

Mendocino County Health and Human Services Agency

Healthy People, Healthy Communities

Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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\$11.6 million County Deficit Necessitates Closure of Coast Animal Shelter

Tuesday, June 15, 2010, the BOS adopted a budget that takes steps to close the county's \$11.6 million deficit. Based on the County's current fiscal status, services are being consolidated wherever possible. As a result, effective July 31, 2010, Animal Care Services will now be offered to all residents through one central shelter location in Ukiah. This service delivery model for shelter services is currently used in other unincorporated areas of the county such as Laytonville, Covelo and Leggett.

While the County can no longer afford to operate two shelter facilities, it is the intention of the County to participate with the City of Fort Bragg and coastal residents to explore other models of non-county operation for the existing facility on Summers Lane. The recent shelter improvements and close proximity to several coastal population areas creates an excellent opportunity for a community based model to emerge. The County remains open to collaboration in identifying a new direction for these services on the Coast.

Animal Care Services will be provided out of the Ukiah shelter facility to the Cities of Fort Bragg, Point Arena, Willits, Ukiah and all unincorporated areas of the county. If you

have questions regarding shelter services which include: licensing, impounded animals, owner redemptions, adoptions, spay and neuter services, lost or found pets or volunteering please call 707-463-4427 or 707-964-2718. You may also obtain information by visiting the Animal Care Services website using this link <http://www.co.mendocino.ca.us/hhsa/chs/animal/pets.htm> .

Animal Control Field Services will continue to be provided through the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office, Animal Control Division, for all areas except the incorporated City of Ukiah. Field officers will continue to patrol and pick up stray, injured and aggressive animals. If you have questions regarding field related services which include: loose dogs, barking dogs, nuisance animals, injured animals, humane complaints or animal bites in the Unincorporated County areas, City of Fort Bragg, City of Willits and Point Arena please call 707-463-4086 or 707-961-2421. Within the Ukiah City limits please call 707-463-6262.

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