

COCHISE COUNTY

Board of Supervisors Strategic Plan Work Session Regarding Animal Welfare

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November 13, 2018



Public Programs...Personal Service

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Purpose

Obtain Board direction regarding short-term measures and long-term strategic initiatives for animal welfare staffing and facilities.



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Strategic Plan Priority 3

- More Intergovernmental Cooperation and Coordination
 - Provide funding for Animal Welfare Facilities/Processes/Agreements
- Future Animal Welfare Services
 - Responsible department?
 - Additional partnerships?
 - Licensing, Spay/Neuter Ordinance?



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Current Situation

- 301 dogs impounded by Animal Control, Oct 2017 – Sept 2018
- Huachuca City is the most used with 156 dogs impounded
- CCSO budget includes 5 Animal Control officers (\$206,497)
- Total Animal Welfare expenses are approximately \$400,000 per year



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Current Objectives

- Update intergovernmental agreements for animal placement
 - Huachuca City Town Council approved revised IGA; sending to BOS for consideration, Nov 27
 - IGA with Douglas under review
- Willcox IGA terminated
 - Developing contract for services at County facility



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Future Animal Welfare Services

Options

- Status quo
- Expand and improve service network by entering into additional intergovernmental agreements
- Build and operate a county animal care facility



Status Quo

Pros

- Meeting legal requirements at lowest overall cost
- Requires least amount of County employee time
- Sheriff's Office has authority over Animal Control

Cons

- Very little oversight of operations
- Few options for placement
- Outdated facilities
- Limited negotiating capacity

Budget Outlook: projected financial impact is 5 – 10% cost increase per year.



Expand Contracted Placement Network

Pros

- Less dependency on each facility
- Possible access to stronger support network
- No increased workforce demand
- No responsibility for shelter personnel management

Cons

- Very little authority over operations
- Limited negotiating power
- Limited cost control
- Likely to incur infrastructure costs



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Build and Operate Animal Care Facility

Pros

- New, modern facility under direct control of County
- Opportunity to merge enforcement and care workforces
- Potential for lower long term costs than option 2
- Enhanced services to rural areas of county

Cons

- High cost of initial investment
- Current workforce does not have capacity
- Projected doubling of annual budget
- Supported by new revenue



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Best Practices in Counties

- Dog licenses and associated fee structure
- Single Department
 - [Navajo County](#)
- Thriving support network of volunteers
 - Pima County Advisory Board
- Modern facilities
 - Easy access
 - Large, secure site
 - On-site lodging for staff





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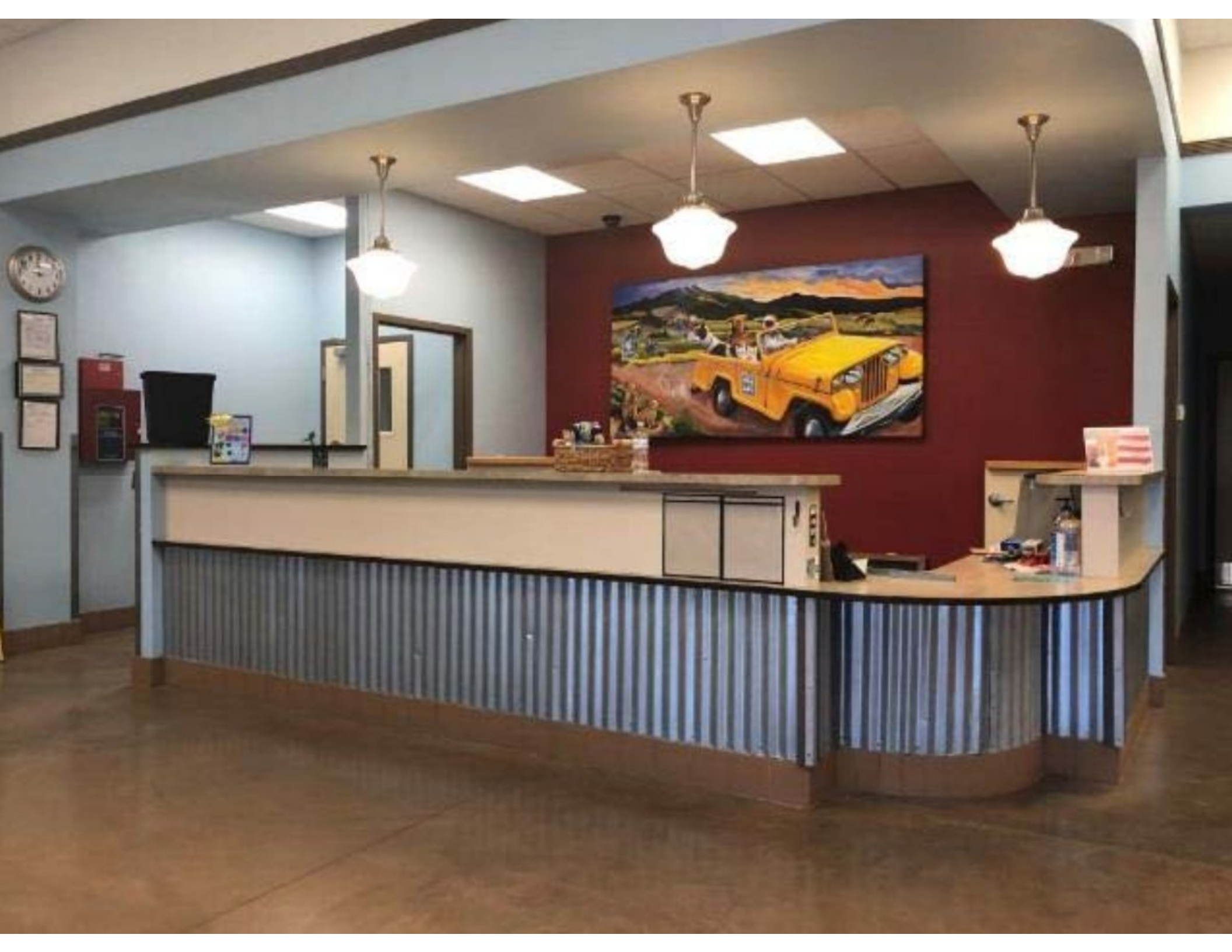
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Projected Costs of Building and Operating

Land Acquisition: 4 acres

Construction: 20,000 sq. ft, \$1.6 - 2.1 million

Staff and Operations: \$1 million per year, depends on location and volunteer support



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Next Step: Establish specific objectives for Strategic Plan Priority 3

Future Animal Welfare Services

- Responsible department
- Additional partnerships
- Licensing, Spay/Neuter Ordinance

