

# Animal Control Proposal

## Budget, Potential Revenue and Proposals

10/6/2009

## *Proposal*

This proposal is designed to provide options for reducing costs to City and County taxpayers by consolidating City and County Animal Control Services into one organization, to provide City and County residents with higher quality Animal Control Services, to keep the control and management of Animal Services within Delaware County and to retain revenue generated by adoptions and fines within the county, further reducing costs.

- Animal Control Services for Muncie and Delaware County should be consolidated into one organization.
- Current city and county laws and ordinances related to Animal Control should be consolidated.
- An Animal Control Board should be created to oversee the Animal Control Department. The board should consist of appointments from the Mayor of Muncie, City Council, the Commissioners, and County Council.
- The Animal Control Director would operate at the behest of the newly formed Animal Control Board.

In addition, we propose that if our local government officials decide to outsource animal control to a non-profit organization, that all fines paid due to violations of ordinances of the city and county would be paid directly to local government and not to the non-profit. All enforcement aspects of animal control would also remain with local government.

The preferred method of consolidation would be that the city and county retain control of all aspects of animal control. Outsourcing any aspect of animal services would result in a loss of revenue to government that offsets the actual cost to provide these services.

## *Projected Results*

Efficient management of a consolidated Animal Control Services Department combined with effective adoption, enforcement and donation programs could reduce costs to city and county taxpayers by more than \$100,000.

## Assumptions

The enclosed proposal, budget and revenue analysis includes the following assumptions:

1. The creation of an Animal Control Board
2. A consolidation of Animal Control Services between Muncie and Delaware County, including the sharing of facilities and certain resources.
3. Consolidation of current city and county laws and ordinances related to animal control.
4. Efficient management of the Animal Control Department.
5. Constructive relationships with local animal rescue organizations.
6. Effective adoption, donation and fee collection efforts.

## Budget

The majority of the costs in the tables below come from the city’s 2010 budget. The highlighted numbers with asterisks have been changed due to potential increases due to a consolidation of City and County Animal Services.

<b>Personal Services</b>	<b>2010 Budget</b>
Superintendent	\$ 39,903.00
Animal shelter control	\$ 32,551.00
Animal shelter Investigator	\$ 31,212.00
Animal attendant	\$ -
Part time attendants	\$ 65,000.00
Kennel Technician	\$ 25,896.00 *
Overtime	\$ 5,000.00
Social security	\$ 10,767.00
Medicare	\$ 2,518.00
Perf	\$ 7,607.00
Health insurance	\$ 48,000.00
Life Insurance	\$ 378.00
Unemployment	\$ 10,000.00
Fees and instructions	\$ 1,000.00
Uniforms	\$ 1,050.00
<b>Total personal Services</b>	<b>\$ 280,882.00</b>

<b>Supplies</b>	<b>2010 Budget</b>
Institutional Medical	\$ 20,000.00
Office supplies	\$ 2,500.00



**Surrender fees**

It is our understanding that Muncie Animal Control is not accepting surrendered animals. We believe an effective Animal Control Service should accept surrendered animals and collect fees when accepting those animals. Up to \$15,000 in surrender fees could be collected by the animal control department.

A conservative estimate of the potential income is outlined below.

<b>Summary of Potential Income</b>	
Adoption	\$ 50,000.00
Donations	\$ 20,000.00
Fines	\$ 30,000.00
Surrender fees	\$ 15,000.00
<b>Total Potential Income</b>	<b>\$ 115,000.00</b>

## Proposal Options

1. City/County agreement

This proposal would require Muncie and Delaware County to enter into a joint agreement to handle animal control for the entire county.

County assumes control of Animal Services. Animal Control employees would become employees of the county.

Animal Control Board established to represent all branches of government. Composed of a diverse group of animal care professionals and animal owners of the county and city.

Animal Control Director would operate at the behest of the board.

City and County ordinances would be consolidated.

City would either ‘gift’ over current facility or the facility would be leased at a nominal amount.

All revenue generated from Animal Control would stay within the General Fund of the County or City. Or as an option, the revenue could be ‘encumbered’ as a mechanism to pay for future expansion of the existing facility or to pay for a new facility.

2. Outsourcing

This proposal would allow a non-profit organization to handle the adoption and care of animals that are sent to the shelter.

The non-profit would be able to retain revenue from adoption fees, but would not be entitled to fines associated with violations of ordinances.

Animal Control Board would still be formed under this option. The non-profit would operate at the behest of the Animal Control Board.

This option is not preferred as it relinquishes revenue that could be retained under the City/County option. The cost savings does not appear to be sufficient to relinquish the potential revenue.

Presented by:

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Proposal developed by a larger group of individual citizens of the city of Muncie and Delaware County in response to our community's need for citizens to step forward to help our elected officials solve the problem of animal control.

Key members of our association of citizens:

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Ricka Smith  
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