

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



**ITEM
3.27
(ID # 9636)**


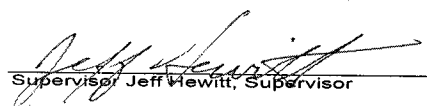
FROM : SUPERVISOR JEFF HEWITT AND SUPERVISOR V. MANUEL PEREZ : **MEETING DATE:**
Tuesday, May 7, 2019

SUBJECT: SUPERVISOR JEFF HEWITT AND SUPERVISOR V. MANUEL PEREZ: Pets for
Vets

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors establishes the Pets for Vets policy and directs the Chief Executive Officer, Chief Operations Officer, and Director of Animal Service to:

1. Create the Riverside County Pets for Vets Program and authorizes the Director of Animal Services to make permanent its past practice of waiving the adoption fee for dogs and cats for Veterans, residing in the County, on a year around basis;
2. Establishes the following eligibility requirements for Veterans, Active Duty, Guard, Reserve or military dependents. The DD 214, NGB 22, U.S. Veterans Administration identification card , or California driver's license with Veterans endorsement to serve as proof of service, or active or federal reserve or National Guard identification cards;
3. Spay and neuter fees may not be waived for this program excepting at the discretion of the Director of Animal Services. Animal license fee's may not be waived and the program start date is set for the first working day after the Veterans Day 2019;
4. Recommends the department utilization of a special grant through the Department of Public Health Community Action Partnership, secured in 2018, that may cover the costs of spay and neuter services for Veterans who cannot afford to pay for these services; and
5. Would authorize the County support and advocate for Senate Bill 245. This bill would require local governments to introduce similar programs in shelters owned and operated by municipalities.

ACTION:Policy





 Supervisor V. Manuel Perez, Supervisor 5/2/2019 Supervisor Jeff Hewitt, Supervisor 5/2/2019

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

On motion of Supervisor Washington, seconded by Supervisor Spiegel and duly carried by unanimous vote, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved as recommended.

Ayes: Jeffries, Spiegel, Washington, Perez and Hewitt
 Nays: None
 Absent: None
 Date: May 7, 2019
 xc: Supvr. Hewitt, Supvr. Perez, Animal Services, E.O.

Kecia Harper
 Clerk of the Board
 By: 
 Deputy

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Fiscal Impact: The fiscal impacts of this program are not known at this time. The department director established a program that allowed fee waivers but no data was available to accurately detail cost saving for such a program. It is anticipated that the department will have data available after the program implementation in 2019.

BACKGROUND: In 2018 the Board of Supervisors authorized and the Department of Human Resources funded a study of Veterans issues and concerns. Community Translational Research Institute (CTRI) released those results in early 2019. Over 1,500 Riverside County Veterans responded to the survey and provided information regarding a number of issues of importance or of concern to them. Issues regarding behavioral health, depression, and suicide were amongst those identified by survey participants as issues of concern. It has been identified in a number of recent studies that pets make a difference in helping our Veterans cope with military service related injuries, illness, and mental health. Pets for Vets is intended to benefit our 132,000 Veterans residing in the County. Our Director of Animal Services along with his paid and volunteer staff have long supported our military and veterans with pet adoption fee waivers. This makes Pets for Vet and the waiver of adoption fees permanent. Fee waivers will be subject to review by the Director of Animal Services and may be continued at his/her discretion every four years. Pets for Vets will be a year around program that places dogs and cats in the homes of military personnel and/or Veterans residing in the County of Riverside and the 28 incorporated cities.

BOARD RULES

Requests to Address Board on "Agenda" Items:

You may request to be heard on a published agenda item. Requests to be heard must be submitted to the Clerk of the Board before the scheduled meeting time.

Requests to Address Board on items that are "NOT" on the Agenda/Public Comment:

Notwithstanding any other provisions of these rules, a member of the public shall have the right to address the Board during the mid-morning "Oral Communications" segment of the published agenda. Said purpose for address must pertain to issues which are under the direct jurisdiction of the Board of Supervisors. YOUR TIME WILL BE LIMITED TO THREE (3) MINUTES. Donated time is not permitted during Public Comment.

Power Point Presentations/Printed Material:

Speakers who intend to conduct a formalized Power Point presentation or provide printed material must notify the Clerk of the Board's Office by 12 noon on the Monday preceding the Tuesday Board meeting, insuring that the Clerk's Office has sufficient copies of all printed materials and at least one (1) copy of the Power Point CD. Copies of printed material given to the Clerk (by Monday noon deadline) will be provided to each Supervisor. If you have the need to use the overhead "Elmo" projector at the Board meeting, please ensure your material is clear and with proper contrast, notifying the Clerk well ahead of the meeting, of your intent to use the Elmo.

Individual Speaker Limits:

Individual speakers are limited to a maximum of three (3) minutes. Please step up to the podium when the Chairman calls your name and begin speaking immediately. Pull the microphone to your mouth so that the Board, audience, and audio recording system hear you clearly. Once you start speaking, the "green" podium light will light. The "yellow" light will come on when you have one (1) minute remaining. When you have 30 seconds remaining, the "yellow" light will begin to flash, indicating you must quickly wrap up your comments. Your time is up when the "red" light flashes. The Chairman adheres to a strict three (3) minutes per speaker. *Note: If you intend to give your time to a "Group/Organized Presentation", please state so clearly at the very bottom of the reverse side of this form.*

Group/Organized Presentations:

Group/organized presentations with more than one (1) speaker will be limited to nine (9) minutes at the Chairman's discretion. The organizer of the presentation will automatically receive the first three (3) minutes, with the remaining six (6) minutes relinquished by other speakers, as requested by them on a completed "Request to Speak" form, and clearly indicated at the bottom of the form.

Addressing the Board & Acknowledgement by Chairman:

The Chairman will determine what order the speakers will address the Board, and will call on all speakers in pairs. The first speaker should immediately step to the podium and begin addressing the Board. The second speaker should take up a position in one of the chamber aisles in order to quickly step up to the podium after the preceding speaker. This is to afford an efficient and timely Board meeting, giving all attendees the opportunity to make their case. Speakers are prohibited from making personal attacks, and/or using coarse, crude, profane or vulgar language while speaking to the Board members, staff, the general public and/or meeting participants. Such behavior, at the discretion of the Board Chairman, may result in removal from the Board Chambers by Sheriff Deputies.