



# Taylor County

## Board of County Commissioners'

### Policy Manual

5.09

Policy #:	Title:	Effective Date:
2009-11	Fostering of Animals	03/17/09

#### PURPOSE

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To establish procedure for fostering animals.

#### REFERENCE

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None

#### POLICY

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Taylor County Animal Control will allow fostering of animals that are considered adoptable by Animal Control staff but have yet to be adopted after the hold time has ended. Procedures for fostering animals are as follows:

- 1) The person desiring to foster must fill out a foster application. If the individual is approved by the Animal Control Coordinator a file will be maintained. This file will also contain a Hold Harmless agreement which must be signed releasing the Board of County Commissioners from all responsibility while housing the said animal(s). The file will contain an agreement that if the foster parent (with prior approval from the Animal Control Coordinator) receives any veterinarian procedures for the fostered animal, the foster parent is responsible for any and all veterinarian bills. **THE COUNTY WILL NOT REIMBURSE THE FOSTER PARENT FOR ANY VETERINARIAN BILLS.** The file will also contain information for every animal fostered and the final disposition of said animal.
- 2) A copy of the fostering procedures will be provided to our local vets so that they are aware of the procedures and the financial responsibility of the foster parent.
- 3) The foster parent will be responsible for all costs including, but not limited to, housing, feeding and veterinary bills for the fostered animal.
- 4) The foster parent will abide by all state laws and Taylor County ordinances while fostering the animal(s). Any violations of this section will result in immediate confiscation of said animal.
- 5) The foster parent may keep the animal(s) for 2 weeks while attempting to find this animal a suitable adopter. It shall be the discretion of the Animal Control Coordinator if an extension may be warranted. If an adopter is found the foster parent will turn the animal(s) over to Animal Control and the adopter will proceed with adoption procedures. At no point during the foster time period will the

- foster parent make any promises or decisions regarding the adoption of the animal(s).
- 6) If during the foster time period any changes of demeanor are noted or the animal becomes ill it is the foster parent's responsibility to contact Animal Control immediately and bring the animal into the shelter.
  - 7) The foster parent will sign an agreement, understanding that if the animal has not been adopted during the foster process the animal will be euthanized when turned over to Taylor County Animal Control.
  - 8) Any deviations from this procedure may result in the foster parent being prohibited from fostering in the future.

An adoption or fostering of an animal by a Taylor County employee may occur only after the animal is held for the full required statutory period. Processing of all paperwork for adoption for county staff will be done by the Animal Control Coordinator with final approval of the Environmental Services Director. Animal Control staff may foster or adopt an animal. The Environmental Services Director shall be notified by the Animal Control employee of their desire to foster/adopt. The Director will review the case file and may approve or deny the adoption/fostering. If permission is granted, the Animal Control Coordinator will process the paperwork to be signed off by the Director. All regular policies and procedures shall be in force when a County employee is involved.

## **RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT**

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Environmental Services Department – Animal Control

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