

Summary of Significant Proposed Revisions to Lake County Board of Health Ordinance Article X – Animal/Rabies Control

- ❑ The **title** of the ordinance was changed to reflect the current title and mission of the program from “Animal/Rabies Control” to “Animal Care and Control.”
- ❑ **Definitions:** In the definition of “control” of an animal, the requirement for a leash of not more than 5 feet in length was eliminated.
- ❑ The ordinance was re-formatted to be consistent with other Lake County Board of Health Ordinances in terms of chapter and section designations.
- ❑ Administrative sections such as *Intent; Partial Validity, Savings Clause; Authority To Enter Properties; Exemption from Liability and Interpretation and Conflict* were added to be consistent with other Lake County Board of Health Ordinances.
- ❑ General corrections to language were made for clarity, or to be consistent with the language in State law. Some sections were also moved within Article X for clarity; language pertaining to fees was moved to Article XVII, which is the schedule of fees.
- ❑ **Section ACC-101.3:** adopts by reference the State of Illinois Public Acts that establish much of the regulatory framework and authority of the Animal Care and Control Program. Throughout the existing ordinance, language that was taken directly from these Acts was removed in favor of reference to the Acts themselves. In this way, when the language in the Public Acts changes, Article X will not contain contradictory language (as is now the case).
 - The areas of enforcement that are referenced in this way are:
 - Cruelty to Animals
 - Dangerous and Vicious Animals
 - Impoundments
 - For example, regarding Dangerous and Vicious Animals, rather than reiterating the language from State law, it is proposed that **Section ACC-1201.1** simply states:
 - ***ACC-1201.1 Dangerous and/or Vicious Dog Determinations and Requirements: The determination that a dog is vicious or dangerous shall be in accordance with the requirements of the Illinois Animal Control Act and this Ordinance, and any associated enforcement shall be in accordance with the requirements of the Illinois Animal Control Act, this Ordinance and Article XVII of the Lake County Board of Health Ordinance.***
- ❑ **Section ACC-601.5** was revised to recognize that if a dog or cat *is kept inside an owner’s residence, is microchipped and kept in a secure manner, such as inside a physically fenced yard or run* (electric fences would not qualify), *or is undergoing care or treatment that makes it necessary to remove a collar or harness*, it does not need to wear evidence of registration during these times.
- ❑ **Section ACC-1101.1** was revised to better describe how a dog or cat in heat shall be confined when an owner takes the animal outside of his or her residence by stating that the dog or cat *shall be kept in a secure manner, such as inside a physically fenced yard or run* (electric fences would not qualify).
- ❑ **Section ACC-1301.2:** clarifies the process for impoundment appeal hearings and gives the Administrator of the Animal Care and Control Program the authority to determine the disposition of the impounded animal.
- ❑ **Section 1501.1:** eliminates the distinction between parcels less than and greater than ½ acre when determining the pet limit. Currently Article X allows 3 dogs and 3 cats on properties less than ½ acre, and 4 dogs and 4 cats on parcels larger than ½ acre. The proposed Article X allows 4 dogs and 4 cats on any sized parcel.
- ❑ **Chapter 16 – Violations and Penalties** was changed, and the title of what is now **Section ACC-1603.3** was changed to “Violations and Penalties.” Additionally, the maximum fine amount was changed from \$500.00 to \$1000.00 to reflect what is allowed by current State statute.