

ORDINANCE AND RESOLUTION AUTHORIZATION FORM

CADDO PARISH COMMISSION

TITLE

ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 8-8 TO EXPAND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICERS

ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: ADMINISTRATION

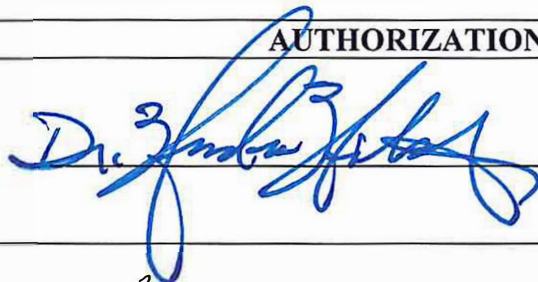
BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

- Currently, ACOs are not certified to write citations until they have completed LACA training.
- The Parish has new ACOs that have been unable to complete the training as it has not been held during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The officers can receive the same training, virtually, through national organizations if the ordinance specification of LACA training is removed.
- Officers will still not be able to euthanize until they have received the appropriate training through the Louisiana Veterinary Association.
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KEY STAFF CONTACT: Parish Attorney, Director Travis Clark, Parish Administrator

AUTHORIZATION

Department Head



Date

9/1/21

Legal



Date

9/1/2021

Parish Administrator



Date

9/1/21

ORDINANCE NO. 6110 OF 2021

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND RE-ENACT SECTION 8-8 ", OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE PARISH OF CADDO, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO.**

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has been in effect for approximately eighteen months; and

WHEREAS, the pandemic has caused training delays for animal control officers; and

WHEREAS, virtual national training opportunities for animal control officers have been identified.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that Chapter 8 of the Code of Ordinances of the Parish of Caddo is hereby amended and re-enacted to read as follows, to-wit:

Sec. 8-8 Enforcement.

- (a) The department shall have the authority to appoint animal control officers and such other personnel as it deems proper for maintaining a public animal shelter and to enforce the provisions of this chapter.
- (b) The director shall appoint and duly commission animal control officers, who have successfully completed training offered by the State of Louisiana Animal Control Academy, or any equivalent training. Additionally, each animal control officer must receive euthanasia certification through the State of Louisiana State University Veterinary School, prior to performing euthanasia.
- (c) The director and duly appointed animal control officers shall have authority to exercise the following limited police powers:
  - (1) Issue citations for the enforcement of this chapter, as well as take action necessary to enforce state statutes regarding animals.
  - (2) Obtain warrants for such violations and assist law enforcement personnel in making arrests for such violations.
  - (3) Submit affidavits to the courts regarding such violations.
- (d) In enforcing the provisions of this Code, the director or his authorized representatives are authorized to enter private property without warrant to pursue, capture, or otherwise apprehend animals subject to impoundment or restraint under the provisions of this chapter. If an animal enters an uninhabited structure and the officer can safely gain entry in the same manner as the animal, the officer may enter the structure to capture the animal. If the animal enters the structure through an opening such as a window, hole in the wall or like entrance, the structure will be secured and the officer will obtain permission to enter from the owner/tenant or obtain a warrant to enter the structure. If human safety is a legitimate and immediate concern, the officer may enter the uninhabited structure to capture the animal. This authority to enter does not include inhabited structures unless other justifications dictate immediate entry.

- (e) All parish sheriffs, police officers employed by municipalities within the parish, and the parish animal control officers have authority to enforce provisions of this section.
- (f) For any prosecution of a violation of this chapter which results a conviction, district attorney probation, or nolo contendere, there shall be an administrative fee in addition to any other fees. This fee shall be as established by the parish commission, from time to time, and shall be dedicated to the operation of Caddo Parish Animal Services and shall not be waived.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision or item of this ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall take effect upon adoption.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved as to legal form:

  
Parish Attorney

9/1/2024  
Date