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CLERK OF THE BOARD
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

Memorandum

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

Date: March 3, 2009

To: Honorable Chairman Dennis C. Moss
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

From: George M. Burgess
County Manager

Agenda Item No. 9(A)(2)

Resolution No. R-209-09

Subject: Resolution amending Implementing Order 4-51 pertaining to Animal Services

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Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) approve the attached Resolution relating to proposed changes to Implementing Order 4-51, pertaining to the Animal Services Department (ASD). Four changes are proposed. First, that the fee for a dog tag for a qualifying indigent dog owner be set at $3, regardless of sterilization status, and that indigent owners who purchased a license tag at a discounted price prior to the effective date of this ordinance be deemed to be in compliance with the licensing requirements of Chapter 5 of the Miami-Dade County Code (Code). Second, that there is no longer a fee for the 'Puppy Tag', and a proposed 'Junior Tag' be required for a puppy between four (4) months and twelve (12) months of age. Third, that Chapter 5 specifically authorize the Department to issue multi-year licenses for rabies vaccinations (The creation of a 3-year tag was approved by the BCC in September of 2008 and added to Implementing Order 4-51). Fourth, that Chapter 5 specify that working police dogs remain exempt from license fees.

Scope

Implementing Order 4-51 affects Miami-Dade County in its entirety.

Fiscal Impact/Funding Source

No additional resources will be requested in association with this Implementing Order.

Low Income Fee

The proposed tag fee for an indigent owner is $3 for an intact dog, as the Code is currently silent in this category. The fee was increased with BCC approval in September of 2008 from $2 to $3 with a projected $6,000 positive fiscal impact.

Puppy Tag

It is requested that no fee be associated with the Puppy Tag and that it be required of Pet Dealers only so that the Department can enter the puppy's information in the central database. The approximately $800 annual cost of mailing the Puppy Tags to Pet Dealers would be offset by the revenue generated from the sale of Junior Tags by Pet Dealers.

Proposed Junior Tag

It is requested that a new category, a Junior Tag, be created and required when the puppy is due for its rabies vaccination at four (4) months of age. The fee for this category would be $25, regardless of sterilization status.

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Track Record/Monitor

The Animal Services Department currently licenses/tags over 150,000 of the estimated 500,000 dogs residing in Miami-Dade County. Creating the *Low Income Fee*, which sets fees at a price that indigent constituents can afford, will likely increase voluntary compliance, aiding the Department in its efforts to uphold and enforce the provisions of Chapter 5. Similarly, the proposed Junior Tag will encourage voluntary compliance by timing its expiration with the puppy's second rabies shot. Furthermore, since a puppy is not often sterilized until it is much older than four (4) months of age, the owner would otherwise have to pay the tag fee for intact dogs ($50).

Background

Low Income Fee

In January of 2008, many updates to Chapter 5 were approved by the BCC. In September of 2008, the BCC approved an Implementing Order associated with those changes. As of October 1, the fee for a ***sterilized dog*** tag whose owner was indigent is $3, however, no fee for an ***intact dog*** belonging to a low income owner was included in the Implementing Order. This updated Implementing Order specifically includes the fee of $3 for an ***intact dog*** belonging to an indigent owner, in lieu of the regular fee for an intact dog of $50.

Proposed Junior Tag Fee

The current Puppy Tag is for two (2) month old puppies at a cost of $10, which expires at the age of four (4) months, after which time the adult license would be purchased. Veterinarians in the community have expressed their concern and disagreement with the fee of $50 for the intact dog license for puppies since they often do not sterilize the puppies until after they are four (4) months of age. Therefore, ASD is proposing a $25 Junior Tag required at the time the puppy receives its first rabies vaccination at four (4) months of age. A puppy would be eligible for the Junior Tag until twelve (12) months of age.

Alina Tejeda Hudak
Assistant County Manager

cmo01109

MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Dennis C. Moss and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: March 3, 2009

FROM: R. A. Cuevas, Jr. County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 9(A)(2)

Please note any items checked.

_____ "4-Day Rule" ("3-Day Rule" for committees) applicable if raised

_____ 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing

_____ 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing

_____ Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget

_____ Budget required

_____ Statement of fiscal impact required

_____ Bid waiver requiring County Mayor's written recommendation

_____ Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Manager's report for public hearing

_____ Housekeeping item (no policy decision required)

_____ No committee review

Approved _____ Mayor
Veto _____
Override _____

Agenda Item No. 9(A)(2)
3-3-09

RESOLUTION NO. **R-209-09**

RESOLUTION AMENDING IMPLEMENTING ORDER 4-51, ANIMAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT FEE SCHEDULE, TO REVISE FEES FOR LICENSE TAGS

WHEREAS, this Board desires to accomplish the purposes outlined in the accompanying memorandum, a copy of which is incorporated herein by reference,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that hereby amends Implementing Order 4-51, Animal Services Department Fee Schedule, in the form attached hereto and incorporated herein, and authorizes the County Mayor or his designee to exercise any and all rights conferred therein.

The foregoing resolution was offered by Commissioner **Dorrin D. Rolle**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Dennis C. Moss** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Dennis C. Moss, Chairman **aye**
Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Vice-Chairman **aye**

Bruno A. Barreiro	**aye**	Audrey M. Edmonson	**aye**
Carlos A. Gimenez	**aye**	Sally A. Heyman	**aye**
Barbara J. Jordan	**aye**	Joe A. Martinez	**aye**
Dorrin D. Rolle	**aye**	Natacha Seijas	**absent**
Katy Sorenson	**aye**	Rebeca Sosa	**aye**
Sen. Javier D. Souto	**absent**		

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 3rd day of March, 2009. This resolution shall become effective ten (10) days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY ITS BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

By: **Kay Sullivan**
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

Dennis A. Kerbel

I.O. No.: 4-51
Ordered: ~~09/18/2008~~
Effective: ~~10/01/2008~~

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY
IMPLEMENTING ORDER

ANIMAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT FEES

AUTHORITY:
Section 1.01 of the Miami-Dade County Home Rule Amendment and Charter and Sections 5-5, 5-7, 5-8, 5-13, 5-14, 5-18, and 5-23 of the Code of Miami-Dade County.

SUPERSEDES:
This Implementing Order supersedes >>Implementing Order 4-51, ordered September 18, 2008, and effective October 1, 2008<< [[~~Administrative Order 4-51, ordered September 17, 2003, and effective October 1, 2003~~]].

POLICY:
This Implementing Order establishes a schedule of fees for rabies vaccination, animal registration and license tags, adoption, impound/redemption charges, licenses, refundable deposits, euthanasia, and microchipping.

FEE SCHEDULE:
The fee schedule adopted by this Implementing Order is attached hereto and made a part hereof. The official fee schedule is also filed with and subject to the approval of the Board of County Commissioners and on file with the Clerk thereof. Fees that are charged by the Animal Services Department shall be the same as those listed in the official fee schedule on file with the Clerk of the County Commission.

This Implementing Order is hereby submitted to the Board of County Commissioners of Miami-Dade County, Florida.

County Manager

ANIMAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT
FEE SCHEDULE

The Miami-Dade County Animal Services Department shall charge and collect fees for the items and rates listed in the following schedule:

Service	**Fee**
License Tag	
➢ Intact – Dog >>12 months old or more<<	$50.00
➢ Sterilized – Dog >>12 months old or more<<	$25.00
>>➢ Junior Tag – Dog between 4 months old and 12 months old	$25.00<<
➢ Puppy [[~~License~~]] >>Tag – Dog less than 4 months old	No Charge<< [[~~$10.00~~]]
➢ Indigent Owner [[~~– Sterilized~~]] (note 1)	$3.00
➢ Intact – Cat (VOLUNTARY)	$10.00
➢ Sterilized – Cat (VOLUNTARY)	$5.00
➢ Replacement Tag	$5.00
➢ Service Animal/Working Police Dog	No Charge
➢ 3-year license (note 2)	3x above fees
Impoundments (note 3)	
➢ Redemption/Sterilized Dogs	$50.00
➢ Redemption/Intact Dogs	$100.00
➢ Redemption/Female dogs in estrus	$100.00
➢ Dogs: Subsequent Impoundment within 12 months/sterilized	$75.00
➢ Dogs: Subsequent Impoundment within 12 months/intact	$125.00
➢ Animal Care Fee/Dogs (includes day of impoundment)	$10.00/day
➢ Redemption/Sterilized Cats	$40.00
➢ Redemption/Intact Cats	$45.00
➢ Cats: Subsequent Impoundment within 12 months/sterilized	$50.00
➢ Cats; Subsequent Impoundment within 12 months/intact	$55.00
➢ Animal Care Fee/Cats (including day of impoundment)	$5.00/day
Microchip Service (General Public)	
➢ Microchip Implant	$10.00
Surrender Dog/Cat	
➢ Surrender Fee	No charge
➢ Euthanization (Disposal Included)	$20.00
Rabies Inoculation	
➢ Indigent Owner (note 1)	$3.00
➢ General Public	$10.00
Registrations	
➢ Dangerous Dog Annual Registration Fee	$75.00
➢ Hobby Breeder (annual fee) (note 4)	$25.00
Spay/Neuter Fees	No charge
Lien Processing	
➢ Processing Fee	$100.00
➢ Lien Search (1 unit/folio)	$20.00

➢ Lien Search (applies to multiple units under one folio)	$20.00 plus $7/unit

Adoption and Return to Owner (RTO) Services

➢ Dogs	$65.00*
➢ Puppies	$75.00*
➢ Cats/Kittens	$35.00*
➢ 2 for 1 Cat/Kitten Adoption	$35.00*
➢ Rescue Group Adoptions (all animals) (note 5)	$25.00**
➢ Dog Obedience Class	$35.00
➢ Additional Medical Testing	Cost + 10%

(*includes microchip, vaccines, license, and spay/neuter service)
(**includes microchip, vaccines, and spay/neuter)

Licenses (Annual Fees)

➢ Kennel	$100.00
➢ Pet Dealer (Animal Sales less than 30/year)	$500.00
➢ Pet Dealer(Animal Sales less than 50/year)	$600.00
➢ Pet Dealer(Animal Sales less than 75/year)	$700.00
➢ Pet Dealer(Animal Sales less than 100/year)	$800.00
➢ Pet Dealer(Animal Sales more than 100/year)	$1,000.00
➢ Pet Care Center	No charge

Deposits (note 6)

➢ Cat Traps Deposits (refundable)	$50.00
➢ Spay/Neuter Deposits (refundable)	$50.00

The Department Director or designee of the Animal Services Department shall have the authority to make refunds of adoption as required due to uncertainties in such transactions.

Note 1: Indigent owner is a person receiving public assistance under one or more of the following:

a) Food Stamps
b) Medicaid
c) Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
d) Jackson Memorial Hospital Clinic Cards J01, J02, J03
e) Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

Note 2: Requires evidence that vaccination is valid for 3 years. 3-year license fee shall not be pro-rated or refunded.

Note 3: Owners redeeming impounded animals may choose "Return to Owner Services" (see "Adoption" fees), which includes microchip, vaccines, license, and spay/neuter service, in lieu of paying impoundment and animal care fees.

Note 4: Hobby Breeders who were validly registered prior to February 21, 2008, shall not be required to annually renew their hobby breeder licenses or pay any additional fees for their hobby breeder licenses.

Note 5: A rescue group may adopt a litter of puppies that are less than 8 weeks old plus the mother for a single $25.00 fee.

Note 6: Refundable deposits shall be maintained in the Animal Services Deposit Trust Fund as established by Resolution No. R-575-07, as may be amended from time to time.