

BOARD OF ANIMAL SERVICES COMMISSIONERS CITY OF LOS ANGELES

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA Tuesday, January 8, 2019 9:00 A.M.

LOS ANGELES CITY HALL, ROOM 1060 200 NORTH SPRING STREET LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

> LARRY GROSS President

OLIVIA E. GARCÍA Vice-President

ALISA FINSTEN JOSE SANDOVAL ROGER WOLFSON

Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability, you are advised to make your request at least 72 hours prior to the meeting you wish to attend. For information please call (213) 482-9558.

Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de hacer pedido con 24 horas de anticipo al (213) 482-9558.

REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING

1. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD - (Comments from the public on items of public interest within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction that are not on the Agenda; two minutes per speaker.)

Public Comments: The Brown Act prohibits the Board and staff from responding to the speakers' comments. Some of the matters raised in public comment may appear on a future agenda.

2. NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL COMMENTS - (Discussion with Neighborhood Council representatives on Neighborhood Council Resolutions or Community Impact Statements filed with the City Clerk which relate to any agenda item listed or being considered on this agenda for the Board of Animal Services Commissioners)

Board of Animal Services Commissioners Meeting Meeting Agenda January 8, 2019 Page 2

3. COMMISSION BUSINESS

- A. Approval of Minutes for the Meeting of December 11, 2018 (Action Item; Public comment limited to one minute per speaker).
- 4. ORAL REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER (Public comment limited to one minute per speaker).
- 5. COMMISSIONERS' ORAL REPORTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (Public comment limited to one minute per speaker).

6. BOARD REPORTS

- A. Authorize the Use of Animal Welfare Trust Funds to Purchase Canine Influenza Vaccines for Shelter Dogs (Action Item; Public comment limited to two minutes per speaker).
- B. Authorize the Use of Animal Sterilization Trust Funds for Two Free Spay and Neuter Campaigns for Cats and Kittens (Action Item; Public comment limited to two minutes per speaker).

7. ADJOURNMENT

Next Regular Meeting is scheduled for 9:00 A.M., January 22, 2019, at City Hall 200 North Spring Street, Room 1060, Los Angeles, CA 90012. (Enter on Main Street).

<u>AGENDAS</u> - The Board of Animal Services Commissioners (Board) meets regularly every second (2nd) and fourth (4th) Tuesday of each month at 9:00 A.M. Regular Meetings are held at City Hall, 200 North Spring Street, Room 1060, in Los Angeles, CA 90012. Evening Meetings are held in various locations throughout the City, from 7:00 to approximately 9:30 P.M. The agendas for Board meetings contain a brief general description of those items to be considered at the meetings. Board Agendas are available at the Department of Animal Services (Department), Administrative Division, 221 North Figueroa Street, 6th Floor, Suite 600, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Board Agendas may also be viewed on the 2nd floor Public Bulletin Board in City Hall East, 200 North Main Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Internet users may also access copies of present and prior agenda items, copies of the Board Calendar, MP-3 audio files of meetings as well as electronic copies of approved minutes on the Department's World Wide Web Home Page site at http://www.laanimalservices.com/CommissionAgendas.htm

Three (3) members of the Board constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Some items on the Agenda may be approved without any discussion.

The Board Secretary will announce the items to be considered by the Board. The Board will hear the presentation on the topic and gather additional information from Department Staff. Once presentations have finished, the Board President will ask if any Board Member or member of the public wishes to speak on one or more of these items. Each speaker called before the Commission will have one (1) minute to express their comments and concerns on matters placed on the agenda. (For certain agenda items, speakers will have two (2) minutes.)

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<u>PUBLIC INPUT AT BOARD MEETINGS</u> – Public Participation on Agenda Items. Members of the public will have an opportunity to address the Board on agenda items after the item is called and before the Board takes action on the item, unless the opportunity for public participation on the item was previously provided to all interested members of the public at a public meeting of a Committee of the Board and the item has not substantially changed since the Committee heard the item. When speaking to an agenda item other than during Public Comment (see Public Comment below), the speaker shall limit his or her comments to the specific item under consideration (California Government Code, Section 54954.3).

Public Comment. The Board will provide an opportunity for public comment at every regular meeting of the Board. Members of the public may address the Board on any items within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board as part of Public Comment.

Speaker Cards. Members of the public wishing to speak are to fill out one speaker card for each agenda item on which they wish to speak and present it to the Board secretary **<u>before</u>** the item is called.

Time Limit for Speakers. Speakers addressing the Board will be limited to one (1) minute of speaking time for each agenda item except during general public comment period which is limited to two (2) minutes per speaker. (For certain agenda items, speakers will have two (2) minutes each.). The Chairperson, with the approval of a majority of the Board, may for good cause extend any speaker's time by increments of up to one (1) minute.

Brown Act. These rules shall be interpreted in a manner that is consistent with the Ralph M. Brown Act, California Government Code Section § 54950 et seq.

STANDARDS OF CONDUCT. Speakers are expected to behave in an orderly manner and to refrain from personal attacks or use of profanity or language that may incite violence.

All persons present at Board meetings are expected to behave in an orderly manner and to refrain from disrupting the meeting, interfering with the rights of others to address the Board and/or interfering with the conduct of business by the Board.

In the event that any speaker does not comply with the foregoing requirements, or if a speaker does not address the specific item under consideration, the speaker may be ruled out of order, their speaking time forfeited and the Chairperson may call upon the next speaker.

The Board, by majority vote, may order the removal from the meeting of any speaker or audience member continuing to behave in a disruptive manner after being warned by the Chairperson regarding their behavior. Section 403 of the California Penal Code states as follows: "Every person who, without authority of law, willfully disturbs or breaks up any assembly or meeting that is not unlawful in its character, other than an assembly or meeting referred to in Section 302 of the Penal Code or Section 18340 of the Elections Code, is guilty of a misdemeanor."

<u>VOTING AND DISPOSITION OF ITEMS</u> – Most items require a majority vote of the entire membership of the Board (3 members). When debate on an item is completed, the Board President will instruct the Secretary to "call the roll". Every member present must vote for or against each item; abstentions are not permitted unless there is a Conflict of Interest for which the Board member is obliged to abstain from voting. The Secretary will announce the votes on each item. Any member of the Board may move to "reconsider" any vote on any item on the agenda, except to adjourn, suspend the Rules, or where an intervening event has deprived the Board of jurisdiction, providing that said member originally voted on the prevailing side of the item. The motion to "reconsider" shall only be in order once during the meeting, and once during the next regular meeting. The member requesting reconsideration shall identify for all members present the Agenda number and subject matter previously voted upon. A motion to reconsider is not debatable and shall require an affirmative vote of three members of the Board.

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When the Board has failed by sufficient votes to approve or reject an item, and has not lost jurisdiction over the matter, or has not caused it to be continued beyond the next regular meeting, the issue is again placed on the next agenda for the following meeting for the purpose of allowing the Board to again vote on the matter.



BOARD OF ANIMAL SERVICES COMMISSIONERS CITY OF LOS ANGELES

MINUTES TUESDAY, December 11, 2018 at 7:00 PM



RAMONA HALL COMMUNITY CENTER 4580 NORTH FIGUEROA STREET LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90065

Audio MP-3 Recording is available at www.laanimalservices.com

Larry Gross, President Olivia E. García, Vice President Jose Sandoval Alisa Finsten Roger Wolfson

Meeting called to order at 7:03 p.m. Commissioners present were Finsten, Gross and Sandoval. Also present from Los Angeles Animal Services (LAAS) was General Manager (GM) Brenda Barnette, Assistant General Manager (AGM) Tammy Watson, AGM MeLissa Webber, Commission Executive Assistant, LaTonya Dean and Assistant City Attorney (ACA) Dov Lesel.

Commissioner Gross opened the meeting, introduced staff and provided an overview of the meeting agenda.

REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

Layne Dicker spoke in support of the Dogs Playing for Life playgroup at the East Valley Animal Services Center and shared ideas for running play group programs.

Andrew S. Brown thanked the Department on the investment made toward introducing playgroups at Los Angeles Animal Services and shared benefits the playgroups provide to dogs and volunteers.

Boo Caban, Highland Park Neighborhood Council, inquired how groups could apply for money gifted to the Department. She also noted that she did not know how to report stray birds and that she did not support free pet adoptions.

Becca Scheuer, Angel City Pit Bulls, spoke in support of the Dogs Playing for Life playgroup and stated it made it easier to assess the dogs.

2. NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL COMMENTS - (Discussion with Neighborhood Council representatives on Neighborhood Council Resolutions or Community Impact Statements filed with the City Clerk which relate to any agenda item listed or being considered on this agenda for the Board of Animal Services Commissioners)

Public Comment: None.

3. COMMISSION BUSINESS

A. Approval of the Minutes for Meeting of November 27, 2018.

Board of Animal Services Commissioners Minutes for the December 11, 2018 Commission Meeting Page 2

Public Comment: None.

Commissioner Sandoval moved to approve the minutes of November 27, 2018. **Commissioner Finsten** seconded and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote of 3-0.

Ayes: Finsten, Gross and Sandoval

Noes: None.

Absent: García and Wolfson

4. ORAL REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

GM Barnette discussed the following:

- Officers have been sent to Butte County to assist with animals impacted by the fires. We are looking at whether or not we can legally take in animals whose owners have not been found.
- An update regarding the Dogs Playing for Life playgroup was provided to the Board and made available to the public at the meeting. There have been some scuffles, but nothing that has led to serious injuries, or that caused a huge problem or concern. As of the preparation of the report, 132 dogs had participated in the playgroups and 39 of those dogs had been adopted.
- The Department has submitted its budget proposal for review. Staff met with a budget advocate group prior to submitting the budget request and discussed the resource needs of the Department.
- There is a motion going through City Council through the Planning Department which requires that any new publicly funded apartment developments for low income renters allow pet ownership.
- Adopting pets during the holidays is a good thing if it is a good time for the adoptors.

Commissioner Gross asked if there was an issue with the heating at the North Central Animal Services Center. **GM Barnette** responded that there was an issue relative to radiant heat, but it had been resolved.

Public Comment:

Phyllis Daugharty, Animals Issues Movement, reported on the lack of reporting on animal cruelty cases and convictions.

Layne Dicker was amazed at the support provided by the public and the Department during the fires and spoke about the benefits the playgroups have on dogs.

Bill Cody, Field Deputy for Council District 1, welcomed the attendees to the District and thanked the Commission for bringing the meetings to the community.

5. COMMISSIONERS' ORAL REPORTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Commissioner Sandoval: Thanked the Department staff for arranging a visit to the animal services center to observe the Dogs Playing for Life playgroup. He noted that the group was run well by staff.

Commissioner Finsten: Passed.

Commissioner Gross: Reported that January may be the month that Los Angeles Animal Services partners with the Housing Department to do a 'Pets in Housing' workshop. He also noted that Assemblymember Adrin Nazarian will be hosting a 'Renter's Rights' workshop at the Van Nuys State Building on January 17th at 6:00 p.m. These workshops are an opportunity for tenants to find out what their rights are in regards to pet ownership.

Public Comment: None.

6. Board Reports

A. Authorize Contract No. C-126901 – Amendment No. 2 – Between the City of Los Angeles and the Amanda Foundation for the Operation of a Mobile Spay and Neuter Clinic.

AGM Watson reported that Amanda Foundation had completed over 2,300 surgeries and the Department was seeking an amendment to extend their contract for an additional year. She further noted that this contract had a ceiling of \$500,000 and if the vendor did not meet their expectation, the Department had an option to discontinue the contract. She further clarified that unused funds however, are not allocated to other contracts.

Public Comment:

Boo Caban inquired how to request Amanda Foundation to participate in an animal fair in her neighborhood. **GM Barnette** noted that contact information could be found on the Department's website.

Vicky G. Murphy stated that she had successfully used Amanda Foundation spay and neuter services.

GM Barnette reported that the Department's contract manager would be looking at restructuring future contracts that could possibly allow unused funds to be reallocated to other contracts. **ACA Lesel** further explained future contract options could include clarifying language that would allow the Department to reduce the remaining funds on the contract so that they could be reallocated to another contract. He noted, however, that with the current contracts, the Department did not lose unused funds as they were not General Fund dollars. Unused funds were returned to the Spay and Neuter Fund account where they could be allocated for other Fund purposes.

Commissioner Sandoval made a motion to authorize the contract amendment between the City of Los Angeles and the Amanda Foundation for the operation of a mobile spay neuter clinic. **Commissioner Finsten** seconded and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote of 3-0.

Ayes: Finsten, Gross and Sandoval

Noes: None.

Absent: García and Wolfson

B. Authorize Contract No. C-126900 – Amendment No. 2 – Between the City of Los Angeles and the Lucy Pet Foundation, Inc. for the Operation of a Mobile Spay and Neuter Clinic.

AGM Watson reported that the Lucy Pet Foundation met their goal of surgeries having completed 5,800 last year, and was on track to do the same this year. The Department was seeking approval of an amendment to extend their contract for an additional year.

Public Comment: None.

Commissioner Finsten moved to authorize the contract Amendment No. 2 between the City of Los Angeles and the Lucy Pet Foundation for the operation of a mobile spay and neuter clinic. **Commissioner Sandoval** seconded and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote of 3-0.

Ayes: Finsten, Gross and Sandoval

Noes: None.

Absent: García and Wolfson

C. Implementation of the Paws for Life K9 Rescue Shelter Program.

AGM Webber reported that the Department was requesting to implement a program with Paws for Life K9 Rescue that would take dogs primarily from the Chesterfield Square, South Los Angeles Animal Services Center that had been in residence for more than four months. The selected dogs would be housed at the Lancaster State Prison for four to six weeks where they would participate in a training program designed to make them more adoptable. **Alex Tonner**, Founder of Paws for Life, briefed the Board on the Paws for Life Program. **Commissioner Sandoval** asked why the program would only be using dogs from the South Los Angeles Animal Services Center. **Ms. Tonner** responded that the South Los Angeles Animal Services Center was the one that needed the most assistance as many dogs were doubled-up in kennels and some of the dogs did not get an opportunity to get out for months. **Commissioner Sandoval** stated that it was concerning to him that there may be a stigma associated with

taking dogs from the South Los Angeles Animal Services Center and putting them in a prison program with inmates. GM Barnette pointed out that animals are transferred between centers and that if Paws for Life was looking for dogs that had been in the centers for more than four months that it was possible that they would come from other centers other than South Los Angeles. She further stated that the Department certainly did not consider the South Los Angeles Animal Services Center to be stigmatized. Commissioner Sandoval clarified that he did not think that the shelter was stigmatized, but rather the idea of taking dogs from the South Los Angeles Animal Services Center and putting them in incarceration places such as Lancaster prison carries a stigma. AGM Webber stated that another reason this particular center was chosen was because a lot of the Paws for Life volunteers were stationed at the Chesterfield Square, South Los Angeles Animal Services Center and it also consistently had 300 dogs. Our other centers did not have that high number of dogs. Commissioner Gross explained that another way to look at it was that the South Los Angeles Animal Services Center was the more challenging center to get dogs adopted and this program seemed to be designed to make the dogs more adoptable and more servable to the community.

Public Comment:

Layne Dicker stated that if he could pick a shelter to participate in the program it would be the one in South Los Angeles because of the quantity of dogs. He also spoke about the benefits this program has provided to a young man that is incarcerated at the Lancaster prison.

Boo Caban suggested that the Board forget about the stigma and think about the animals. She also suggested that the program be operated in northeast Los Angeles and noted that it is important that someone is doing something to try to get the animals adopted.

Andrew Brown stated that Commissioner Sandoval was talking about a public perception issue, not about the needs of dogs. He suggested that the Department transfer dogs from South Los Angeles for the program to the other shelters so that they can participate in the program.

Commissioner Finsten moved to approve the implementation of the Paws for Life K9 Rescue Shelter Program at Los Angeles Animal Services centers and authorize staff to prepare a Memorandum of Understanding. **Commissioner Gross** seconded and the motion failed with a vote of 2-1.

- Ayes: Finsten and Gross
- Noes: Sandoval
- Absent: García and Wolfson

Commissioner Finsten moved to approve the implementation of the Paws for Life K9 Rescue Shelter Program with the stipulation that animals be pulled from all six shelters and authorize staff to prepare a Memorandum of Understanding. **Commissioner Sandoval** seconded and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote of 3-0. Board of Animal Services Commissioners Minutes for the December 11, 2018 Commission Meeting Page 6

Ayes: Finsten, Gross and Sandoval

Noes: None.

Absent: García and Wolfson

D. Approval of Terms, Conditions and Restrictions for Dangerous Animal Case: DA 181221 SLA.

Commissioner Gross reported that this item was relative to an administrative appeals hearing that took place at the last Board meeting where the Board voted to amend the general manager's decision and instead bring back terms, conditions and restrictions for the Board's consideration.

Commissioner Sandoval moved to approve the Terms, Conditions and Restrictions for Dangerous Animal Case: DA 181221 SLA. **Commissioner Finsten** seconded and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote of 3-0.

Ayes: Finsten, Gross and Sandoval

Noes: None.

Absent: García and Wolfson

Public Comment: None.

E. Discussion on Dog Limits in the City of Los Angeles; Reference Council File No. 17-1237-S1.

Commissioner Gross explained that a motion by Council Member Koretz was put forth to amend a zoning code to increase the number of cats and dogs per household. This Commission was instructed to gather public input.

Public Comment:

Phyllis Daugherty wanted to confirm her previous position on the item and stated she had not changed her mind.

Boo Caban stated that she felt four was a lot of dogs and she had concerns as to whether pet owners who wanted that many dogs had a large enough house to support them.

Becca Scheuer supports the increase of animals per household to four. She also expressed issue with limits to people fostering animals when they already are at the legal limit.

Board of Animal Services Commissioners Minutes for the December 11, 2018 Commission Meeting Page 7

Andrew Brown stated he was not sure why government thinks that they know better than people how many animals they can handle. Every person should be able to make that decision for themselves as long as they are in compliance with the laws and the public is kept safe from their dogs.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting ended at 8:10 p.m.

BOARD OF ANIMAL SERVICES COMMISSIONERS

LARRY GROSS

OLIVIA E. GARCIA

COMMISSIONERS

ALISA FINSTEN

JOSE SANDOVAL

ROGER WOLFSON

City of Los Angeles

CALIFORNIA



ERIC GARCETTI MAYOR DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SERVICES 221 N. Figueroa Street 6TH Floor, Suite #600 Los Angeles, CA 90012

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BRENDA F. BARNETTE GENERAL MANAGER

TAMMY WATSON ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER Administration

MELISSA WEBBER ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER Lifesaving

DR. JEREMY PRUPAS CHIEF VETERINARIAN

Report to the Board of Animal Services Commissioners

MEETING DATE: January 8, 2019

REPORT DATE: January 3, 2019

PREPARED BY: Jeremy Prupus, DVM

TITLE: Chief Veterinarian

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZE THE USE OF ANIMAL WELFARE TRUST FUNDS TO PURCHASE CANINE INFLUENZA VACCINES FOR SHELTER DOGS

BOARD ACTION RECOMMENDED:

APPROVE the use of \$200,000 in Animal Welfare Trust Funds to purchase canine influenza vaccines for Los Angeles Animal Services center dogs.

BACKGROUND:

In March 2017, Los Angeles County Veterinary Public Health reported the presence of multiple dogs from a rescue group as being infected with Canine Influenza (H3N2). All of the identified dogs were guarantined and, fortunately, no further infections were reported.

Canine Influenza (H3N2) is a highly contagious upper respiratory viral disease in dogs. First reported in Asia in 2006, the virus has now been found sporadically in the majority of the United States. The Chicago area went through a well-documented outbreak starting in March 2015. Despite their best efforts to combat it, the virus became endemic and Chicago experienced multiple, smaller outbreaks in 2016 and 2017. The majority of infected dogs exhibits a cough that persists for 10 to 30 days despite treatment with antibiotics and cough suppressants. Affected dogs may have a soft, moist cough or a dry cough similar to that induced by kennel cough. Nasal and/or ocular discharge, sneezing, lethargy and anorexia may also be observed. Many dogs develop a purulent nasal discharge and fever (104 -105°F). A small percentage of infected dogs may develop severe pneumonia and require extensive hospitalization.

The virus is spread via coughing, barking and sneezing, as well as contaminated objects (kennel surfaces, food and water bowls, collars and leashes). The virus can remain alive and able to infect other animals on surfaces for up to 48 hours, on clothing for 24 hours, and on hands for 12 hours.

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The keys to preventing the spread of the Canine Influenza virus include:

- Vaccination (requires 2 vaccinations 2-4 weeks apart)
- Timely identification and isolation of sick animals for at least 30 days
- Proper sanitizing and infection control protocols being followed within the animal center
- Frequent hand washing by staff, volunteers and the public

SUMMARY:

The Department has implemented a plan that requires that all dogs are vaccinated for Canine Influenza as part of our impounding protocol. It is important to note here that vaccination does not guarantee that a shelter will not have influenza cases. The expectation is that there would hopefully be a decrease in both the number of animals infected, as well as the severity of the infections.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Given the number of dogs that are impounded annually (approximately 25,000), as well as boostering those dogs that stay in the shelter over two weeks (at least 50%), we estimate that we would require approximately \$200,000, (approximately \$5 per vaccine) a year to vaccinate all of the dogs for Canine Influenza.

Approved:

Brenda Barnette, General Manager

BOARD ACTION:

Passed

Passed with noted modifications

Disapproved

Continued

Tabled

New Date

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DR. JEREMY PRUPAS CHIEF VETERINARIAN

Report to the Board of Animal Services Commissioners

MEETING DATE: January 3, 2019

PREPARED BY: LaTonya Dean

REPORT DATE: January 8, 2019

TITLE: Commission Executive Assistant

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZE THE USE OF ANIMAL STERILIZATION TRUST FUNDS FOR TWO FREE SPAY AND NEUTER CAMPAIGNS FOR CATS AND KITTENS

BOARD ACTION RECOMMENDED:

APPROVE the use of \$200,000 in Animal Sterilization Trust Funds to facilitate two free spay and neuter campaigns for cats and kittens.

BACKGROUND

The Department of Animal Services is historically inundated with 8,000 to 9,000 cats and kittens every year often starting in April-May. The influx of cats and kittens brought into the Los Angeles Animal Services (LAAS) shelters has grown steadily over the years. The Department is seeking to launch two free spay and neuter campaigns for cats and kittens through the use of funds from the Animal Sterilization Trust Fund.

SUMMARY

This funding will allow the Department to launch two campaigns that would promote the events and provide education to members of the public on the free spay and neuter of cats and kittens. It will also allow LAAS an opportunity to remind the public of the maximum number of cats/kittens allowed per household and would provide literature on spay and neuter services in both English and Spanish. The first campaign would be strategically scheduled before "kitten season," (March 2019) the time LAAS typically experiences a surge in kitten and cat relinquishments at the shelters. The second campaign would begin in August 2019.

LAAS has initiated similar campaigns in the past which resulted in a large number of cats and kittens being spayed and neutered. Aggressive spay and neuter campaigns focused on cats and kittens will help us manage our pet overpopulation and save the lives of animals.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact to the General Fund. Each campaign would expend \$100,000 from the Animal Sterilization Fund – Account No. 842 in Fiscal Year 2018-19 and in Fiscal Year 2019-20.

Approved:

Brenda F. Barnette, General Manager

BOARD ACTION:

 Passed	Disapproved	
 Passed with noted modifications	Continued	
 Tabled	New Date	