

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

In the Matter of Authorizing the Animal Control)
Officer and Animal Control Staff to Collect Fees)
for Dog License Applications, for Issuance of Dog)
Licenses upon Presentation of a Rabies Inoculation)
Certificate, and for Forfeiture of Fees when Rabies)
Inoculation Certificate is not timely Presented)

ORDER NO. 71-2005

WHEREAS, by means of an Order adopted on June 15, 1929, the County Court of Columbia County, Oregon, declared Columbia County to be a dog control district; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to ORS 609.030 and its predecessor statutes, the Board of County Commissioners acts as the board of supervisors of the dog control district, has provided for the appointment of a dog control officer, has provided for the administration and enforcement of a dog control program, and has provided for the licensing of dogs in the County outside of those cities which have their own dog licensing and control programs; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to ORS 609.100, every person keeping a dog in the County that has a set of permanent canine teeth or is six months old, whichever comes first, shall procure a license for the dog by paying a license fee to the County each year, or within 30 days after the person becomes keeper of the dog, subject to certain exceptions provided by statute; and

WHEREAS, on April 17, 2002, the Board of County Commissioners adopted Order No. 17-02 which establishes the fees for acquiring a dog license, and provides that the County Clerk is the issuer of dog licenses and recipient of fees for such licenses; and

WHEREAS, Columbia County Animal Shelter staff relinquish and adopt out several dogs almost every day that have not obtained a dog license; the Animal Control Officer comes into contact with many dogs on a daily basis that do not have a dog license; and many of the owners and adopters of these dogs do not follow through with their promises to obtain dog licenses; and

WHEREAS, the Animal Control Officer is recommending that the Animal Control staff and Animal Control Officer be allowed to issue and receive dog license applications and collect fees at the Shelter or out in the field; the completed dog license applications and dog license fees received would then be promptly forwarded to the County Clerk; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to ORS 433.370(3), no dog license can be issued until a valid rabies inoculation certificate has been presented to the license issuer; but if the owner or keeper presents a valid rabies inoculation certificate within 30 days of submission of the completed dog license application, along with any additional fees which might be required in the particular circumstance, the County Clerk would be authorized to issue the dog license (and tag if required in the particular circumstance); but if the owner and keeper does not present a valid rabies inoculation certificate within 30 days of submission of the completed dog license application, the dog license fee would be forfeited to the County's Animal Control Fund; and

WHEREAS, upon receipt of the completed dog license application and the required dog license fee or fees, the Animal Control Officer would be authorized to delay enforcement action against the dog owner or keeper for not having the required dog license for 30 days;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED as follows:

1. The Animal Control Officer and Animal Control staff are authorized to issue and receive dog license applications and collect dog license fees (and any other related fees) at the Animal Shelter and out in the field. The completed dog license applications and dog license fees (and any other related fees) received shall be promptly forwarded to the County Clerk.
2. Pursuant to ORS 433.370(3), no dog license can be issued until a valid rabies inoculation certificate has been presented to the County Clerk or her designee; but if the owner or keeper presents a valid rabies inoculation certificate within 30 days of submission of the completed dog license application, along with any additional fees which might be required in the particular circumstance, the County Clerk is authorized to issue the dog license (and tag if required in the particular circumstance).
3. If the owner or keeper of a dog does not present a valid rabies inoculation certificate to the County Clerk within 30 days of submission of the completed dog license application, the dog license fee shall be forfeited to the County's Animal Care Donation Account and no dog license shall be issued without payment of a new dog license fee and presentment of the rabies inoculation certificate.
4. Upon receipt of the completed dog license application and collection of the required fee or fees, the Animal Control Officer is authorized to delay enforcement action against the dog owner or keeper for not having the required dog license for 30 days.
5. The Animal Control Officer and Animal Control staff shall work with the Director of Finance and Taxation and the County Clerk to develop procedures for handling fees collected pursuant to this Order.
6. This Order supplements Order No. 17-02. Order No. 17-02 shall be interpreted in conformance with the requirements of this Order, but shall otherwise remain in full force and effect.

DATED this _____ day of _____, 2005

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

By: _____

Chair

By: _____

Commissioner

By: _____

Commissioner

Approved as to form

By: John Kellogg
Office of County Counsel