

Animal Advisory Board Minutes

November 17, 2010

Call to order

Ida Estep called the meeting to order as Chair Dianne Barrett was not able to attend. The following Board Members were present: Voting members: Ida Estep, Brenda Simmons, Bess Nicholson and Dr. Elyse Goldman, DVM; ex-officio members: Franklin County Animal Control Director Graham Stallings, and Franklin County Humane Society President Kelly Larson. Absent: voting member Jackie Oakley, Mark Speed, Dianne Barrett and non-voting member Commissioner David Bunn.

Members of the public. Estep recognized Dr. Christopher M. Szwagiel, DrPH, MPH, MS, Director, Franklin County Health Department, and the Animal Control Officers: Wesley Denton, Kathy Johnson, and Maylon Edwards and Cynthia Anderson. Also, Allyce Johnson, Jamie Barbour, and Pamela Baptiste. A sign-up sheet was passed for a complete listing of all in attendance.

Public Member Comment

Pamela Baptiste asked: if an animal is found dead and has identification, is there a policy or other method to locate the owner to let them know their animal has been found. The recommendation was made to start with contacting elected officials. Stallings suggested contacting DOT. Ms. Baptiste will be in touch with Stallings.

Motion to Adopt the Minutes

Nicholson so moved, Simmons seconded, and the motion carried to approve minutes of the October 20, 2010, AAB meeting.

Animal Advisory Board Member Change

Estep acknowledged Dr. Kimberley Barth's resignation. An appreciation note will be sent to both Paulette Woods and Dr. Barth for their service on the Board. Discussion followed to seek an interested veterinarian to fill Dr. Barth's position and to be approved by the County Commissioners.

Report from Dr. Chris Szwagiel

Dr. Szwagiel was asked to speak about his experience and knowledge concerning Rabies Control enforcement in Franklin and Halifax Counties. (He was previously Health Director in Halifax County).

1. The Halifax Ordinance will be e-mailed to all AAB members.
2. Stallings read an e-mail from County Attorney Darnell Batton concerning collectable fees from Rabies Vaccine violations. Discussion followed with several unanswered questions concerning our allowed recommendations of remedies to the County Commissioners.
3. Dr. Szwagiel and the board agreed that as Health Dept. Director he will act as liaison between Stallings, the Board of Health, AAB, Commissioner Bunn and Mr. Batton and confer with Amy Wall and Fleming Bell from the Institutes of Government, as to how we can best strengthen and facilitate enforcement of Rabies Control violation penalties.
4. Dr. Szwagiel further mentioned that all fees collected due to violations of Rabies Control Laws in Halifax County were returned to be used by Animal Control which in Halifax County is within the Health Department.

New Business

Larson asked if the ACO's are aware of aggressive dogs or quarantined dogs so that they are not adopted into inappropriate homes. Stallings replied that the ACO's have the ability to do that. Larson said the Franklin County Humane Society will supply microchips if that is feasible and helpful.

Old Business

Stallings said there is a \$25 redemption fee as stated in the Franklin County Ordinance. Is there also a \$5/day boarding fee?

Ordinance Work Session-Meeting Continued

Section1-7 –Animals At Large and Wandering Stray as stated in Franklin County Ordinance Draft

- A. Change *Director* to *Officer*
- B. As is.
- C. To be deleted and replaced with a separate fee schedule (similar to New Hanover County in organization) with our purposed penalties and fees.

- D. The Civil fees and boarding fees will be placed in the fee schedule and shall be set each year on action of the Board of Commissioners.
- E. As is.
- F. Delete *penalty* and replace with *fee*. Delete *paid within 23 days* and replace with *prior to release of the animal*.

Section 1-8 –Animals Creating Nuisance

B. 2nd paragraph- Delete *However, barking dogs.....or repeatedly*.

4. Domestic animal....change *fecus* to *feces*.

6. Delete *After the owner.....be in violation of the ordinance*. Replace with Halifax County Ordinance p.9 *Owners or keepers of domestic animals determined.... (48) Hours*. Delete *(by whatever means necessary)*. Continue –*Failure to complycontinues thereafter*.

7. As is.

8. As is.

Page 13 Cat Colonies Delete the last line –*This provision does not pertain.....ordinance*.

Section 1-9 –Confinement and Control of Inherently Dangerous Mammals

Leave the word mammal (vs. animal)

Definition: Exotic Animal p.3 Unless such animal is included in the definition ofanimal Delete *(that is not indigenous to North Carolina) that is either a carnivore, primate, Delete (or poisonous)* Continue-*snake or other venomous animal*.

Next Meeting: Wednesday January 12, 2011 at 6:15pm in the Administration Building.

Motion to Adjourn: Simmons so moved and Nicholson seconded, all approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Elyse Goldman, DVM

