PUBLIC INFORMATION

ITEM NO. _1_

DATE OF MEETING: March 21, 2016

REQUESTED BY: Randell Woodruff, County Manager

SHORT TITLE: Recognition of Outstanding Pender County Employee Jewel Horton.

BACKGROUND: Jewell Horton is the Manager at the Pender County Animal Shelter. Ms. Horton has worked at the Animal Shelter as the manager since August of 2013. In that time Ms. Horton has done some great things to improve the shelter overall. Ms. Horton came to Pender County with a wealth of animal care experience. She was able to assess the shelter needs and make recommendations on not only the physical aspects of the facility but on training staff in shelter care to help reduce and prevent the spread of infection in the kennels. She has spent numerous hours cultivating relationships in the county and the region that has enabled the shelter to increase adoption numbers and rescue group placement as well as maintaining strong working connections with area veterinarians. She doesn't hesitate to work the extra hours needed to assure animals are cared for and will not ask her staff to do anything she wouldn't do. The equine facility was established through private donations and has been valuable when horses needed to be sheltered in the midst of cruelty cases and at other times. You can find her at an early morning TV station with a Pender pet; standing in the cold offering rabies vaccinations on a weekend or at any possible adoption event in the region. Ms. Horton's knowledge of animal behavior precludes animals going to homes that would not match well with their temperament and the adopting family. Pender County is fortunate to have such a highly qualified and experienced employee. Below is a list of her accomplishments:

Initiated:
Pit Bull Cruelty Fundraiser
Equine Facility Fundraiser
Spay Neuter Surgical Facility (currently)

Implemented:
Medical Program where animals receive vaccines, flea and tick, and deworming upon intake
Micro-chipping Program
Professional photo training with staff for better promoting adoptions
Rabies clinics with public education
New play yard area
Dog Pavilion curtains

Manages/Developed:
All Social Media Accounts promoting adoptions
Relationships with Rescue groups
Numerous adoption fairs
WECT Pet of the week with Kim Ratcliff

No longer failing NC Ag inspections
Adoptions have significantly increased

Ms. Horton is a member of CAMET (Companion Animal mobile Equipment Trailer) and she developed the "Pender County Animal Control Ordinance Facts" brochure for public education that is on the agenda later in this meeting.