



AGENDA COVER MEMO

Memorandum Date: 5/15/2023

Order Date: 6/6/2023

TO: Board of County Commissioners

DEPARTMENT: Public Works, General Services

PRESENTED BY: Nathan Mitchell-Hooks, Senior Analyst

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: ORDER / In the Matter of Allocating up to \$10,000 from Special Revenue Fund 260 in the Department of Public Works, as Established by the Harriet Ruby Smith Trust for Contribution to the Purchase of a Livestock Trailer for Lane County Animal Services for Animal Rescue Operations

I. MOTION

Move that the Board Order be approved allocating \$10,000 from Special Revenue Fund 260 in the Department of Public Works as established by the Harriet Ruby Smith Trust towards the purchase of a livestock trailer for Lane County Animal Services animal rescue operations.

II. AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

In July 2016, a gift from the Harriet Ruby Smith Trust was received by the Parks & Animal Services Division in the amount of \$126,121. Projects recommended by the Lane County Animal Services Advisory Committee (LCASAC) are brought to the Board in order to receive approval for use of the Harriet Ruby Smith Trust funds. At this time, the LCASAC is recommending the allocation of \$10,000 in Special Revenue Fund 260 within Public Works be used toward the purchase of a livestock trailer for animal rescue operations.

III. BACKGROUND/IMPLICATIONS OF ACTION

A. Board Action and Other History

In July 2016, a gift from the Harriet Ruby Smith Trust was received by the Parks & Animal Services Division in the amount of \$126,121. To date, funds have been allocated towards shelter facility improvements (installation of air-control kennel doors, repair of damaged fencing in dog yards, repair of damaged transfer doors in dog kennels [BO#16-11-29-09 & BO#18-02-06-05]), feral cat spay/neuter programs, and purchases of specialized equipment (BO# 21-12-07-02).

B. Policy Issues

None.

C. Board Goals

As stated in the 2022-2024 Strategic Plan, Lane County's Mission is to "responsibly manage available resources to deliver vital, community-centered services with passion, drive and focus". The actions of the LCASAC align with that mission, as the Committee has been tasked with providing recommendation to Public Works and the Board of Commissioners on programs and practices around public safety and animal welfare care within Lane County.

D. Financial and/or Resource Considerations

In July 2016, a gift from the Harriet Ruby Smith Trust was received by the Parks & Animal Services Division in the amount of \$126,121. The funds were deposited in a Special Revenue Fund in Public Works. Since that time, the Lane County Animal Services Advisory Committee continues to explore ideas and options on the best and highest use of the gift for the benefit and enrichment of animals.

A corresponding increase in appropriations in Special Revenue Fund 260 in the Department of Public Works will be part of the FY 23 Supplemental Budget process in order to move the funds from Operational Reserves.

E. Health Implications

The purchase of the livestock trailer will provide Lane County Animal Services with much-needed transport equipment for horses and other animals during animal rescue operations. The purchased trailer will have the ability to be towed by either of the program's vehicles without additional modifications. In situations where an animal has been found to need rescue due to abuse or undue suffering, or when large-scale natural disasters (i.e. wildfire events) occur, Lane County Animal Services staff is often tasked with transporting animals out of harmful circumstances. In the past, transport of animals has been accomplished through the aid of volunteer organizations or partner agencies. While these partnerships will likely still be leveraged for future rescue operations, the purchase of a County-owned livestock trailer will ensure that Lane County Animal Services is better equipped to respond to the needs of animals within the community.

F. Analysis

The Animal Services Advisory Committee approved a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners to authorize the expenditure of up to \$10,000 for contribution toward the purchase of a livestock trailer for Lane County Animal Services. Any remaining equipment costs exceeding \$10,000 will be paid for out of the Animal Services – LCAS Fund 283.

Lane County Animal Services staff is currently performing analysis of available product within and outside of Lane County in order to locate a livestock trailer that maximizes both affordability and practicality.

Alternatives/Options

1. Adopt Board Order allocating up to \$10,000 from the Harriet Ruby Smith Trust fund for contribution toward the purchase of a livestock trailer for Lane County Animal Services.
2. Modify the Board Order.
3. Do not adopt the Board Order and provide staff with further direction.

IV. RECOMMENDATION

The Lane County Animal Services Advisory Committee recommends Option 1.

V. TIMING/IMPLEMENTATION

Upon approval of the Board Order, the Lane County Animal Services staff will earmark funds for the purchase of a livestock trailer once the equipment has been identified.

VI. FOLLOW-UP

The Lane County Animal Services Advisory Committee continues to discuss ways to utilize the remaining gift amount and will be providing further recommendations to the Board in the future.

VII. ATTACHMENTS

1. Board Order

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF LANE COUNTY, OREGON

ORDER NO: 23-06-06-04

In the Matter of Allocating up to \$10,000 from Special Revenue Fund 260 in the Department of Public Works, as Established by the Harriet Ruby Smith Trust for Contribution to the Purchase of a Livestock Trailer for Lane County Animal Services for Animal Rescue Operations

WHEREAS, on July 13, 2016 Parks & Animal Services received a gift from the Harriet Ruby Smith Trust in the amount of \$126,121.00 to be used for the benefit and enrichment of animals; and

WHEREAS, the Lane County Animal Services Advisory Committee received a request from Lane County Animal Services staff for assistance with the purchase of a livestock trailer to be utilized in animal rescue operations; and

WHEREAS, the Lane County Animal Services Advisory Committee now recommends to the Board to approve up to \$10,000 of the Harriet Smith Trust for contribution to the purchase of a livestock trailer for Animal Services which will allow staff to provide a higher standard of care of community animals, especially during emergency situations; and

WHEREAS, a corresponding increase in appropriations in Special Revenue Fund 260 in the Department of Public Works will be part of the FY23 supplemental budget process in order to move the funds from operational reserves.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of County Commissioners of Lane County **ORDERS** that the purchase of equipment above is approved using \$10,000 of the Harriet Ruby Smith Trust.

ADOPTED this 6th day of June, 2023.

Pat Farr, Chair
Lane County Board of Commissioners