
Yamhill County

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Office of County Administrator

LAURA S. TSCHABOLD
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

KEN HUFFER
DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR

MEMORANDUM

TO: Yamhill County Board of Commissioners
Date: October 26, 2018
FROM: Laura Tschabold, County Administrator
CC: Ken Huffer, Carrie Martin
RE: **Wildlife Control Services**

Background

Recently, the Commissioners have discussed requests that the County reconsider contracting for wildlife control services through the United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspections Service (USDA-APHIS) and Oregon Fish and Wildlife.

The USDA offers a cost-sharing program for counties that employ a part-time or full-time wildlife control operator. This program contributes up to 75% of the cost of the employee, pending approval by the USDA. Estimates for those positions are:

- \$42,000 for a part-time employee (County match approximately \$10,500)
- \$84,000 for a full-time employee (County match approximately \$21,000)

The second option is to re-institute the county based program that has been in effect since 2009, but not actively utilized.

After discussion on Tuesday, October 23rd, the preferred option appears to be to re-activate the county-based cost share program in which a homeowner with a wildlife safety issue can request assistance from the county for the services of a federal animal damage control service officer. The county will pay half of the cost and the homeowner pays the remaining portion (\$250) for a total of \$500. This cost includes travel. The animal control service officer will respond on a time available basis. The county will contact the wildlife control officer and have the officer contact the homeowner.

Additionally, if the homeowner is facing a financial situation such that payment is a significant hardship, documentation may be submitted for a request to waive all or part of homeowner share of the payment.

Requested Board Action

Staff recommends the Board of Commissioners approve a wildlife control program that would provide homeowners access to a county based cost share program for wildlife animal control services as outlined above.

Accepted by Yamhill County
Board of Commissioners on
11/1/18 by Board Order
18-396