

ORDINANCE NO. 105

AN ORDINANCE REGULATING AND LICENSING THE KEEPING OF DOGS, PROVIDING FOR THE TAKING UP AND IMPOUNDING OF ANIMALS, QUARANTINING AND DESTRUCTION OF ANIMALS IN CERTAIN CASES AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION THEREOF.

## SECTION I DEFINITIONS

As used in this ordinance the following terms mean:

Animal - Shall include both male, female, natural or sterilized dogs.

Animal Shelter - Any premises so designated by action of the County Commissioners.

Animal Control Authority - Any officer, person, or organization designated by the County Commissioners to perform the functions of this or any County Ordinance relating to animals.

Owner - Shall include any person, association, or corporation owning, keeping, or harboring an animal.

Class One Kennel - Any lot, premises, structure, or building where six or more dogs of at least six months of age are kept.

Class Two Kennel - Any lot, premises, structure, or building where less than six dogs of at least six months of age are kept.

At Large - Any dog away from its owner's premises and/or out of his control.

Harboring - The occupant of any premises on which an animal remains or to which it customarily returns daily for food and care for a period of ten days is presumed to be harboring the animal within the meaning of this Ordinance.

## SECTION II LICENSING

Licensing - It shall be unlawful for any person to own, keep or harbor any dog, within the following limits unless such dog is licensed as provided herein:

### DESCRIPTION

All of Walla Walla County, excepting therefrom incorporated cities and towns located therein.

Written application for such license shall be made to Walla Walla County, or its designated agent, and shall state the name, phone number, and address of the owner; date of issuance; date and the name sex, color, age and breed of dog. The license fee shall be paid at the time of application, and a numbered receipt shall be given to the applicant and a numbered metallic tag shall be issued to the owner.

Fees - The license fee on dogs for each year, or part thereof, EXCEPT dogs specially trained to assist blind persons, shall be as follows:

1. Three Dollars (\$3.00) for each male dog.
2. Three Dollars (\$3.00) for each spayed female dog.
3. Five Dollars (\$5.00) for each unspayed female dog.

Class One Kennel Fee - Ten Dollars (\$10.00)

Class Two Kennel Fee - Five Dollars (\$5.00)

Licensing Period - All dog licenses and kennel licenses shall be issued for one year beginning with the first day of March each year. Applications for licenses may be made for thirty one (31) days after the start of the licensing year.

### SECTION III PROHIBITIONS AND PROCEDURE

Misuse of Tags - No person shall use for any dog a license receipt or tag issued to another dog.

Kennels - Any dog kept in a licensed kennel need not be individually licensed provided that at all times when not securely confined in the kennel, the dog is kept under control by an authorized person.

Kennel Inspection - Before any kennel license may be issued, the Animal Control Authority shall inspect the kennel to ascertain that the applicant is providing adequate and suitable shelter, sanitation, food and water for the dogs.

Tags and Collars - Every owner is required to see that the tag is securely fastened to the dog's collar, choke chain, or harness, by the owner, unless it is engaged in hunting or another activity where a collar might endanger the dog's safety.

Animals Running at Large on Public Grounds - It shall be unlawful for the owner or person having control of any dog to permit, under any circumstances, the animal to run at large in any park; to enter a public playground, schoolground, or any public building. Any dog so straying, entering, or trespassing upon such property shall be declared a nuisance and may be immediately impounded. Provided that this section shall not prohibit a person from walking or exercising a dog in a public park or on a public beach when such a dog is on a leash and proper safeguards are taken to protect the public and property from injury or damage from said dog.

Female Dogs Running In Heat - It shall be unlawful to permit any female dog in heat to remain unconfined; and any such dog found unconfined may be declared a nuisance and impounded.

Dogs Running Without License - On and after March 1, 1975, it shall be unlawful for any owner to permit any dog of six months or age and over to run at large without a license tag attached to a collar worn by the dog. Any dog found running at large without a license tag may be impounded.

Dog Offenses - No dog shall be permitted to commit the following offenses on any premises or property, private or public; bite, attempt to bite, or attack any person or livestock; destroy property, scatter refuse, chase vehicles, or commit any violation defined in this or any other County Ordinance. Any dog permitted to be a nuisance, upon written complaint to the Sheriff or the authorized agent, may be impounded.

Stray Dogs - Any stray dog running at large within the jurisdiction of Walla Walla County is hereby declared to be a nuisance and any such dog may be impounded. For the purpose of this section, "stray dog " shall mean any dog loitering in a neighborhood for a period or three or more days without any apparent owner or home.

Notice of Impounding - Upon the impounding of any dog, the impounding authority shall immediately notify the owner, if the owner is known; if the owner is unknown, all reasonable efforts to locate and notify the owner shall be made.

Redemption of Impounded Dogs - Any impounded dogs, unless suspected of being rabid, may be redeemed by the owner by the payment of an impounding fee of five dollars (\$5.00) together with the sum of two dollars (\$2.00) per day, or fraction thereof, for keeping and boarding said dog. If the dog has no valid license tag, then the owner shall also obtain a license tag for the current year or a duplicate tag in accordance with the provisions of this ordinance.

Disposition of Unclaimed Dogs - If an impounded dog shall not be claimed and redeemed within 48 hours after the giving of the last notice as provided for in this ordinance, then it may be sold. The Animal Control Authority may hold any dog beyond the required holding period at his discretion if he deems such dog or animal worthy or valuable for its intrinsic worth.

Destruction of Animals - Any dog which is not redeemed in 96 hours by the owner and not sold may be destroyed and properly disposed of in a humane manner. A fee of three dollars (\$3.00) for destroying any animal at the written request of the owner. A file of said written requests will be maintained at all times.

Any dog or other animal which is suffering from serious injury or disease or vicious dog may be seized by the Animal Control Authority or any Sheriff and humanely destroyed.

In the event of an emergency endangering the health or safety of any person, where seizure and impoundment is deemed inadvisable, or for humane considerations, the Animal Control Authority or other Sheriff in his discretion may summarily destroy the animal involved.

Interference With Officers or Animal Control Authority - It shall be unlawful to take or attempt to take from any officer or Animal Control Authority any animal seized by him in compliance with this ordinance, or in any manner interfere with or hinder such an officer or Animal Control Authority in the discharge of his duties.

Penalties - Every person, firm or corporation convicted of a violation of this ordinance shall be punished by a fine not to exceed \$100.00 or by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or both.

Severability - Invalidity of any article, section, subsection, clause or portion thereof, shall not affect the validity of the remainder of this ordinance.

PASSED by the Board of Walla Walla County Commissioners this  
24th day of February, 1975.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
WALLA WALLA COUNTY, WASHINGTON

James A. Honeysuckle  
Chairman

Eugene V. Kelly

Franklin F. Cline

ATTEST:

Theodore S. Bjerke  
Clerk of Board

FILED FOR RECORD Feb 24 1975 AT 4:10 P  
BY County Commissioners  
THEODORE S. BJERKE, Walla Walla County Auditor