



# Taylor County

## Board of County Commissioners'

### Policy Manual

5.08

Policy #:	Title:	Effective Date:
2009-10	Fee Waivers	03/17/09

#### PURPOSE

To establish guidelines regarding the waiver of fees due to special circumstances

#### REFERENCE

None

#### POLICY

On occasion Animal Control is confronted with some unique situations. Animal Control must deal with live animals that are people's personal property. The Animal Control Director needs some flexibility to deal with hardship situations to help prevent suffering or euthanasia of the family pet. Listed below are some examples of when a fee waiver might be appropriate.

1. If Animal Control impounds a road-hit animal that requires immediate medical attention, waiving fees would expedite the redemption process and reduce financial hardship associated with veterinary bills.
2. Fees may be waived in situations where the animals are impounded at the request of the Sheriff's Office (S.O.) rather than for violations of the Animal Control Ordinance, such as civil or criminal infractions.
3. Animal Control will sometimes impound the animals for their own protection in possible neglect or abandonment cases and sort the details of the case out after the fact. If the owners are able to provide proof that they did not abandon their animals, Animal Control may waive part or all of the fees.
4. Animal Control may waive fees if an animal was impounded in error.
5. Fees may be waived up to five (5) days if the animals were impounded because of a natural or manmade disaster such as fire, flood, hurricane or tornado, and the animal's owner was temporarily deprived of their ability to provide humane care.
6. On numerous occasions, Animal Control has impounded animals at the scene of an automobile accident, where the owner was injured and transported to the hospital. The animal was not impounded for a violation of the Animal Control Ordinance. Fees may be waived up to five (5) days.
7. It is impossible to include in these guidelines all the possibilities where a fee waiver might be appropriate. The Animal Control Director is authorized to waive fees in the above outlined cases as well as other situations that arise in which the health or safety of an animal is affected or where an adverse hardship is placed upon the animal's owner.

## RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT

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Environmental Services Department – Animal Control

**Sunset Date:** 03/01/2020