



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: General Services
Department No.: 041/063
For Agenda Of: March 1, 2022
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Public Health Van Do-Reynoso, MPH, PHD, Director (805) 681-5102
General Services Janette D. Pell, Director (805) 568-2626
Contact Info: Darrin Eisenbarth, Deputy Director, Administration, Public
Health Department (805) 681-5173
Skip Grey, Assistant Director, General Services Support Services
Division (805) 568-3083

SUBJECT: Amended MOU and License Agreements with BUNS for Housing and
Quarantine Facility at the Animal Services Shelter, Santa Barbara; Second
District (RP File #003825)

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Manager

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions: That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve and authorize the Chair of the Board to execute an Amendment to the Memorandum of Understanding Agreement between the Bunnies Urgently Needing Shelter organization and Santa Barbara County that will allow the term to renew automatically on a month to month basis as well as annually, until given sixty (60) days written notice to terminate;
- b) Approve and ratify an Amendment to the 2017 License Agreement between Bunnies Urgently Needing Shelter ("BUNS") organization and Santa Barbara County for the continued use of a portion of the Animal Services Shelter located at 5473 Overpass Road, Goleta, CA 93117 on a month to month basis while Santa Barbara County and BUNS negotiate terms for a new agreement that will facilitate the needs of the rabbits and guinea pigs for a longer term in an all-purpose facility;
- c) Approve and authorize the Chair of the Board to execute an Amendment to License Agreement between BUNS and County of Santa Barbara for the continued use of an 817 square foot building

and restroom area at the Animal Services Shelter located at 5473 Overpass Road, Goleta, CA 93117 for the purpose of a temporary quarantine facility for surrendered and domestic rabbits, due to a nationwide outbreak of the deadly Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease (“RHD”), on a month to month basis while Santa Barbara County and BUNS negotiate terms for a new agreement that will facilitate all the needs of the rabbits and guinea pigs on a more permanent basis in an all-purpose facility;

- d) Determine that pursuant to Gov. Code §26227, the facilities are not needed and will not be needed for County purposes during the duration of these amended License Agreements and may be used by this non-profit to carry out this valuable program to meet the needs of the population of the county;
- e) Determine that the proposed action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15301, Existing Facilities, finding that the action consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, and licensing of existing public or private structures involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use and approve and direct staff to file and post the Notice of Exemption on that basis.

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda to approve Amendments to the 2017 MOU (Attachment 1) allowing for automatic renewals on partial (month to month) annual terms; License Agreement (Attachment 3) allowing BUNS to quarantine/isolate the surrendered and domestic rabbits brought into the Animal Services Shelter until they can be vaccinated and released into the existing rabbit and guinea pig housing facility for a continuing month to month term, and to approve and ratify an Amendment to the 2017 License Agreement (Attachment 2) with BUNS for the use of facilities at the Public Health Department’s Animal Services Shelter to continue on a month to month basis while Santa Barbara County and BUNS negotiate for a new agreement that will provide for all needed services. The Amendments to the MOU and the License Agreement also updated to current standards the Indemnification and Insurance requirements.

Background:

Santa Barbara County and the Bunnies Urgently Needing Shelter (“BUNS”), a non-profit partner, have had a collaborative and successful relationship for many years. BUNS provides care, enrichment, medical procedures, capital improvements, adoption counseling, lost and found services and various other services and supplies to establish and maintain a safe and healthy environment between humans and animals in Santa Barbara County. As recommended by The American Humane Association Program Assessment, on February 7, 2017 Santa Barbara County and BUNS entered into an automatically renewing annually Memorandum of Understanding detailing the County’s and BUNS’ respective roles and an associated License Agreement for BUNS’ use of certain facilities at the Animal Services Shelter. This License Agreement was set to expire on December 31, 2021.

On August 8, 2020, the Director of the General Services Department executed a short-term 12A-10.3 License Agreement with BUNS due to the urgent need caused by the oncoming nationwide spread of the deadly Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease (“RHD”) that had most recently seen cases in Orange County. This RHD License Agreement allowed BUNS use of 817 square feet of building space formerly known as the

“Little Dog Building” and access to a nearby restroom for the purpose of isolating incoming feral, surrendered and domestic rabbits until they could be vaccinated and released into the existing common rabbit and guinea pig area and is set to expire on February 28, 2022. The Board of Supervisors at their regularly scheduled meeting of September 1, 2020 ratified the 12A-10.3 License Agreement. This License Agreement has now been amended for continuing the isolation, vaccination and release program on a month-to-month basis until the approval and execution of the aforementioned new agreement between Santa Barbara County and BUNS.

On December 16, 2021, the Director of the General Services Department expedited an Amendment to 2017 License Agreement pursuant to Santa Barbara County Code Section 12A-10.3 due to its pending expiration. If ratified by the Board of Supervisors, this Amendment will allow the 2017 License Agreement to continue on a month-to-month basis until negotiations between COUNTY and BUNS are finalized and both License Agreements will be combined into one agreement that will satisfy all of the programs’ needs.

These actions will involve no expansion of use, and is not likely to have a significant environmental impact. Therefore, this project is exempt from environmental review in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, Section 15301 – Class 1 (Attachment 4), which consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alterations of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency’s determination.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts: N/A

Special Instructions:After Board action, distribute as follows:

1. Original Amendment to Memorandum of Understanding, Amendment to BUNS License Agreement and Amendment to BUNS RHD License Agreement to Clerk of the Board Files.
2. Duplicate original Amendment to Memorandum of Understanding, Amendment to BUNS RHD License Agreement, and Minute Order to GS/Real Estate Division, Attn: C. Smith for distribution to BUNS.

Attachments:

1. Amendment to Memorandum of Understanding
2. Amendment to BUNS License Agreement
3. Amendment to BUNS RHD License Agreement
4. CEQA - Notice of Exemption

Authored by:

Connie Smith, General Services/Real Estate Division