NO. R-2012-

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING
RESOLUTION 95-625, WHICH ESTABLISHED THE MOBILE
SPAY/NEUTER CLINIC FOR DOGS/CATS; PROVIDING FOR
SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

WHEREAS, on May 2, 1995, the Board of County Commissioners adopted a Resolution (R-95-625) authorizing the Division of Animal Care and Control to establish and operate a Mobile Spay/Neuter Program; and

WHEREAS, Resolution 95-625 required that \$1.00 from every tag sold for sterilized animals and \$5.00 from every tag sold for unsterilized animals be deposited into the "Spay Shuttle" Fund to offset the difference between the revenue generated by the Mobile Spay/Neuter Program and its operating costs so that ad valorem tax dollars would not be used to pay for the Mobile Spay/Neuter Program; and

WHEREAS, as a result of increases in tag sales since 1995, the "Spay Shuttle" Fund has monies in excess of the amount necessary to fund the Mobile Spay/Neuter Program for the next fiscal year and such monies can be used to offset the operating costs of the Division of Animal Care and Control; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners desires to amend Resolution 95-625 to provide that, in the future, the first \$1 of sterilized tag fee revenues and the first \$5 of non-sterilized tag fee revenues will be used to completely fund the Mobile Spay/Neuter Program to the extent required to fund the Program and the remainder of tag fee revenues will be used to support the general operating costs of Animal Care and Control; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners desires that any surplus monies currently in the "Spay Shuttle" Fund be used by the Division of Animal Care and Control to offset its operating costs.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, that:**

1. The foregoing recitals are true and correct and are incorporated herein.
2. The first \$1 of sterilized license tag fee revenues and the first \$5 of non-sterilized license tag fee revenues will be used to completely fund the Mobile Spay/Neuter

Program to the extent required to cover the expenses of the program, and the remainder of tag fee revenues will be used to support the general operating costs of Animal Care and Control.

3. Any excess monies in the "Spay Shuttle" Fund above the monies necessary to cover the expenses of the Mobile Spay/Neuter Program shall be used to offset the Division of Animal Care and Control's general operating costs.
4. If any section, sentence, clause, phrase or word of this Resolution is held invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, then said holding shall in no way affect the remaining portions of this resolution.
5. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

The foregoing Resolution was offered by Commissioner
who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner
, and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Commissioner Shelley Vana, Chair | - |
| Commissioner Steven L. Abrams, Vice Chair | - |
| Commissioner Karen T. Marcus | - |
| Commissioner Paulette Burdick | - |
| Commissioner Burt Aaronson | - |
| Commissioner Jess R. Santamaria | - |
| Commissioner Priscilla A. Taylor | - |

The Chair thereupon declared the Resolution duly passed and adopted this
_____ day of _____, 20__.

PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, BY ITS
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

SHARON R. BOCK, CLERK & COMPTROLLER

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM
AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY

By: 
County Attorney

6-1
app. M/K 6-0
McCall
R95-625

PALM BEACH COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA SUMMARY

Meeting Date: May 2, 1995

☐ Consent
☐ Ordinance

☒ Regular
☐ Public Hearing

Department:

Submitted by: Public Safety Department
Submitted for: Animal Care & Control Division

I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

A. **Motion and Title:** Staff recommends motion to: a) adopt a resolution establishing a Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic for dogs/cats to be known as the Palm Beach County "Spay Shuttle" establishing/designating a fee; requiring rabies vaccines and County tags; providing for optional services/vaccines; b) Approve the reservation of the trade mark and service mark for the "Spay Shuttle" name and logo with the Secretary of State; c) Approve an increase in the veterinarian "Handling Fee" from \$1.00 (R91-84D) to \$1.50 to reimburse participating veterinarians for the administrative costs associated with the issuance of dog/cat tags on behalf of the county.

B. **Summary:**

In an August 1994 workshop, the Board of County Commissioners gave approval for staff to develop the details for a Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic which would aid in reducing the surplus dog/cat population in Palm Beach County. The approval of the attached resolution will formally establish the program, identify funding sources and initiate the necessary procedures for establishing the clinic. The clinic will require three employees on or about January 1, 1996: veterinarian, veterinary assistant and customer clerk. It is estimated that 2,000 (minimum) sterilization surgeries will be performed annually. The mobile clinic (converted motor home) will provide spay/neuter services for economically disadvantaged neighborhoods (incorporated and unincorporated) where there is a concentration of dogs and cats. Approval of this motion will authorize the County Attorney's Office to process the reservation for the trade mark and service mark of the "Spay Shuttle" with the Florida Secretary of State. Finally, the motion will authorize an increase in the handling fee veterinarians charge customers for administratively processing/selling tags for the county.

County-wide (Companion Items 6-I-2, 6-I-3)(SC)

C. **Background and Policy Issues:**

The goals for the Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic include: 1) providing an easy, affordable means for residents living in economically disadvantaged areas to have dogs/cats sterilized, vaccinated and tagged; 2) reducing the number of animals impounded and destroyed at AC&C; 3) reducing the operational costs for AC&C; 4) reducing the threat of rabies and other diseases; and 5) improving the knowledge of residents to become more responsible pet owners.

It is the intent of staff not to utilize county ad valorem taxes to support the clinic. Nearly \$8,000 has already been contributed to the clinic without any public announcement or serious fund raising effort. Approval of this motion will: 1) establish a \$10 fee which would be charged to users of the clinic (this fee would be waived for owners on public assistance programs, if funds are available); 2) allocate \$1 from all sterilized tags sold and \$5 from all non-sterilized tags sold to the Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic budget beginning June 1, 1995, amounting to

Continued on Page 3

D. **Attachments:**

1. Resolution
2. Proposed Logo
3. Detailed staff report
4. Workshop Report (Because of length of document, copies are available in County Administrator's office)

Recommended by:

Department Director

4/26/95
Date

Approved by:

Assistant County Administrator

1/21/95
Date

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R 95 625 1

II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:

| Fiscal Year | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 |
|----------------------|---------|---------|------|------|------|
| Capital Expenditures | 102,000 | | | | |
| Operating Costs | 43,736 | 182,000 | | | |
| Operating Revenue | 146,236 | 182,000 | | | |

Is item included in Current Budget: Yes _____ No X

Budget Account No.: _____ Fund: 050 Agency: 660 Org: 2240 Object: _____

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

Approximately \$130,000 will be needed for start-up costs. The single largest cost will be for a converted motor home/clinic. The start-up costs will be paid through bequests, grants, fund raising, and a carry-over from the Sterilization Rebate Program. The county already has over \$40,000 in bequests and grants. Nearly \$8,000 has been contributed to the program without any public announcement. The fund raising committee is planning a major auction/barbecue in June which should yield \$15,000 to \$30,000. A broader public appeal will be initiated for public and corporate sponsors for the clinic.

Operational revenue will primarily be generated through designating \$1 from sterilized tags sold and \$5 from non-sterilized tags sold. Effective May 1 sterilized tag fees will increase from \$10 to \$11, while non-sterilized tag fees will increase from \$25 to \$27. The expected revenue from this plan is approximately \$150,000/year. The balance of needed funds will come from fund raising, grants, and a nominal fee (\$10) charged to clinic participants.

Staff does not expect county ad valorem tax dollars to be used for this program. The clinic will not begin until the necessary start-up costs and funds are available.

III. REVIEW COMMENTS

A. OFMB Fiscal and/or Contract Administration Comments

Steven Bordelon 4/26/95 NA
OFMB Contract Administration

B. Legal sufficiency

Steven A. Calamuse 4/26/95
Assistant County Attorney

C. Other Department Review

Department Director

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

ADM FORM 3
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BOOK 1709 PAGE 227

R 95 625

C. Background and Policy Issues -- continued

\$130,000-\$150,000/yearly (\$4 from each unsterilized tag sold was previously designated for the county sterilization rebate program); 3) include a rabies vaccination as part of the medical services rendered to dogs/cats sterilized at the clinic; 4) waive the cost for the first-time county dog/cat license tag which would be issued at the clinic; 5) increase the allowable handling fee charged to owners who purchase tags from veterinarians from \$1 to \$1.50 (this fee has not been increased since 1989); and 6) provide an optional series of vaccines for dogs/cats sterilized at the clinic for a charge of \$5/animal.

A flat fee of \$10 is being recommended for all users of the mobile spay/neuter clinic which will include the sterilization, rabies vaccination and rabies/license tag. The consensus of the committees assisting staff is that there should be some minimum charge, however, the fee would be waived for those owners who can show that they are on public assistance. Staff is working to assure that there are sufficient funds to implant each sterilized animal with one of the new permanent electronic identification devices.

Three advisory committees are/will be working with staff to advise and assist in the total operation of Mobile Clinic. The committees are: Operational Review, Medical Technical Review and Fund Raising.

RESOLUTION NO. R 95 - 625

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING A MOBILE SPAY/NEUTER CLINIC FOR DOGS/CATS, TO BE KNOWN AS THE PALM BEACH COUNTY "SPAY SHUTTLE"; ESTABLISHING/DESIGNATING A FEE; REQUIRING VACCINES AND COUNTY TAGS; PROVIDING FOR OPTIONAL SERVICES/VACCINES;

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Palm Beach County fund and operate the Division of Animal Care and Control for the safety and welfare of the public; and

WHEREAS, it is recognized that the County impounds in excess of 15,000 dogs and cats yearly of which more than sixty percent are euthanized; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the public to develop a method for reducing the abandoned/stray dog and cat population in Palm Beach County; and

WHEREAS, a reduction in abandoned/stray dog and cat population will reduce the number of animals impounded and euthanized, and will accordingly reduce the Division's operating costs,

WHEREAS, fewer abandoned/stray dogs and cats will result in a reduction in the incidence of animal-to-human bites and diseases including rabies; and

WHEREAS, the Animal Care and Control Advisory Board, Pet Overpopulation Committee and staff have researched numerous alternatives to effectively reduce the number of dogs and cats impounded and/or euthanized annually, and have determined that a mobile spay/neuter clinic can best accomplish this end; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners desire to pursue a mobile spay/neuter program to effectively reduce the future population of abandoned/stray dogs and cats in Palm Beach County, by targeting areas, especially those economically disadvantaged, where sterilization is needed the most; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, that:

1. the Animal Care and Control Division of the Public Safety Department shall establish and operate a Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic for Palm Beach County;
2. the Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic be designated as the "SPAY SHUTTLE" and that said trademark and service mark be registered with the State of Florida;

3 the dog/cat sterilization fee charged to users of the clinic be set at \$10.00 per animal, however, said fee may be waived for pet owners on public assistance programs.

4 the following monies are to be designated for and deposited in the "Spay Shuttle" Fund effective June 1, 1995: a) \$5.00 of every County tag sold for a non-sterilized dog/cat, and b) \$1.00 of every County tag sold for a sterilized dog/cat;

5 a rabies vaccination and the issuance of a county dog/cat tag shall be included as part of the services rendered to animals sterilized at the clinic. The cost for a first-time County dog/cat license tag is waived;

6 additional dog and cat vaccines will be made available to owners who have had their animal(s) sterilized by the "Spay Shuttle" for a charge of \$5/animal.

The foregoing resolution was offered by Commissioner
MARCUS who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by
Commissioner ROBERTS and, upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

| | |
|------------------------------|----------|
| KEN L. FOSTER, CHAIRMAN | - Aye |
| BURT AARONSON, VICE CHAIRMAN | - Aye |
| KAREN T. MARCUS | - Aye |
| CAROL ROBERTS | - Aye |
| WARREN NEWELL | - Aye |
| MARY McCARTY | - Absent |
| MAUDE FORD LEE | - Aye |

The Chair thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this

2nd day of MAY, 1995

PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA BY ITS
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

DOROTHY H. WILKEN, CLERK

By: Steven H. Wilken

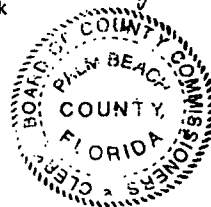
Deputy Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY

By: Steven H. Wilken

Assistant County Attorney

ORDERS: SPAYSHUTTLE



Agenda Item #

PALM BEACH COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA SUMMARY

Meeting Date: May 2, 1995

☐ Consent
☐ Ordinance

☒ Regular
☐ Public Hearing

Department:

Submitted by: Public Safety Department

Submitted for: Animal Care & Control Division

I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

- A. **Motion and Title:** Staff recommends motion to: a) adopt a resolution establishing a Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic for dogs/cats to be known as the Palm Beach County "Spay Shuttle" establishing/designating a fee; requiring rabies vaccines and County tags; providing for optional services/vaccines; b) Approve the reservation of the trade mark and service mark for the "Spay Shuttle" name and logo with the Secretary of State; c) Approve an increase in the veterinarian "Handling Fee" from \$1.00 (R91-84D) to \$1.50 to reimburse participating veterinarians for the administrative costs associated with the issuance of dog/cat tags on behalf of the county.

B. **Summary:**

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County-wide (Companion Items 6-I-2, 6-I-3)(SC)

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It is the intent of staff not to utilize county ad valorem taxes to support the clinic. Nearly \$8,000 has already been contributed to the clinic without any public announcement or serious fund raising effort. Approval of this motion will: 1) establish a \$10 fee which would be charged to users of the clinic (this fee would be waived for owners on public assistance programs, if funds are available); 2) allocate \$1 from all sterilized tags sold and \$5 from all non-sterilized tags sold to the Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic budget beginning June 1, 1995, amounting to

Continued on Page 3

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1. Resolution
2. Proposed Logo
3. Detailed staff report
4. Workshop Report (Because of length of document, copies are available in County Administrator's office)

Recommended by:

Department Director

Date

Approved by:

Assistant County Administrator

Date

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R 95 626 D

II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:

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|----------------------|---------|---------|------|------|------|
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| Operating Revenue | 146,236 | 182,000 | | | |

Is item included in Current Budget: Yes ☐ No ☒

Budget Account No.: Fund: 050 Agency: 660 Org.: 2240 Object: _____

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

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Staff does not expect county ad valorem tax dollars to be used for this program. The clinic will not begin until the necessary start-up costs and funds are available.

III. REVIEW COMMENTS

A. OFMB Fiscal and/or Contract Administration Comments

Steven Bordelon 4/26/95 NA
OFMB Contract Administration

B. Legal sufficiency

Steven A. Calamusa 4/21/95
Assistant County Attorney

C. Other Department Review

Department Director

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

C. Background and Policy Issues -- continued.

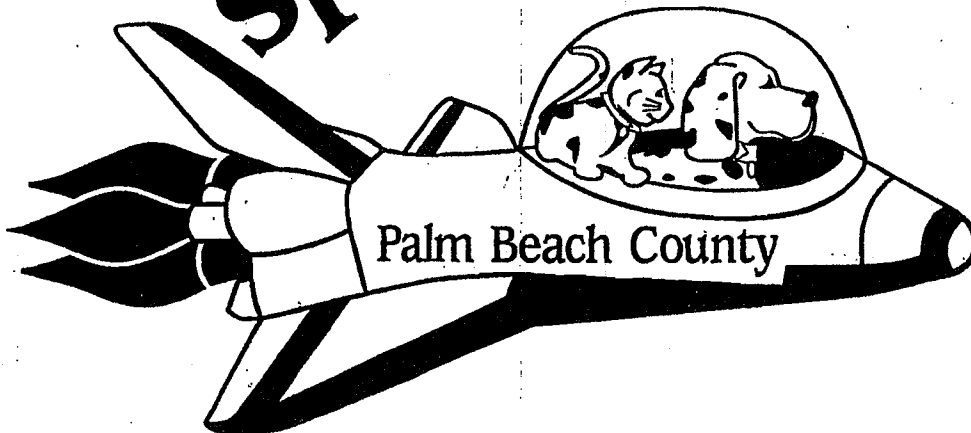
\$130,000-\$150,000/yearly (\$4 from each unsterilized tag sold was previously designated for the county sterilization rebate program); 3) include a rabies vaccination as part of the medical services rendered to dogs/cats sterilized at the clinic; 4) waive the cost for the first-time county dog/cat license tag which would be issued at the clinic; 5) increase the allowable handling fee charged to owners who purchase tags from veterinarians from \$1 to \$1.50 (this fee has not been increased since 1989); and 6) provide an optional series of vaccines for dogs/cats sterilized at the clinic for a charge of \$5/animal.

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Three advisory committees are/will be working with staff to advise and assist in the total operation of Mobile Clinic. The committees are: Operational Review, Medical Technical Review and Fund Raising.

R 95 626 D

Spay Shuttle



mobile spay/neuter clinic

R95 626 D

**Help
Launch
Our**

Spay Shuttle

c/o Palm Beach County
Animal Care & Control Division
7100 Belvedere Road
West Palm Beach 33411
(407) 233-1200 ex. 261
(407) 233-SPAY (7729)



Come to our Auction/Barbecue June 17 at Cheney Ranch!

(entrance to Cheney Ranch located on Jog Road at Southern Boulevard)
All proceeds to benefit the **Spay Shuttle Mobile Spay/ Neuter Clinic**.

Climb Aboard!

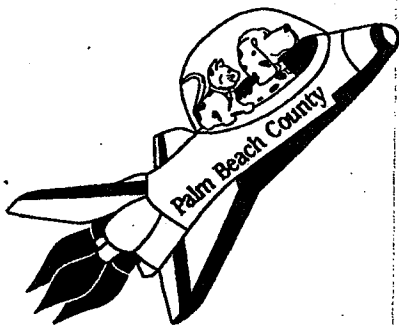


Sometimes it takes astronomical measures to tackle an astronomical problem. That's where Palm Beach County's **Spay Shuttle Mobile Spay/ Neuter Clinic** blasts into orbit.

Be A Space Hero!

Sadly, sixty-five percent (65%) of the 16,000 animals impounded by our Animal Care & Control Division last year were euthanized. That's over 10,000 animals who were found lost or abandoned and could not be saved. Only 2,000 animals were actually adopted.

These are hard statistics to accept, especially when you look past the humane concerns and consider the costs to society. Unfortunately, the statistics also reveal that the neighborhoods which need the most attention are those whose residents can least afford to sterilize their pets. You can make a difference!



Lift-Off!

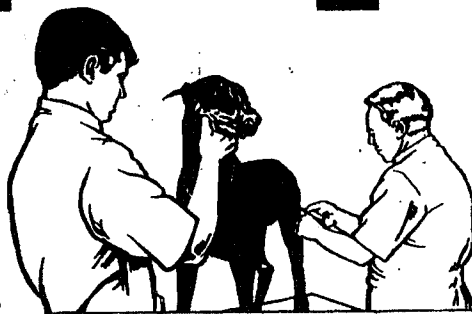
We need your help to launch the **Spay Shuttle Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic** - a humane and effective program to help control animal overpopulation in Palm Beach County.

R 95 626 D

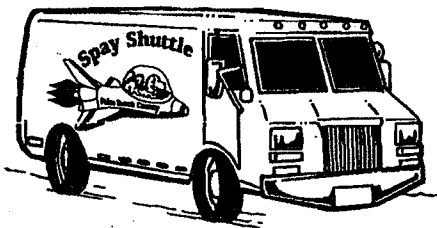
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The Spay Shuttle Mission

- to reduce animal impoundments and euthanasia at the County shelter
- to reduce stray roaming animals
- to reduce the threat of rabies and other diseases
- to provide easy means of sterilization
- to improve knowledge of residents about companion animals.



Help Pilot Our Shuttle!



Donations and grants to the **Spay Shuttle** will help purchase a large converted motor home, specially equipped to function as a state-of-the art spay/neuter clinic.

The shuttle will land in selected neighborhoods across Palm Beach County and remain on-site for a period of time to provide convenient, low-cost pet sterilizations. Surgeries will be completed in the mornings, after pets are dropped off, and the animals will be released the same evening.

The **Spay Shuttle** landings will be well publicized with extensive community outreach. Donations will also help subsidize free services for those who need assistance.

Float With The Stars!



When you contribute to the **Spay Shuttle**, you rise above the atmosphere and enter another dimension where you are recognized as one who truly cares. Prepare to take your celestial place by filling out the information below. Thank You!

Yes! I want to support the **Spay Shuttle Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic**. Enclosed is my tax-deductible donation of:

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Orbiter \$10,000 and up | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rocket Booster \$5,000 to \$9,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Launcher \$2,500 to \$4,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Igniter \$1000 to \$2,499 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mission Controller \$500 to \$999 | |

Name: _____ Address _____ City/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Send donations to:

The Spay Shuttle, c/o Palm Beach County Animal Care & Control Division, 7100 Belvedere Road, West Palm Beach, 33411

R 95 626 D

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Agenda Item #

6-1-1
 appx. M/R 6-0
 McCall
 R95-627D

PALM BEACH COUNTY
 BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
 AGENDA SUMMARY

Meeting Date: May 2, 1995

☐ Consent
☐ Ordinance

☒ Regular
☐ Public Hearing

Department:

Submitted by: Public Safety Department

Submitted for: Animal Care & Control Division

I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

A. Motion and Title: Staff recommends motion to: a) adopt a resolution establishing a Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic for dogs/cats to be known as the Palm Beach County "Spay Shuttle"; establishing/designating a fee; requiring rabies vaccines and County tags; providing for optional services/vaccines; b) Approve the reservation of the trade mark and service mark for the "Spay Shuttle" name and logo with the Secretary of State; c) Approve an increase in the veterinarian "Handling Fee" from \$1.00 (R91-84D) to \$1.50 to reimburse participating veterinarians for the administrative costs associated with the issuance of dog/cat tags on behalf of the county.

B. Summary:

In an August 1994 workshop, the Board of County Commissioners gave approval for staff to develop the details for a Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic which would aid in reducing the surplus dog/cat population in Palm Beach County. The approval of the attached resolution will formally establish the program, identify funding sources and initiate the necessary procedures for establishing the clinic. The clinic will require three employees on or about January 1, 1996: veterinarian, veterinary assistant and customer clerk. It is estimated that 2,000 (minimum) sterilization surgeries will be performed annually. The mobile clinic (converted motor home) will provide spay/neuter services for economically disadvantaged neighborhoods (incorporated and unincorporated) where there is a concentration of dogs and cats. Approval of this motion will authorize the County Attorney's Office to process the reservation for the trade mark and service mark of the "Spay Shuttle" with the Florida Secretary of State. Finally, the motion will authorize an increase in the handling fee veterinarians charge customers for administratively processing/selling tags for the county.

County-wide (Companion Items 6-1-2, 6-1-3)(SC)

C. Background and Policy Issues:

The goals for the Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic include: 1) providing an easy, affordable means for residents living in economically disadvantaged areas to have dogs/cats sterilized, vaccinated and tagged; 2) reducing the number of animals impounded and destroyed at AC&C; 3) reducing the operational costs for AC&C; 4) reducing the threat of rabies and other diseases; and 5) improving the knowledge of residents to become more responsible pet owners.

It is the intent of staff not to utilize county ad valorem taxes to support the clinic. Nearly \$8,000 has already been contributed to the clinic without any public announcement or serious fund raising effort. Approval of this motion will: 1) establish a \$10 fee which would be charged to users of the clinic (this fee would be waived for owners on public assistance programs, if funds are available); 2) allocate \$1 from all sterilized tags sold and \$5 from all non-sterilized tags sold to the Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic budget beginning June 1, 1995, amounting to

Continued on Page 3

D. Attachments:

1. Resolution
2. Proposed Logo
3. Detailed staff report
4. Workshop Report (Because of length of document, copies are available in County Administrator's office)

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Recommended by: Paul M. Lee
 Department Director

4/26/95
 Date

Approved by: Vincent J. Bonocito
 Assistant County Administrator

4/21/95
 Date

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II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:

| Fiscal Year | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 |
|----------------------|---------|---------|------|------|------|
| Capital Expenditures | 102,000 | | | | |
| Operating Costs | 43,736 | 182,000 | | | |
| Operating Revenue | 146,236 | 182,000 | | | |

Is item included in Current Budget: Yes _____ No X

Budget Account No.: _____ Fund: 050 Agency: 660 Org.: 2240 Object: _____

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

Approximately \$130,000 will be needed for start-up costs. The single largest cost will be for a converted motor home/clinic. The start-up costs will be paid through bequests, grants, fund raising, and a carry-over from the Sterilization Rebate Program. The county already has over \$40,000 in bequests and grants. Nearly \$8,000 has been contributed to the program without any public announcement. The fund raising committee is planning a major auction/barbecue in June which should yield \$15,000 to \$30,000. A broader public appeal will be initiated for public and corporate sponsors for the clinic.

Operational revenue will primarily be generated through designating \$1 from sterilized tags sold and \$5 from non-sterilized tags sold. Effective May 1 sterilized tag fees will increase from \$10 to \$11, while non-sterilized tag fees will increase from \$25 to \$27. The expected revenue from this plan is approximately \$150,000/year. The balance of needed funds will come from fund raising, grants, and a nominal fee (\$10) charged to clinic participants.

Staff does not expect county ad valorem tax dollars to be used for this program. The clinic will not begin until the necessary start-up costs and funds are available.

III. REVIEW COMMENTS

A. OFMB Fiscal and/or Contract Administration Comments

Steven Bordelon 4/26/95 NA
OFMB Contract Administration

B. Legal sufficiency

Steven A. Calamusca 4/26/95
Assistant County Attorney

C. Other Department Review

Department Director

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

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C. Background and Policy Issues -- continued

\$130,000-\$150,000/yearly (\$4 from each unsterilized tag sold was previously designated for the county sterilization rebate program); 3) include a rabies vaccination as part of the medical services rendered to dogs/cats sterilized at the clinic; 4) waive the cost for the first-time county dog/cat license tag which would be issued at the clinic; 5) increase the allowable handling fee charged to owners who purchase tags from veterinarians from \$1 to \$1.50 (this fee has not been increased since 1989); and 6) provide an optional series of vaccines for dogs/cats sterilized at the clinic for a charge of \$5/animal.

A flat fee of \$10 is being recommended for all users of the mobile spay/neuter clinic which will include the sterilization, rabies vaccination and rabies/license tag. The consensus of the committees assisting staff is that there should be some minimum charge, however, the fee would be waived for those owners who can show that they are on public assistance. Staff is working to assure that there are sufficient funds to implant each sterilized animal with one of the new permanent electronic identification devices.

Three advisory committees are/will be working with staff to advise and assist in the total operation of Mobile Clinic. The committees are: Operational Review, Medical Technical Review and Fund Raising.

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MAY 2 1995



Palm Beach County
Public Safety Department

TO: Commissioner Ken Foster, Chair
and Members of the Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Paul Milelli, Director *Paul Milelli*
Public Safety Department

DATE: April 14, 1995

RE: ACTIONS NEEDED TO IMPLEMENT COUNTY MOBILE
SPAY/NEUTER CLINIC

See Page 4

At a workshop session last August, the Board of County Commissioners gave staff approval to develop a new concept for substantially reducing the surplus dog and cat population in Palm Beach County. The concept utilizes a mobile veterinary clinic to provide sterilization surgeries "on-location" in lower income areas of the county where there is a high concentration of dogs and cats.

The mobile clinic will consist of a specially equipped motor home and will utilize three full-time employees: veterinarian, veterinarian assistant and customer clerk. The clinic will provide reduced cost sterilization surgeries for dogs and cats belonging to owners in low income incorporated and unincorporated areas of the county. Most animals impounded at Animal Care & Control come from these economically disadvantaged areas.

The goals for the mobile spay/neuter clinic are:

1. To provide an easy, affordable means for economically disadvantaged residents to have dogs and cats sterilized, vaccinated and tagged.
2. To reduce the number of animals impounded and destroyed at Animal Care & Control.
3. To reduce the costs for operating Animal Care & Control.
4. To reduce the threat of rabies and other animal-to-human and animal-to-animal diseases.
5. To improve the knowledge and understanding of residents in being responsible pet owners.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Additional study and refinement of the Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic concept has been underway since the original presentation to the Board of County Commissioners. It will be necessary for the Board of County Commissioners to give formal approval to the following:

1. That the operation of a Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic for Palm Beach County be formally approved.

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2. That the name of the Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic be designated as the "**SPAY SHUTTLE**" and that the name and logo be reserved/registered with the State of Florida.
3. That the Palm Beach County Dog/Cat Sterilization Rebate Ordinance be repealed and that those funds be reallocated to the Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic budget.
4. That \$1 from all sterilized tags sold and an additional \$5 from all non-sterilized tags sold be allocated to the Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic budget beginning June 1, 1995.
5. That the veterinarian handling fee for selling dog/cat tags be increased from \$1 to \$1.50.
6. That the dog/cat sterilization fee charged to users of the clinic be set at \$10 per animal and that the fee be waived for those owners on public assistance programs (when funds are available).
7. That a rabies vaccination be included as part of the medical services rendered to dogs/cats sterilized at the clinic and that the cost for the first-time county dog/cat license tag be waived.
8. That an additional series of vaccines be made available to dogs/cats of owners who have had their animal sterilized through the mobile clinic for a charge of \$5/animal.
9. That a special account be established to receive revenue, donations and grants which would not be part of the regular General Fund and would be carried over from year to year to assist in funding the Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic.
10. That the bequests and grants previously received by Animal Care & Control amounting to \$40,250 be transferred from the Contingency Fund to the special account established for the Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic.

Since last August the Advisory Board, Pet Overpopulation Committee, Fund Raising Committee and staff have been working on the following:

1. Establishing a logo and name for the Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic. There has been unanimous enthusiasm with the name "**SPAY SHUTTLE**". The term Spay Shuttle effectively describes the Mobile Clinic and will be a novel term in generating attention from donors and users. The Spay Shuttle will take on a space shuttle motif.
2. Organizing a major auction/barbecue for June 17, 1995 at the Cheney Ranch in West Palm Beach. The goal is to raise from \$15,000 to \$30,000. Other fund raising endeavors are planned.
3. Preparing flyers and brochures detailing the need for community involvement and contributions.
4. Establishing levels of support and recognition. The committee is working to establish a "Wall of Fame" at Animal Care & Control. Major private and corporate contributions will be classified as follows:

Mission Controller - \$500 - \$999
Igniter -- \$1,000 - \$2,499
Launcher -- \$2,500 - \$4,999
Rocket Booster -- \$5,000 - \$9,999
Orbiter -- \$10,000 and up

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5. Working with Fleet Management on the specifications and design of the mobile unit.
6. Developing the operational plans to be approved by the Board of County Commissioners.

Nearly \$8,000 has already been received from private donors who are enthusiastic about this project (without any public announcement or formal fund raising function)!

ITEMS REQUIRING APPROVAL BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

1. That the operation of a Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic for Palm Beach County be formally approved.

The Advisory Board, Pet Overpopulation Committee and staff have researched the concept of initiating a mobile spay/neuter clinic for Palm Beach County. All believe that the its implementation will have a very positive effect on reducing the number of surplus dogs and cats in Palm Beach County. The goal is to have the clinic operational by January 1996. Approval of this concept will increase the county employee complement by three: Veterinarian, Veterinary Assistant and Customer Clerk.

2. That the name of the Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic be designated as the "**SPAY SHUTTLE**" and that the name and logo be reserved/registered with the State of Florida.

Staff and the various citizen committees believe that the title **SPAY SHUTTLE** is unique and creatively describes the function and operation of the clinic. The County Attorney's Office would be authorized to register/reserve the name and logo with the State of Florida.

3. That the Palm Beach County Dog/Cat Sterilization Rebate Ordinance be repealed and that those funds be reallocated to the Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic budget.

Staff is requesting that the funds allocated to the county Dog/Cat Sterilization Rebate program be renamed and allocated to the Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic. It is the intent of staff not to request an allocation of county ad valorem tax dollars to operate the clinic. The revenue to operate the unit will come from donations, grants, bequests and fees.

The Sterilization Rebate Ordinance has operated since 1982. Rebates of \$20 (females) and \$10 (males) were provided to citizens for having their dogs/cats sterilized. Nearly one million dollars supplemented the sterilization costs of over 52,000 pets. Funding for this program was derived from using \$4 from each non-sterilized tag (\$25) sold.

Although this program has been valuable over the past 12 years, most believe that the program should be phased out. In recent years, more dollars were rebated than collected. A 1993 survey revealed that 88.6 percent of users said they would have their animals sterilized even without the rebate. The proposed mobile spay/neuter clinic will be aimed at reducing the dog/cat population from that segment of the human population who could not otherwise afford the sterilization costs for their pets.

4. That \$1 from all sterilized tags sold and \$5 from all non-sterilized tags sold be allocated to the Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic budget beginning June 1, 1995.

On May 1, 1995, tag fees will increase. Tag fees for non-sterilized dogs/cats will increase from \$25 to \$27, while tags for sterilized animals will increase from \$10 to \$11. As stated in number 3 above, \$4 from the non-sterilized tag has been designated for the sterilization

rebate program. This proposal would allocate \$1 from the \$11 sterilized tag fee and a total of \$5 from the \$27 non-sterilized tag fee.

The total revenue generated from this method is estimated to be \$130,000- \$150,000 per year. The annual operating budget for the clinic is estimated to be \$150,000 - \$180,000 (not including start-up costs).

Originally, the local veterinarian association proposed raising the veterinarian tag handling fee from \$1 to \$2.50. One dollar of that fee would then be designated to the Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic. As more thought was given to that proposal, there was a realization that there would be substantial logistical difficulties: a) the veterinary association does not speak for all veterinary offices in the county; b) the county would have the burden of collecting the extra dollar and then giving it to the veterinary foundation, only for the foundation to return it to the Mobile Clinic fund; and c) the total dollars raised from this proposal would be less than \$50,000 per year.

5. That the veterinarian handling fee for selling dog/cat tags be increased from \$1 to \$1.50.

The local veterinarian association was gracious to offer a sum of \$1 from the proposed \$2.50 handling fee. The Veterinary Association is enthusiastic about the Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic. The Veterinary Foundation will be raising funds to assist in the costs of operating the county Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic.

The veterinarian handling fee has not increased since 1989. Staff is recommending that it be increased by \$.50 (to \$1.50) effective June 1, 1995. The handling fee is an additional charge to pet owners to defray the administrative costs of veterinarians for selling county dog/cat tags to their customers. Approximately 100 veterinary offices issue rabies/license tags for the county.

6. That the dog/cat sterilization fee charged to users of the clinic be set at \$10 per animal and that the fee be waived for those owners on public assistance programs (pending availability of funds).

Neighborhood surveys reveal that the lower the fee, the greater the use of the mobile spay/neuter clinic. All committees working on this program, believe that there should be some charge for the services rendered. There was also strong belief that the fee should be waived entirely if an owner could show that s/he was on some type of public assistance program and could not afford the \$10 charge. Fee waivers would only be initiated if there were sufficient funds and grants available.

If number 4 is not approved, it will be necessary to increase fees charged to at least \$20 and likely reduce the number of animals sterilized.

7. That a rabies vaccination be included as part of the medical services rendered to dogs/cats sterilized at the clinic and that the cost for the first-time county dog/cat license tag be waived.

While the emphasis is on sterilization, there is a substantial secondary need to assure that all animals are vaccinated against rabies and tagged/identified. With rabies at its highest level in 30 years, Palm Beach County has a public health responsibility for assuring that these animals (who rarely, if ever, see a veterinarian) are properly vaccinated. Similarly, lost animals which are tagged can easily be identified and need not be impounded at the county animal shelter -- thus reducing operational costs.

Every attempt will be made to raise sufficient funds to assure that these animals are also implanted with one of the new electronic animal identification devices. These devices will provide permanent identification for lost animals.

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8. That an additional series of vaccines be made available to dogs/cats of owners who have had their animal sterilized through the mobile clinic for a charge of \$5/animal.

The vaccines included would provide protection against distemper, hepatitis, leptospirosis, parvovirus, etc. The \$5 would cover the actual cost of the vaccines.

9. That a special account be established to receive revenue, donations and grants which would not be part of the regular General Fund and would be carried over from year to year.

This special account is needed to maintain the integrity of private donations and contributions. The public wants assurances that funds will not be used for the county's general operating expenses and will be used exclusively for the Mobile Clinic.

10. That the bequests and grants previously received by Animal Care & Control amounting to \$40,250 be transferred from the Contingency Fund to the special account established for the Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic.

Animal Care & Control previously received a bequest of \$38,750 from the J. S. Miller Estate and grants totalling \$1,500 from the E.B. Siklossy Foundation. These funds will be used to help pay for the initial start-up costs for the clinic, expected to be approximately \$125,000 - \$150,000.

Three advisory committees are/will be working with staff to advise and assist in the total operation of Mobile Clinic:

a. **Operational Review Committee**

This committee will be composed of at least: two veterinarians selected by the Veterinary Association, a member of the Advisory Board, a member from an active community neighborhood association, a member with experience in public relations and a member selected by the Municipal League.

This committee will assist staff in selecting sights, promoting and disseminating information to the community and reviewing the overall functions (not including medical care) and policies of the operation.

b. **Medical Technical Review Committee**

This committee will be composed of the Animal Care & Control staff veterinarian and the three members of the Veterinary Services Review Committee -- already in existence. This committee will assist in reviewing and advising staff on all veterinary functions of the clinic. This would include input on the design of the facility as it relates to veterinary care, the actual surgical and medical procedures and possibly assist in the clinic veterinarian selection process.

c. **Fund Raising Committee**

This committee will not have a predetermined number of members. The committee will be responsible for establishing and operating fund raising events to adequately support the Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic.

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ATTACHMENT 4
WORKSHOP REPORT

(Because of length of document, copies are available in County Administrator's office).

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