



REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

ITEM NO. 21.

DATE OF MEETING: January 4, 2010

REQUESTED BY: Rick Benton, County Manager

SHORT TITLE: Resolution Establishing an Animal Control Ordinance Review and Recommendation Committee

BACKGROUND: The Board has asked staff to develop recommendations for appointment of a committee to review the County's animal control ordinances and procedures. After consulting with Dr. Griffith, Health Director, the following recommendations are presented for Board consideration:

Recommendation #1: The Board of Commissioners should authorize the formation of an "Animal Control Ordinance Review and Recommendation Committee." The purpose of the Committee is to assess the effectiveness of the current County animal control ordinance and its impact on regulations and procedures as conducted by the Animal Control Program, and to recommend amended or new regulations and procedures for protecting the public health, safety and welfare of county residents; enabling residents of Pender County to walk and exercise themselves and their pets without fear of attack from an aggressive animal; preventing injury to other animals from attacks by aggressive animals; increasing fines and penalties accordingly when an animal or its owner is found to be responsible for an unprovoked attack on either a person or another animal; and protecting animals and the public from the threat of rabies.

Recommendation #2: The Board of Health should appoint stakeholders to the Committee representing the following groups if possible: Friends of the Shelter; Monty's Home/Pawsitive Partners Prison Program or other advocacy group, such as a representative from the American Kennel Club or the United Kennel Club; Veterinarian Representative; Representative from the Pender County Humane Society; Sheriff's Representative; District Attorney Representative; and a Representative of the Local Hunt Clubs.

Recommendation #3: Each member of the Board of Commissioners should appoint one resident representing that Commissioner's District to serve on the Committee.

Recommendation #4: The Health Director should serve as the Committee liaison to the Board of Health, and the County Manager should serve as the Committee liaison to the Board of Commissioners. The Health Director and County Manager will provide for staff support and technical advice as needed by the Committee.

Recommendation #5: The Committee should meet as soon as practical after appointments are finalized, and as often as necessary to prepare and present recommendations to the Board of Health on or by March

16, 2010; with the Board of Health making final recommendations to the Board of Commissioners on or by April 19, 2010. The Committee shall elect a Chair and Vice-Chair to guide the committee's work.

SPECIFIC ACTION REQUESTED: To consider a resolution establishing an Animal Control Ordinance Review and Recommendation Committee with guidelines as set forth above in Recommendations 1-5.

COUNTY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION

Respectfully recommend approval.

RS

Initial

RESOLUTION

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Pender County Board of Commissioners that:

- a. The Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the formation of an "Animal Control Ordinance Review and Recommendation Committee." The purpose of the Committee is to assess the effectiveness of the current County animal control ordinance and its impact on regulations and procedures as conducted by the Animal Control Program, and to recommend amended or new regulations and procedures for protecting the public health, safety and welfare of county residents; enabling residents of Pender County to walk and exercise themselves and their pets without fear of attack from an aggressive animal; preventing injury to other animals from attacks by aggressive animals; increase fines and penalties accordingly when an animal or its owner is found to be responsible for an unprovoked attack on either a person or another animal; and protecting animals and the public from the threat of rabies.
- b. The Board of Health shall appoint stakeholders to the Committee representing the following groups if possible: Friends of the Shelter; Monty's Home/Pawsitive Partners Prison Program or other advocacy group, such as a representative from the American Kennel Club or the United Kennel Club; Veterinarian Representative; Representative from the Pender County Humane Society; Sheriff's Representative; District Attorney Representative; and a Representative of the Local Hunt Clubs. The Board of Health shall make these appointments at their regularly scheduled meeting on January 19, 2010.
- c. Each member of the Board of Commissioners shall appoint one resident representing that Commissioner's District to serve on the Committee. Each Commissioner shall provide his appointment name to the Deputy County Clerk on or before January 8, 2010.
- d. The Health Director shall serve as the Committee liaison to the Board of Health, and the County Manager should serve as the Committee liaison to the Board of Commissioners. The Health Director and County Manager will provide for staff support and technical advice as needed by the Committee.
- e. The Committee shall meet as soon as practical after appointments are finalized, and often as necessary to prepare and present recommendations to the Board of Health on or by March 16, 2010; with the Board of Health making final recommendations to the Board of

Commissioners on or by April 19, 2010. The Committee shall elect a Chair and Vice-Chair to guide the committee's work.

The Chairman/County Manager is authorized to execute any/all documents necessary to implement this resolution.

AMENDMENTS:

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____

APPROVED _____ DENIED _____ UNANIMOUS

YEA VOTES: Tate ___ Blanchard ___ Brown ___ Rivenbark ___ Williams ___

Jimmy T. Tate, Chairman Date

ATTEST Date