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PROOF OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF NEVADA  
COUNTY OF WASHOE

ss. Tana Ciccotti

being first duly sworn, deposes and says:  
That as the legal clerk of the RENO GAZETTE-  
JOURNAL, a daily newspaper published in Reno,  
Washoe County, State of Nevada, that the notice:  
Ord 1103

of which a copy is hereto attached, has been  
published in each regular and entire issue of said  
newspaper on the following dates to wit:

Aug. 16, 23, 2000

Signed *Tana Ciccotti*

Subscribed and sworn to before me this

AUG 23 2000

*Susan V. Dummar*

Notary Public



SUSAN V. DUMMAR  
Notary Public - State of Nevada  
Appointment Recorded in Washoe County  
No: 98-4006-2 - Expires August 17, 2002

**NOTICE OF ADOPTION  
WASHOE COUNTY ORDINANCE  
NO. 1103**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT:  
Bill No. 1279, Ordinance No. 1103,  
entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMEND-  
ING THE WASHOE COUNTY CODE  
BY REVISING PROVISIONS PER-  
TAINING TO VACCINATION OF ANI-  
MALS AGAINST RABIES AND PRO-  
VIDING OTHER MATTERS PROP-  
ERLY RELATING THERETO  
was adopted on August 8, 2000, by  
Commissioners Jim Galloway, Pete  
Sferrazza, Jim Shaw, and Ted Short,  
with Joanne Bond absent, and will  
become effective on **Thursday,  
August 24, 2000.**

Typewritten copies of the ordinance  
are available for inspection by all  
interested persons at the office of  
the County Clerk, 75 Court Street,  
Reno, Nevada.

AMY HARVEY,  
Washoe County Clerk  
No.3052 Aug.16,23, 2000

PLEASE STAMP & SIGN FOR PAYMENT

AUG 23 2000

SUMMARY: An ordinance amending Washoe County Code by revising the provisions pertaining to vaccination of animals against rabies and quarantine of animals who have bitten a person or are suspected of having been exposed to rabies.

BILL NO. 1279

ORDINANCE NO. 1103

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE WASHOE COUNTY CODE BY REVISING PROVISIONS PERTAINING TO VACCINATION OF ANIMALS AGAINST RABIES AND PROVIDING OTHER MATTERS PROPERLY RELATING THERETO.

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF WASHOE DO ORDAIN:

SECTION 1. Chapter 55 of the Washoe County Code is hereby amended by adding the new provisions as set forth as sections 2 through 5 inclusive of this ordinance.

SECTION 2.

55.293 "Guide dog" defined. "Guide dog" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 426.075.

SECTION 3.

55.2931 "Health authority" defined. "Health authority" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 441A.050.

SECTION 4.

55.2932 "Hearing dog" defined. "Hearing dog" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 426.081.

SECTION 5.

55.2933 "Helping dog" defined. "Helping dog" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 426.083.

SECTION 6. Section 55.021 of the Washoe County Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

55.021 "Dog bite" defined. "Dog bite" means breaking of the skin by the teeth of a dog.

SECTION 7. Section 55.034 of the Washoe County Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

55.034 Rabies vaccination required. The animal control officer shall not issue a license for any dog until:

1. The owner of the dog produces a certificate of rabies

vaccination showing the dog is currently vaccinated against rabies in accordance with Washoe County Code 55.320. Each certificate of rabies vaccination shall expire as noted on the vaccination certificate and shall include the information specified in section 55.322; or

2. The owner of the dog furnishes a statement from a licensed veterinarian that the dog should not be vaccinated.

SECTION 8. Section 55.314 of the Washoe County Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

55.314 "Vaccination against rabies" defined.

1. "Vaccination against rabies" means the inoculation of a dog, cat or ferret with a rabies vaccine in accordance with Washoe County Code 55.320.

2. Such vaccination must be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

SECTION 9. Section 55.320 of the Washoe County Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

55.320 Rabies vaccination of dogs, cats and ferrets required.

1. An owner of a dog, cat or ferret shall maintain the dog, cat or ferret currently vaccinated against rabies in accordance with the provisions of this section and the recommendations set forth in the "Compendium of Animal Rabies Control," published by the National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians, Inc., which is hereby adopted by reference. The publication is available, free of charge, from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402-9325. Telephone (202) 512-1800.

2. A dog or cat must be vaccinated against rabies with a vaccine that is designed to provide protection from rabies for 3 years. The provisions of this subsection do not prohibit the vaccination of a dog or cat against rabies with a vaccine that is designed to provide protection from rabies for a longer period if recommended in the "Compendium of Animal Rabies Control."

3. A ferret must be vaccinated against rabies annually. The provisions of this subsection do not prohibit the vaccination of a ferret against rabies with a vaccine that is designed to provide protection from rabies for a longer period if recommended in the "Compendium of Animal Rabies Control."

4. A licensed veterinarian may exempt a dog, cat or ferret from vaccination for health reasons. The veterinarian shall record the reasons for exemption and a specific description of the dog, cat or ferret, including the name, age, sex, breed and color on a rabies vaccination certificate which must bear the owner's name and address. The veterinarian shall record whether the reason for exemption is permanent, and if it is not, the date the exemption expires.

5. A dog, cat or ferret that is exempted from or too young for vaccination against rabies must be confined to the premises of the owner or kept under physical restraint by the owner.

6. The owner shall not allow a dog, cat or ferret over 3 months of age to enter this county unless the owner has in his immediate possession written proof that the dog, cat or ferret is currently vaccinated against rabies or has an exemption for health reasons.

7. If the owner of a dog, cat or ferret violates any provision of this section, the dog, cat or ferret may be impounded.

SECTION 10. Section 55.322 of the Washoe County Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

55.322 Veterinarians: Issuance of certificates of vaccination and rabies vaccination tags; cooperation with investigation by rabies control authority.

1. A veterinarian who vaccinates an animal against rabies shall complete three copies of a certificate of vaccination against rabies for the animal vaccinated. The certificate of vaccination against rabies must include, but is not limited to:

- (a) The name and address of the owner of the animal.
- (b) A description of the animal, including the name, age, sex, breed, color and weight of the animal.
- (c) The date the vaccination was administered.
- (d) The product name of the vaccine used.
- (e) The lot number of the vaccine.
- (f) The date the animal is due for revaccination based on the duration of immunity provided by the vaccine according to its label.
- (g) The number on the rabies vaccination tag issued pursuant to subsection 3.
- (h) The name, address and license number of the veterinarian.
- (i) The signature of the veterinarian who administered the vaccine. The signature of the veterinarian may be handwritten, stamped, or produced by a computer.

2. The veterinarian shall:

- (a) Provide the original copy of the certificate of vaccination to the owner of the animal;
- (b) Provide a copy of the certificate of vaccination to the rabies control authority; and
- (c) Retain a copy of the certificate of vaccination for the period that the vaccination is current.

3. A veterinarian who vaccinates an animal against rabies shall issue to the owner a metal rabies vaccination tag, serially numbered to match the number on the certificate of vaccination against rabies. A rabies vaccination tag must not conflict with the shape or color of local license tags.

4. The owner of the dog shall securely attach the rabies vaccination tag to the collar of the dog. Whenever the dog is outdoors, whether on or off the owner's premises, the dog shall wear the collar with the vaccination tag.

5. A veterinarian shall cooperate with any investigation of an animal bite, or of a case having rabies or suspected case considered to have rabies by providing all information requested by the rabies control authority.

SECTION 11. Section 55.328 of the Washoe County Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

55.328 Quarantine of biting animals. Management of animals that have bitten persons; responsibility of owner for costs of quarantine, veterinary care and examination.

1. Except as otherwise provided in subsections 2 and 3, the rabies control authority shall cause a dog, cat or ferret, regardless of current vaccination against rabies, which has bitten a person, to be quarantined and, for 10 days following the bite, to be observed under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian or any other person designated by the rabies control authority. The dog, cat or ferret must be quarantined within an enclosure or with restraints deemed adequate by the rabies control authority to prevent direct contact with a person or an animal. Alternatively, the animal control officer may take up and impound the animal and place it in quarantine for a period of time recommended by the health authority.

2. Home quarantine may be authorized by the animal control officer under the following conditions:

(a) The owner must show a current rabies vaccination certificate; and

(b) The quarantine holding facilities must be approved by the animal control officer.

3. Nursing female animals or animals under the treatment of a veterinarian may be considered for home quarantine on a case-by-case basis in the absence of a current rabies vaccination.

4. At the end of the 10 day quarantine period, the owner of any animal placed in quarantine shall present to the animal control officer a written statement, executed by a veterinarian, indicating that the animal has been examined and found to be free of any signs or symptoms of rabies and has been inoculated against rabies. An unclaimed animal, or an animal whose owner is unknown, may be released from quarantine after 10 days by the person under whose supervision the animal was observed during the quarantine period.

5. An animal may be destroyed in the process of capture when there is reason to believe that it has bitten a person or has rabies. Animal destruction is authorized only when circumstances reasonably require such destruction in order to effect capture.

6. If a dog which has bitten a person is owned by a canine unit of a law enforcement agency or is a guide dog, hearing dog or helping dog, the rabies control authority may waive the requirement that the dog be quarantined if:

(a) The bite occurred while the dog was carrying out his normal duties for the law enforcement agency or as a guide dog, hearing dog or helping dog;

(b) The dog has been vaccinated against rabies pursuant to Washoe County Code 55.320; and

(c) For 10 days following the bite, the dog is observed under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian or any other person designated by the rabies control authority.

7. A dog, cat or ferret which has bitten a person may be euthanized and tested for rabies without a period of quarantine if:

- (a) The animal is so ill or so severely injured that it would be inhumane to keep it alive;
- (b) In the opinion of the health authority or licensed veterinarian, the animal exhibits paralysis or neurological or behavioral symptoms that are consistent with rabies; or
- (c) The behavior of the animal is so fractious or aggressive that it is not possible for the rabies control authority to manage the animal safely.

8. The dog, cat or ferret must be examined by a licensed veterinarian at the first sign of illness during the 10 days of observation. Any illness must be reported immediately to the rabies control authority. If signs of rabies develop during the 10 days of observation, the dog, cat or ferret must be euthanized and its head removed and shipped under refrigeration (not frozen) for examination at the laboratory of the state department of agriculture. If at the end of the quarantine period, the animal is free of all signs of rabies:

- (a) The animal must be returned to its owner upon payment of all costs of quarantine and veterinary care and examination; or
- (b) The animal may be euthanized in a manner prescribed by the rabies control authority if the owner of the animal cannot be located. The head of the animal is not required to be submitted to the laboratory of the state department of agriculture for examination.

9. A bat, raccoon, skunk, or fox which has bitten a person must be euthanized immediately without a period of quarantine and the head submitted for laboratory examination.

10. Any other species of animal which has bitten a person must be managed as deemed appropriate in the discretion of the rabies control authority.

11. The owner of an animal quarantined pursuant to the provisions of this chapter is responsible for all costs of quarantine and veterinary care and examination.

12. The person responsible for supervising an animal quarantined pursuant to subsection 1 shall not release the animal to any person other than the owner of the animal at the time it was quarantined or a member of the immediate family of that person.

SECTION 12. Section 55.338 of the Washoe County Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

55.338 Management of animals that have been in close contact with animal suspected or known to have rabies; responsibility of owner for costs of quarantine, veterinary care and examination.

1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, a wild or exotic animal that is rabies-susceptible and in close contact with an animal suspected or known to have rabies must be euthanized immediately. The rabies control authority may exempt a rare or valuable animal from the provisions of this section.

2. Unless the owner of the animal objects, a dog, cat or

ferret which has not been vaccinated pursuant to Washoe County Code 55.320 and which is considered by the rabies control authority to have been in close contact with an animal suspected or known to have rabies must be euthanized immediately. If the owner of the animal objects, the dog, cat or ferret must be quarantined within an enclosure or with restraints deemed adequate by the rabies control authority to prevent direct contact with a person or an animal for 180 days, under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian or any other person designated by the rabies control authority. The dog, cat or ferret must be vaccinated 1 month before release.

3. A dog, cat or ferret which has been vaccinated pursuant to Washoe County Code 55.320 and which is considered by the rabies control authority to have been in close contact with an animal suspected or known to have rabies must be:

(a) Immediately revaccinated and confined for 45 days in a manner prescribed by the rabies control authority; or

(b) Upon the request of the owner of the dog, cat or ferret, euthanized.

4. A domesticated animal of a rabies-susceptible species, other than a dog, cat or ferret, which is considered by the rabies control authority to have been in close contact with an animal suspected or known to have rabies must be managed according to the discretion of the rabies control authority.

5. The owner of an animal confined pursuant to the provisions of this section is responsible for all costs of confinement and veterinary care and examination.

6. As used in this section, "in close contact with an animal suspected or known to have rabies" means, within the past 180 days, to have been bitten, mouthed or mauled by, or closely confined on the same premises with, an animal suspected or known to have rabies.

SECTION 13. Section 55.397 of the Washoe County Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

55.397 "Animal bite" defined. "Animal bite" means breaking of the skin by the teeth of an animal.

[Business Impact Note: The Board of County Commissioners hereby finds that this ordinance does not impose a direct and significant economic burden upon a business, nor does it directly restrict the formation, operation or expansion of a business.]

Proposed on the 18th day of July, 2000.

Proposed by Commissioner Jim Shaw.

Passed on the 8th day of August, 2000.

Vote:

Ayes: **Commissioners Jim Galloway, Pete Sferrazza,  
Jim Shaw, Ted Short**

Nays: Commissioner Joanne Bond.

Absent: None.

  
Chairman  
Washoe County Commission

ATTEST:

  
County Clerk

This ordinance shall be in force and effect from and after the  
24th day of August, 2000.