

TO: Kate Thunstrom, City Administrator
FROM: Todd Schwieger, Police Chief
SUBJECT: Animal Control
DATE: January 21, 2025

OVERVIEW:

The City of St. Francis is currently under contract with Online Retrievers for animal control services. On December 26th, 2024, the City was notified that Online Retrievers would be suspending its services for a minimum period of 60 days to attend to family needs. Staff immediately began to look into other animal control service providers in the area. Staff found that a number of facilities will board but will not pick up stray animals with the exception of Gratitude Farms. Gratitude Farms was contacted and was willing to provide animal control services to the City on a temporary basis until Online Retrievers is able to resume services. Gratitude Farms did provide up to date kennel license and inspection records.

ACTION TO BE CONSIDERED:

City Council to approve a temporary contract between the City of St. Francis and Gratitude Farms for animal control services. The contract would be renewed on a monthly basis for up to one year.

BUDGET IMPLICATION:

All fees are the responsibility of the animal owner and the only time there is a fee to the City of St. Francis is on the occasion that an owner is unable to be located, or a pickup is canceled.

Attachments:

- Temporary Animal Control Contract with Gratitude Farms