

Animal Care & Control



AD HOC TASK FORCE

BUDGET & FUNDING SUBCOMMITTEE

March 18, 2015 from 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Jeff Schwartz opened meeting on behalf of the Chair.

The notes from the March 4th meeting were accepted without change.

Mr. Schwartz commended everyone for the hard work and emphasized the importance of bringing this subcommittee to a close in order to have the recommendations presented to the Board of Supervisors as soon as possible. He offered that the longer the process extends, there is an incremental decrease in the overall sense of urgency.

Angie Flick, Office of Management & Budget, discussed the County's Expenditure Limit. She explained how it is recalculated each year and that it applies to all 40 departments. Although the cap has not been reached, the County budget runs very close so each budget is closely scrutinized.

Each department has a cap called a budget/expenditure authority. MCACC is a special revenue department. When revenues are higher than the budget authority, the excess funds move to the equivalent of a savings account. MCACC can tap into that account with Board approval. There are other County departments that are also special revenue departments (Planning & Development, Air Quality).

Ms. Flick explained that there are two ways to increase the Expenditure Limit:

1. Voter approval – the Board of Supervisors must get voter support to pass an initiative to increase the expenditure limit. The expenditure limit encompasses all county departments; not just MCACC.
2. Actions by the state – Legislative exemptions, approvals. State has their own financial issues and County may have a difficult time getting anything approved relating to County only (and not the entire state).

Debt, In-Kind donations and Grants do not count toward the expenditure limit; however, donations do contribute. Ms. Flick explained the difference between grants and donations. Grant is money given to accomplish a particular task/program and the agency must report back as to how the money was spent and if the directive was accomplished; whereas, a donation is given to you with no reporting requirements. There may be opportunities to expand grant funding through the Friends of AC&C; however, this would need to be reviewed by their Board.

The subcommittee reviewed the current list of recommendations.

Budget & Funding Recommendations:

#1 – Marketing subcommittee believes they can increase licensing compliance by 20%.

#3 – Remove “Shelter Operations” from recommendation.

#6 – Rephrase so that it reads, “Cost to construct a new east (Mesa) facility.”

#7 – This should be tied into Recommendation #3.

#9 – Move this recommendation to Process & Services subcommittee.

#11 – Add “Department” to budgetary expenditure limit.

#12 – Propose debt forgiveness on the loan, as long as forgiveness doesn’t apply to the cap limit.

#14 – Subcommittee voted to REMOVE this recommendation. This was intended as a way to subsidize the cost of implementing bordetella for dogs at the East shelter.

#15 – Add “increase staff capacity (grant writer) to solicit for grants.”

Members were asked to review and refine recommendations and forward any changes to Valerie. A member of the subcommittee suggested that all fee-based recommendations be rolled into one.

Once all recommendations are agreed upon, Valerie will create broader, strategic recommendations that will include an appendix with detailed, tactical action items.

Next meeting: Wednesday, April 1, 2015