

**SEMINOLE COUNTY GOVERNMENT
AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

SUBJECT: Pet License Program – Authorization to Proceed with an RFP

DEPARTMENT: Public Safety **DIVISION:** Animal Services

AUTHORIZED BY: Ken Roberts **CONTACT:** Mike Wittmer **EXT.** 5202

Agenda Date 1/25/05__ Regular <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Work Session <input type="checkbox"/> Briefing <input type="checkbox"/>
Public Hearing – 1:30 <input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing – 7:00 <input type="checkbox"/>

MOTION/RECOMMENDATION:

Request Board Authorization to Proceed with an RFP to Outsource the Pet License Program. (Mike Wittmer)

BACKGROUND:

Continuous improvement for animal well-being through education, prevention, and enforcement programs are regularly evaluated in our efforts to enhance our existing program. The Seminole Code, Chapter 20, Animals & Fowl, Section 20.52, requires that every rabies susceptible animal, except livestock, residing in Seminole County, obtain a pet license tag. In accordance with Resolution 2001R-71, Animal Services administers a pet license program, with the primary objective of protecting the health and safety of citizens with a vigilant rabies control program.

Seminole County residents are required to purchase license tags for pets adopted from Animal Services. Residents are also required to purchase license tags when redeeming impounded pets. However, methods to identify other pets in the county are not in place. Our records indicate that about 12,380 or seven per cent (7%) of the 176,861 dogs and cats residing in Seminole County are licensed.

It has been determined that there is a need to better identify those animals that are rabies susceptible. Also, added benefits to an aggressive pet license program would be enhancing lost pet recovery (thus reducing euthanasia rates), facilitating jurisdictional information gathering, and an increase in revenue collections. The current cost associated with licensing a pet is as follows:

- A. License Fees
 - 1. Annual License Fee for a sterilized dog or cat - \$ 6
 - 2. Annual License Fee for an unsterilized dog or cat - \$11

Reviewed by:
Co Atty: _____
DFS: _____
Other: _____
DCM: <i>[Signature]</i>
CM: <i>[Signature]</i>
File No. RPSAS01

Funds generated from the current licensed pets are \$86,902 in revenue (FY03/04). From this revenue, \$54,700 was paid out in sterilization rebates.

In researching ways to improve the program, staff contacted a company that specializes in providing outsourced pet licensing services who, in turn, made a presentation to the Animal Control Board. On April 20, 2004, the Animal Control Board recommended pursuing the outsourcing of the licensing program.