



Forsyth County

Animal Control Advisory Board

Annual Report
2011

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I. Animal Control Advisory Board

The Forsyth County Animal Control Advisory Board is an eleven (11)-member board identified in Forsyth County Code Chapter 6, Sec. 6-5 Animal Control Advisory Board. The Advisory Board makes recommendations on animal control codes, policies and programs related to animals. Members are appointed by the Board of County Commissioners pursuant to identified interest categories. The advisory board conducts regular public meetings and prepares an annual report for the Board of County Commissioners. Pursuant to FCC Chapter 6, Sec. 6-5 the Advisory Board has adopted By-Laws governing the purpose, duties, operations and membership subject to the approval of the County Manager.

Advisory Board Meetings are held at 6:00 p.m. the third Thursday of each month at the Department of Animal Control. The public meeting alternates monthly with the Hearing Tribunal. The public meeting acts as a forum to solicit public opinion on ordinances, services, and policy. This function also provides information on services, other than those of the Animal Control Department, available within the community. Annual reports then provide a foundation for strategic planning through the creation of a series of Five Year Plans.

II. Advisory Board Membership & Representation

Priscilla Ivester	<i>Member at Large</i>	Albert Jacobs	<i>Purebred Animals</i>
Joe Redman	<i>Member at Large</i>	Marcia Potter	<i>Non-Pet Owner</i>
Dr. Harris Craig	<i>Veterinarian</i>	Marsha Crumpler	<i>Animals other than dog or cat</i>
Keith Murphy	<i>Animal Welfare</i>	Charles Cahill	<i>Public Health Department</i>
Lori Sears	<i>Animal Welfare</i>	Bruce Bailiff	<i>City of Winston-Salem</i>
Toby Cranfill	<i>Hunting Dogs</i>	Tim Jennings	<i>Animal Control Director</i>

III. 2010-2011 Work Plan

The Advisory Board adopted a multi-tracked work plan to provide organization and focus to its meetings in addition to its mandate to act as a Hearing Tribunal. The work plan goals are intended to support the identified goals and policies of Forsyth County government to help create a community which is a safe, healthy, convenient and pleasant to live in. The work plan included a review of FCC Chapter 6, Animals of the Forsyth County Code and initiation of a strategic planning process to create the first of the Five Year plans called for within the Animal Control Advisory Board's by-laws.

- **Code Review**

The following issues were reviewed for possible addition, or amendment to Chapter 6, Animals of the Forsyth County Code:

Confinement

Prohibit tethering as the primary permanent method of confinement for dogs.

Kennel Definitions/Breeder Permits

Establish regulations on activities that may increase the number of unwanted pets within the community. Possibly develop a recommendation to the Planning Board regarding a numeric limit upon adult dogs for inclusion in the definition of a Kennel.

Inherently Dangerous Exotic Animals

Regulation of ownership, or use, of large constricting snakes was added to NCGA 14-416 regulating dangerous reptiles.

Animal Transportation Fee

A fee to be charged to pet owners who request the County come to their residence for the purpose of surrender to the County and transportation of their pets.

Hearing Tribunal FCC 6-57

Amendment of code and Advisory Board by-laws to allow former, experienced, members of the Animal Control Advisory Board to serve as tribunal members for appeals of civil citations and Dangerous Dog Declarations.

- **Hearing Tribunal**

During the past year the Advisory Board Hearing Tribunal has conducted ninety eight (98) appeals of civil citations and Dangerous Dog Declarations.

An additional two hundred two (202) written appeals of licensing violations were reviewed and dismissed upon the appellants gaining compliance with FCC 6-10 Registration of Dogs and Cats Required, pursuant to sec. 6-55 Violations and Penalties of the Forsyth County Code.

V. Performance Measures - Forsyth County Animal Control Department

- Administration Division

Spay /Neuter Rate

Year	2004	2006	2008	2010
Cats S/N	94%	97%	97%	98%
Dogs S/N	78%	87%	83%	86%
% Total	80%	87%	87%	90%

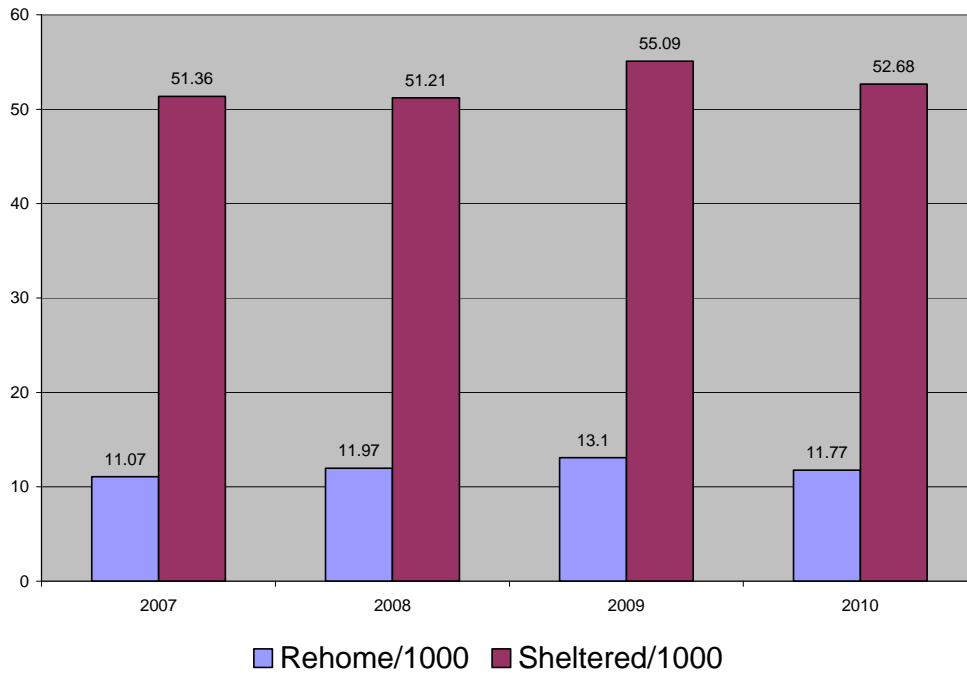
- Patrol Division

Priority Response

Priority Code	Examples	Response Goal	Actual 2005	Actual 2006	Actual 2007	Actual 2008	Actual 2009	Actual 2010
1 Imminent Danger	Attack in-progress Animal Rescue – life threatening	30 minutes 1 hr EDO shift	24 min	17 min	13 min	14 min.	56 min	NA
2 Urgent	Animal Bites Rabies Exposures Quarantine Check	ASAP 2 - 3 hours	7 hr 17 min	2 hr 18 min	2 hr 11 min	1 hr 05 min	1 hr 50 min	1 hr 46 min
3 Today	Witnessed cruelty-neglect Vicious behavior Animals in traps	8 – 10 hours	22 hrs 12 min	12 hr 58 min	5 hr 46 min	9 hrs 39 min	9 hrs 23 min	8 hrs 56 min
4 Normal	Investigative follow-up Neglect Stray animals Nuisance animals Service of Citations	48 hrs	7 days 8 hrs 6 min	4 days 12 hrs 8 min	3 days 7 hr 38 min	1 day 4 hrs 15 min	2 days 14 hrs 21 min	1 day 2 hrs 1 min
5 General	Check for License Trap Route Special Program Mailed Warning letters	5 – 7 days	5 days 59 min	1 day 18 hrs 59 min	2 days 13 hrs 32 min	3 days 5 hrs 35 min	3 days 13 hrs 21 min	2 days 4 min

- **Custody & Care Division**

Animals Sheltered and Rehomed per 1000 Households



Hold Period Analysis

Fiscal Year	Animals Impounded	Animals Redeemed	Percent Redeemed	Animals Adopted	Percent Adopted	Animals Rehomed
03-04	7,862	355	4.5	1,024	13.0	1,379
04-05	7,403	333	4.5	1,024	13.8	1,357
05-06	8,506	442	5.2	1,182	13.9	1,624
06-07	8,238	531	6.4	1,289	15.6	1,802
07-08	8,075	562	7.0	1,348	16.7	1,910
08-09	8,853	584	6.6	1,473	16.6	2,057
09-10	8,402	564	6.7	1,308	15.6	1,872
10-11	8,397	526	6.3	1,175	13.9	1,701

VI. Work Load Statistics - FY 2011

Animal Control	June 2010	June 2011	% Change	2009-2010 Year to Date	2010-2011 Year to Date	% Change
Service Requests	1,336	1,173	- 12.2	14,055	14,562	3.6
Sheltered	893	848	- 5.0	8,397	8,395	- 0.02
Adoptions	95	123	29.5	1,311	1,175	- 10.0
Redemptions	68	49	- 27.9	564	526	- 6.7
Euthanized	663	641	- 3.3	6,335	6,474	2.2
Citations Issued	101	60	- 40.6	1,246	1,002	- 19.6
Violations Cited	182	80	- 56.0	1,960	1,529	- 21.9
Animal Bites	86	85	- 1.2	776	733	- 5.5
Pet Registrations	2,476	2,200	- 11.1	36,013	33,873	- 5.9

VII. Recommendations

The Animal Control Advisory Board recommends the Forsyth County Commissioners consider the following recommendations for new, and amend, sections to FCC Chapter 6, Animals. With the exception of the proposal to prohibit permanent tethering of dogs, these proposals are viewed as enhancements to existing policy addressing functionality of the Hearing Tribunal, responsibility and accountability of pet owners, and bringing the County Code into consistency with NC State statutes.

(Amend Sections)

Inherently Dangerous Exotic Animals FCC 6-54

Amend FCC 6-54 Possession of inherently dangerous exotic animals and wild animals prohibited. Regulation of ownership, or use, of large constricting snakes was added to NCGA 14-416 regulating dangerous reptiles.

Hearing Tribunal FCC 6-57

Amendment of code and Advisory Board by-laws to allow former, experienced, members of the Animal Control Advisory Board to serve as tribunal members for appeals of civil citations and Dangerous Dog Declarations.

(New Sections)

Prohibit Tethering as the Primary Method of Confinement of Dogs

The permanent tethering of dogs has been linked to acts of dog aggression and situations of abuse. It is recommended the code prohibit tethering as the primary permanent method of confinement for dogs. The Advisory Board recommends that, with consideration of this recommendation, the following policy actions should accompany approval.

- Institute a phased 24 month implementation program
- Provide resources to assist dog owners obtain compliance
- Provide exemptions for certain functions and circumstances
- Complaint driven enforcement by monetary penalty

Animal Transportation Fee

A fee to be charged to pet owners who request the County come to their residence for the purpose of surrender to the County and transportation of their pets.