

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MEETING DATE: March 2, 2006

SUBJECT: Animal Ordinance Amendment

ATTACHMENTS: Restraint / Confinement Section

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

Pursuant to the Board of Commissioner's discussion on February 15, the Animal Services Committee has amended the proposed Restraint / Confinement section of the Animal Ordinance. The amendment now includes the establishment of a hunting animal registration database with 24 hour access and a clarified definition of domestic animals.

COUNTY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION:

The Board should set a Public Hearing for Monday April 3, at 7:00 p.m.

SECTION 66A- Restraint / Confinement of Dogs and Cats Required

Definition- Domestic Animal- Any dog, cat or ferret which can be vaccinated against rabies with an approved rabies vaccine, and which has an established rabies quarantine observation period.

A. No person owning or having charge, care, custody or control of any domestic animal shall cause, permit or allow the same to be or to run at large except while confined to the private property or premises of the person owning or having charge, care, custody or control of such domestic animal.

B. Each domestic animal, while on the owner's property, shall be confined within an enclosure, behind a fence, behind an invisible fence that is clearly posted and marked at regular intervals, or secured so that the domestic animal is confined entirely to the owner's property by means of a leash or chain, or other similar means of physical control.

C. When not confined and/or restrained on the owner's property, the domestic animal shall be under the control of a competent person and restrained by a leash, harness or other similar means of physical control.

D. All dogs used for hunting must be registered with Henderson County Animal Services. Registration can be handled 24 hours a day by phone (828-697-4723) or link on the animal services website. www.hendersoncountync.org/animals/
Please provide the following information when registering.

1. Name of Owner
2. Address of Owner
3. Telephone Number of Owner
4. Rabies Vaccination Tag Number and expiration date for each dog and the administering Veterinarian
5. Brief description of each dog including breed, color, and age and if the dog has been spayed or neutered

E. This ordinance pertains to all domestic animals with the following exceptions:

1. Dogs used for control of livestock as long as said animal is in the process of controlling livestock.
2. Dogs used or trained for hunting as long as said animal is in the process of being trained by a trainer and/or owner or on a legal hunt in the presence of the owner and the dog has been registered with Henderson County Animal Services.
3. Dogs or Cats while being exhibited or trained at a kennel club, or similar event, as long as said animal is in the process of participating in a kennel club, field trial or similar event.
4. Dogs used for Law Enforcement while training and/or acting in the line of duty.