



City Commission Agenda Item

Meeting Date: November 5th, 2024
From: Randy Frazer, City Manager
Item: **Consent Agenda:** Additional \$20,000.00 Contribution to the Cowley County Humane Society

Purpose: A Resolution authorizing the City of Arkansas City to allocate an additional fund contribution to the Cowley County Humane Society (CCHS), to cover financial shortfalls, for an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00. **(Voice Vote)**

Background: The additional \$20,000.00 contribution from the City of Arkansas City to the Cowley County Humane Society (CCHS) to help cover an unexpected \$60,000.00 shortfall needed to continue operations for the remainder of the year.

The Cowley County Humane Society (CCHS) operates the Cowley County Animal Shelter, serving the needs of Arkansas City and Winfield under an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement. Both cities provide \$35,000.00 annually towards the shelter's operational costs, while the shelter's primary funding comes from fees, donations, and volunteer efforts. Due to unexpected financial challenges and accounting discrepancies that are now being resolved, the shelter is projected to fall \$60,000.00 short of its financial needs for the year.

The City of Winfield has already committed \$20,000.00 towards this shortfall, and CCHS has agreed to contribute an additional \$20,000.00 through fundraising efforts and improved financial oversight. Arkansas City's approval of this matching \$20,000.00 contribution will ensure the shelter's continued operation throughout the remainder of the year.

CCHS has taken steps to improve its financial reporting and control processes, including updates to QuickBooks access and reconciliation of bank statements. In addition, a recent anonymous donation of \$8,500.00 has allowed the shelter to catch up on past-due veterinary bills. Fundraising efforts are ongoing, with sponsorships and community donations helping to stabilize the shelter's financial position.

Commission Options:

1. Approve the Resolution
2. Disapprove the Resolution
3. Table the Resolution for further discussion

Fiscal Impact:

Amount: \$20,000.00

Fund: **01-General** Department: **201-City Commission** Expense Code: **6217-Contributions**

Included in budget Grant Bonds Other Not Budgeted

Approved for Agenda by:

Randy Frazer, City Manager