

**YADKIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
Monday, July 19, 2010**

The Yadkin County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Monday, July 19, 2010 in the Yadkin County Human Services Building (Commissioners' Meeting Room), 217 East Willow Street, Yadkinville, North Carolina.

Present were:

Chairman Chad Wagoner
Vice Chairman Kevin Austin
Commissioner David Moxley
Commissioner Brady Wooten

Commissioner Garner arrived at 7:12pm.

Staff present: County Attorney, James Graham; County Manager, Aaron Church; and Administrative Clerk, Colleen Rumpasch.

CALL TO ORDER by Chairman Wagoner at 7:00pm.

INVOCATION led by James Graham.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Chairman Wagoner.

ADJUSTMENTS TO/ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Wooten made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Moxley second.

Vote: 4/0

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public Comments portion of the meeting opened at 7:06pm.

Roy Byerly of Jonesville appeared before the Board. Mr. Byerly is a resident of Virgil Hodges Lane. Mr. Byerly stated that when he moved to Virgil Hodges Lane in 1985, there were only 3 or 4 homes on the road. There are now 11. Mr. Byerly reported that his father's home had burnt down some years ago. Dean Norman, Boonville Volunteer Fire Chief at that time, had remarked that the house could have been saved if the road had been wider allowing easy access for emergency vehicles. Mr. Byerly reported that there is a ¼ mile section of the road that 2 vehicles cannot pass when they meet. When this happens, 1 car must back up to a wider area of the road allowing the other vehicle to pass. Mr. Byerly reported that there are

22 adult drivers on this road. In addition, there are UPS deliveries, visitors, school buses, and ambulances. There are 3 farms on Virgil Hodges Lane, adding farm equipment to the traffic. There is additional traffic from the garage at the end of the road and 2 other private roads that branch off from Virgil Hodges Lane. Mr. Byerly has a neighbor battling cancer that has frequent ambulance calls. Mr. Byerly stated that the County could condemn the road in the name of eminent domain. Mr. Byerly explained that the County has the right to claim eminent domain when it is in the best interest of the citizens. Further, the County could benefit by the increased property tax values on the homes and businesses on Virgil Hodges Lane once the road has been properly paved or upgraded. Mr. Byerly feels that the condition of Virgil Hodges Lane is a safety issue for its residents and asked the Board to consider condemnation or any other applicable approach to insure safe passage on Virgil Hodges Lane.

Beverly Byerly, spouse of Roy Byerly, stated that there are 9 children residing on Virgil Hodges Lane. Mrs. Byerly has driven a school bus for Starmount High School and states that the bus stop for Virgil Hodges Lane is an unsafe situation due to the un-passable nature of the road. Mrs. Byerly asked the Board for due consideration of this matter.

Diane Taylor of Jonesville appeared before the Board. Ms. Taylor is a member of the Yadkin County Humane Society. Ms. Taylor read a letter written by Veterinarian, Dr. David Davis. The letter follows in its entirety...

"They are packed into a gas chamber terrified and with reason to be so. They gasp for air, choke, shriek horrible death screams, bleed, bite themselves and bang themselves against glass doors of gas chambers hysterically trying to escape.

At times, they even burst through the doors! There is blood on the floor. Many are found alive in trash bags in landfills after surviving the gassing.

Many animal control facilities do not use a stethoscope to check for loss of heart beat and throw them into an incinerator not knowing whether they are in fact dead.

Nazi Germany?

No, North Carolina in 2009! And, the victims are unwanted dogs, cats, and other pets facing euthanasia by gas at the hands of animal control authorities throughout the state.

Most Americans believe that the use of gas chambers ended with the defeat of the Nazis in 1945. However, gassing is alive and well in North Carolina, where it is used on discarded pets. Just as horrible is that many of these poor animals suffered abuse before being abandoned to local animal control authorities for gassing.

We hear the term "put to sleep." This happens in veterinarians' offices but not in this county's animal control. The animals endure unspeakable pain, terror, and torture.

Veterinarians practice lethal injection. This can be administered to feral animals as well. An injection can be inserted in the hind quarter while the animal is contained, which causes peaceful sleep and then the final injection can take place.

There is no excuse for a gas chamber other than it's easier to cram the animals in the box and walk off for the long time it takes for them to suffocate to death without hearing the screams.

Why doesn't this county switch to lethal injection when studies have shown it is cheaper to we taxpayers?

This is government waste at the expense of innocent animals and us. We pay for this more expensive torture.

Even mass murderers like Timothy McVeigh faced their end with lethal injection.

Doesn't man's best friend deserve at least this humane end?

Won't you help? You can make a difference. You voted in the county commissioners so please contact them today.

They can change this. Don't let GOD's creatures suffer agonizing deaths for another day!

The Bible says we have "dominion" over animals. That means it is our responsibility to care for them. As Jesus held the lamb, let us hold these animals in mercy."

Public Comments portion of the meeting closed at 7:15pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Vice Chairman Austin requested the following adjustments:

- (1) Page 4 - Change "David" to "Everette" Hartzog
- (2) Page 11 - the last line should simply read, "Vice Chairman Austin asked that Jonesville be kept in the loop on this project."
- (3) Page 12, 4th paragraph - should simply read, "... the County should not obligate itself for a project that exceeds \$700,000."

Commissioner Wooten made a motion to approve the July 6, 2010 Regular Meeting Minutes and the July 6, 2010 Closed Session Minutes with noted adjustments. Commissioner Moxley second.

Vote: 5/0

PUBLIC HEARING

(1) Christopher Ong, Director of Planning and Development, appeared before the Board to formally request the setting of a public hearing on Monday, August 16, 2010 for proposed text amendments to Article 11, 17, and 21 of the Zoning Ordinance.

Commissioner Moxley made a motion to set a public hearing on August 16, 2010 for proposed text amendments to Article 11, 17, and 21 of the Yadkin County Zoning Ordinance. Vice Chairman Austin second.

Vote: 5/0

(2) Christopher Ong, Director of Planning and Development, reported that the CDBG Infrastructure Hook-up Project of 2008 is now complete. The project remained within budget and on schedule. The \$75,000 was awarded to assist low to moderate income families connect to available water and sewer lines. The grant benefitted 26 homes and 50 citizens of Yadkin County. A public hearing is required to receive input on the closeout of this grant.

The Public Hearing for the closeout of the CDBG Infrastructure Hook-up Project was opened at 7:21pm. There were no speakers on this issue. The Public Hearing closed at 7:22pm. No further action was required.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

(1) Mr. Ong announced that Teresa Swain had been approached regarding the appointment as a full voting member of the Planning Board replacing Marion Welborn. Mrs. Swain was willing to serve in this capacity.

Vice Chairman Austin made a motion to appoint Teresa Swain as a voting member of the Planning Board for the term June 1, 2010 through May 31, 2013. Commissioner Moxley second.

Vote: 5/0

(2) Mr. Ong announced that the alternate position on the Planning Board that had been occupied by Teresa Swain must now be filled. Claude Macy of South Knobs and Dean Swaim of North Buck Shoals have both expressed interest.

Commissioner Garner made a motion to appoint Dean Swaim as an alternate member of the Planning Board. Commissioner Moxley second.

Vote: 5/0

(3) Chairman Wagoner drew attention to the request for the reappointment of Peggy Boose to the Yadkin County Nursing/Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee. It was confirmed by Ms. Boose that the appointment is on a yearly basis.

Commissioner Garner made a motion to reappoint Peggy Boose to the Yadkin County Nursing/Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee effective April 1, 2010 through March 31, 2011. Commissioner Moxley second.

Vote: 5/0

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Wooten requested that the contract with Dorsett Technologies be reviewed independently of the consent agenda.

Commissioner Moxley made a motion to approve the following items of the consent agenda:

(1) Budget Amendments -

DSS

Governing Body - Legal Services for Board

(2) Contracts/Agreements -

Health Department - YVEDDI

Planning Department - ESRI

Highland Mapping

NWPCOG

Vice Chairman Austin second.

Vote: 5/0

Commissioner Wooten asked if the agreement with Dorsett Technologies would prevent the opportunity for competitive bid in the event of equipment failure or malfunction. County Manager Church offered that the County may solicit competitive bids at any time. It was noted that the contract refers to charges after normal business hours but does not specifically

prohibit the solicitation of bids. Vice Chairman Austin feels that the language of the agreement does not preclude the opportunity for competitive bid and County Attorney Graham agreed.

Commissioner Garner remarked that Commissioner Elect, Marion Welborn, and the owner of Dorsett Technologies are related. Commissioner Garner asked if this would present a conflict of interest. Chairman Wagoner replied that the Board must address matters currently before it and cannot base its action on possible conflicts of future boards.

Commissioner Moxley made a motion to approve the agreement with Dorsett Technologies as presented. Vice Chairman Austin second.

Vote: 5/0

BOARD ACTION

(1) County Motto

Chairman Wagoner read from page 81 of the agenda packet..

“One of the goals discussed at the commissioner’s retreat was to change the County motto. It has been suggested to allow citizens the opportunity to submit a proposed motto to the County in return for a \$500 prize. The only requirement is that the person must be a Yadkin County resident.”

Chairman Wagoner stated that the current motto is *Progress through Past Experience* and it is his goal to change this motto prior to the end of his term in December. The Board may select the winning motto or appoint a selection committee. Full details of the motto contest will be presented at an upcoming meeting with a contest deadline of October 1, 2010.

Chairman Wagoner made a motion directing the County Manager to solicit new motto proposals for the Board’s consideration with a deadline of October 1, 2010 and the winner receiving a \$500 prize. Commissioner Garner second.

Vote: 5/0

(2) COLA

County Manager Church read from page 83 of the agenda packet..

“The adopted budget recommended a COLA of 1% effective January 1, 2011 so long as there are twelve frozen positions and the sales tax is stable for at least three months.”

County Manager Church suggested that the Board develop criteria on which to determine a ‘stable’ sales tax. County Manager Church reported that the sales tax distribution changed in October 2009 from a per-capita basis to a point-of-sale basis. This resulted in the loss of sales tax revenue for Yadkin County.

County Manager Church again read from page 83 of the agenda packet...

"The average merchant sales between October 2009 and March 2010 were \$373,000. The Board could adopt this measurement which would mean that so long as the sales tax is \$373,000 or higher for at least three months by December 10, 2010, each County employee would receive a 1% COLA."

Vice Chairman Austin stated that the Board had agreed to the concept with the adoption of the budget. This action would affirm the numbers and establish the criteria for determination. Vice Chairman Austin stated that he had some concerns for the numbers; particularly if the intent is that sales tax numbers remain above \$373,000 for the determining period or using an average of sales tax numbers over the same period. There was much discussion. The Board wanted to ensure that the best interest of both the County and its employees are served by this action. It was determined that the 6 month average of sales tax revenue would be the basis for comparison.

Vice Chairman Austin made a motion to implement a 1% COLA *if* the *average* recorded sales tax revenues for July 10, 2010 through December 10, 2010 are at or above \$373,000.

Commissioner Wooten second.

Vote: 5/0

(3) Position Classification and Pay Study

County Manager Church reported a recent meeting with Mr. Newsom, Commissioner Wooten, Vice Chairman Austin and Matt Reece of the Piedmont Triad Council of Governments. Yadkin County has not had a position classification and pay study since 1996. It is recommended that this type of study be completed every 6 to 8 years. In addition, legislation has recently been enacted that would allow public access to personnel records regarding firings, demotions, and promotions of County employees. Recent conversations have indicated that the current classification and pay scale may have become askew. It has become increasingly important that a current classification and pay study be completed.

An agreement with the Piedmont Triad Council of Governments is presented today for review. County Manager Church reported that the cost is \$22,000 for these services:

- Software data base designed for Yadkin County regarding classifications and pay scale
- Questionnaire to be completed by all 268 employees of the County
- Interviews with at least 1 employee from each classification
- Analysis of same or similar positions in the 6 contiguous counties of Surry, Stokes, Wilkes, Forsyth, Iredell and Davie
- Additional analysis from the counties of Ashe, Alexander, Avery, and McDowell which have similar budgets and population

- A summary of the findings and a recommendation will be presented to the Board in February 2011

There were questions regarding the involvement of Kim Newsom once his contract with Yadkin County has expired in August 2010. County Manager Church responded that Mr. Newsom will be under contract with the Piedmont Triad Council of Governments and will assist with this project in that capacity.

Commissioner Wooten stated that this study should go forward as it is good for administration, employees, and the citizens of Yadkin County. Chairman Wagoner pointed out that this study will be completed by an impartial 3rd party. The study will not recognize an individual employee for their contribution but will rather address the job duties of employees across the board. Vice Chairman Austin stated that the Council of Governments is an agency developed to assist counties and municipalities with certain administrative functions. Chairman Wagoner pointed out that Yadkin County is actually under the umbrella of the Northwest Piedmont Council of Governments further substantiating the 3rd party nature of this study.

Commissioner Moxley pointed out that the agreement states an increase in payroll costs can be anticipated. Vice Chairman Austin stated that it is normal to experience a 1 to 1 ¼% increase in labor costs following a study of this nature. Further, Vice Chairman Austin explained that an employee would not typically experience a decrease in salary. There may be a salary freeze on positions that have been classified too high. Other positions may see increases when the classification has been too low. Based on the number of employees, Yadkin County may anticipate an increase in labor of costs of \$100,000.

Commissioner Wooten reiterated that the study will examine positions, such as deputy, nurse, and inspector. There will be no names attached to the review. The focus of the study is on the position and the job it entails.

Commissioner Wooten made a motion to approve the agreement with the Piedmont Triad Council of Governments for a Position Classification and Pay Study at a cost of \$22,000.

Vice Chairman Austin second.

Vote: 5/0

(4) Animal Euthanasia Procedures

County Manager Church announced that he had been asked to research lethal injection in lieu of carbon monoxide euthanasia at the animal shelter. Animal Control Officer, Jerry Hutchens, was also present to participate in this discussion.

It is believed that the State is moving toward a mandate on lethal injection. It is already required for puppies and kittens. Staff members of Yadkin County Animal Control have recently completed State training on carbon monoxide euthanasia and lethal injection euthanasia which

included a State certification in lethal injection. Yadkin County Animal Control has been proactive on this issue by stocking the necessary supplies. Yadkin County has been notified by the State that lethal injections can now be legally performed in the animal shelter. County Manager Church created a cost analysis of carbon monoxide use versus lethal injections...

Analysis #1:

- Assumes that carbon monoxide = \$2.00 per animal (not including depreciation on gas chambers)
- Assumes that 100% of the animals to be euthanized are aggressive and may cause harm. A 2-step process is required. A substance will be used to sedate the animal followed by the lethal injection.
- Assumes the same number of animals to be euthanized in 2010 as there were in 2009
- Cost = \$2.30 per animal
- \$553.00 additional per year as opposed to current method

Analysis #2:

- Assumes that carbon monoxide = \$2.00 per animal (not including depreciation on gas chambers)
- Assumes that only 50% of the animals to be euthanized are aggressive and may cause harm. A 2-step process is required. A substance will be used to sedate the animal followed by the lethal injection.
- Assumes the same number of animals to be euthanized in 2010 as there were in 2009
- Cost = \$1.72 per animal
- \$516.00 savings per year as opposed to current method

With his research, County Manager Church has determined that there will essentially be no increase or decrease in the cost of euthanasia by either method. There will be additional labor costs but these can be offset by the depreciation of the carbon monoxide chambers. It is the consensus of the general public that lethal injection is more humane. Further, the State will most likely mandate lethal injection at some future point.

County Manager Church provided 2 sample policies for the Board's consideration. County Manager Church recommended the omitting of paragraph 6 of sample policy 2. This paragraph refers to the presence of 2 people at the time of the injection, but this is not currently required by the State.

Chairman Wagoner asked what employee of the animal shelter would be responsible for the controlled substances. Mr. Hutchens replied that he does have a small supply at this time and that he would continue to order and monitor the supplies. It was noted that a federal license is required for the handling of these controlled substances. It was further noted that

the substances remain in a locked cabinet behind a locked door and that there are procedures already in place for the inventory of the substances.

Commissioner Garner asked the euthanasia procedure for large breed dogs. Mr. Hutchens reported the he has already purchased a pole and syringe combination in order to sedate the larger breed animals while still in the cage.

Chairman Wagoner asked if lethal injection is a safer alternative for the employees. Mr. Hutchens stated that he could not say lethal injection is safer. However, the Board represents the citizens of the County, and as an employee of the County, he will perform the tasks that are asked of his department.

It was noted that there are a total of 4 employees in the animal control department with only 2 certified for lethal injection. All 4 are certified for carbon monoxide. When asked about his own certification, Mr. Hutchens stated that there has traditionally been quite a bit of turnover in this department and that he has not been able to be away from the shelter for extended periods of time. Commissioner Garner asked if Mr. Hutchens had failed to become certified in lethal injection because of his personal feelings. Mr. Hutchens stated that carbon monoxide, lethal injection, or any other method does not solve the problem. Mr. Hutchens stated that the problem is the lack of spay and neuter procedures and that the citizens must be held accountable for their pets.

Chairman Wagoner stated that the Board has 3 options:

1. Adopt sample policy 1
2. Adopt sample policy 2
3. Continue with current euthanasia procedures

Vice Chairman Austin made a motion establishing that all dogs and cats euthanized at the Yadkin County Animal Shelter shall be euthanized by way of lethal injection. Other methods of euthanasia for dogs and cats are strictly prohibited without prior written approval by the County Manager for each individual animal that is euthanized by other methods. Further, Yadkin County will operate its euthanasia procedures according to the sample policy provided by the County Manager, striking paragraph 6 of the first page, to be effective August 15, 2010. Commissioner Garner second.

Vote: 5/0*

(Commissioner Wooten declined to vote stating a lack of information. Failure to vote is nevertheless recorded as an aye.)

[Policy follows in its approved form.]

YADKIN COUNTY EUTHANASIA POLICY

ALWAYS REMEMBER: (eu'tha-na'si-a) "The act of inducing a painless death." The word itself comes from the ancient Greek "eu-t thanatos" ("good death"). This is our goal every time we euthanize an animal.

Two factors must be present; the most painless technique available and administration by certified personnel who demonstrate a caring understanding of animals. Euthanasia technicians (ETs) must consistently demonstrate an ability and desire to handle animals in such a manner as to prevent, to the greatest extent possible, feelings of pain, fear, and stress. Only a trained and certified ET will perform euthanasia. Euthanasia training and the administration of euthanasia is managed and supervised by the Shelter Manager.

The door of the euthanasia room will be kept closed during euthanasia and only staff involved in the euthanasia in progress and/or a supervisor will be permitted in the euthanasia room.

When animals are euthanized at the Yadkin Shelter they are given an intravenous (IV) injection of Sodium Pentobarbital. Animals may be tranquilized first at the discretion of the CET. The IP (Intraperitoneal) route of injection may be used on infant animals. Use of a tranquilizer or anesthetic may be waived prior to euthanizing a calm, sedate animal, provided that both the holder and euthanasia technician agree that chemical restraint is not necessary. After injecting a fatal dose of Sodium Pentobarbital the animal must be checked for death.

Once the animal has been euthanized, the CET will log the appropriate information; including the animal ID#, weight, date, bottle numbers and amount of drugs used into the euthanasia logbook. The CET's initials must also be included.

If at any time during the euthanasia procedure there is ANY DOUBT IN YOUR MIND - STOP! See the supervisor before proceeding.

After the list is completed, the euthanasia room must be cleaned and set up for the next use. Make sure there are sufficient syringes and Fatal Plus available for the next day. All necessary drugs will be dispensed and signed out by certified staff. The CET who removes the controlled substances from the locked narcotic cabinet is responsible for control of those substances at all times and shall not leave the drugs unattended. The CET who removes the controlled substances for euthanasia is responsible for returning them to the narcotic cabinet when euthanasia is completed and insuring that all supplies are replenished. Always leave the euthanasia room clean and the narcotic cabinet locked.

Selecting Candidates for Euthanasia

The Shelter Manager (SM) or designee, shall review the due out list of animals that have cleared their holding periods pursuant. These animals are evaluated for entry into the adoption program, or euthanasia. The following guidelines will be utilized in selecting animals for euthanasia. Animals shall be evaluated pursuant to the categories of health, behavior and available shelter space:

Feral:

Any animal that is feral, by nature or environment, should be euthanized. Feral: An animal that is not socialized to humans or dependant on them for support is unapproachable, unable to be handled, and/or unpredictable in its behavior due to fear. Shelter staff will take care in assessing feral cats and give each cat an opportunity to calm down before making a final decision.

Aggressive:

Any animal that fits in this category will be euthanized. Aggressive: Known to have bitten or threatens to bite, whether the aggression is offensive or defensive in nature.

Shelter Space:

Animals will be selected to prevent a full kennel status. A surplus of animals in the shelter will affect the health and adoptability of the shelter population.

Medical:

Any animal that exhibits signs of impending or existing illness, or has tested positive for an illness (feline leukemia, FIV, Parvo, etc) should be euthanized. Illness: For this purpose, any ailment or condition that is contagious by direct or indirect contact (surface, tactile, airborne, body fluid, etc) and therefore represents a potential health risk to the animal population of the shelter. This does not include commonly treated intestinal parasites, fleas, ticks, lice or ear mites.

Any animal which has an injury, or a medical conditions that is not a threat to the shelter population, but is severe or chronic in such a manner that it will likely require extensive and/or continual treatment (such as heartworm, dysplasia, cataracts, etc.) should be euthanized.

Pregnant:

Any animal that shows obvious signs of pregnancy may be euthanized upon clearing the holding period or if it will require medical treatment to prevent suffering.

Behavior:

Any animal that exhibits and/or has a known history of a behavioral problem that cannot be corrected with a minimal amount of effort, behavior modification, and/or common sense, should be euthanized. This is based on the limited ability and knowledge of the average adopter. Our concern for the welfare of animals must extend beyond the time they spend in our care. In many cases animals placed with behavioral problems will be subjected to inappropriate or inhumane training/behavior modification techniques, tied outside with no human contact, returned to the shelter or even abandoned. Dogs that should carefully be evaluated include those breeds that have been bred for protection, and or aggression, or have documented records of biting or other aggressive tendencies.

Wildlife:

Any wildlife brought to the shelter that is sick, injured, orphaned or nuisance, should be handled and/or euthanized in accordance with 1) state and federal permits held by this agency, and 2) Health Department precautions due to rabies.

The following personnel are the only ones permitted to authorize euthanasia of animals at the Yadkin County Animal Shelter:

Director
Shelter Manager
Animal Control Officers (ACO) who are Certified Euthanasia Technicians (CET)
County Manager and/or Health Director

Only a certified euthanasia technician or a Veterinarian will perform euthanasia.

Euthanasia Room

The area where euthanasia is performed should be functional as well as aesthetically pleasing as possible to the staff. The room should be clean and have ample space to allow quick movements and be free of clutter for ease of cleaning and capture of feral cats and other escapees. A Ketch-pole should be within easy reach in case of emergency.

Animals are brought to the euthanasia room and euthanized individually. The body of each is removed or covered from the view of the next animal to be euthanized prior to the admission of that animal into the room. Mother animals with young are never permitted to observe or hear their offspring being euthanized. Offspring are never to be euthanized first. Always euthanize the mother dog or cat prior to euthanizing the offspring.

Chemical Restraint

The term "chemical restraint" describes the use of any of several drugs used to tranquilize, sedate or immobilize animals prior to euthanasia.

Using a tranquilizer may take a few more minutes of your time, but remember the animal comes first and your goal is to achieve euthanasia (stress free death) by any reasonable means. Use of a tranquilizer will also make your job safer and easier. The administration of these drugs requires a minimum handling of the animal and a simple intramuscular or subcutaneous injection. Once the drug takes effect, Fatal Plus may be administered. Use of a tranquilizer or anesthetic may be waived prior to euthanizing a calm, sedate animal, provided that both the holder and CET agree that chemical restraint is not necessary.

Note: The pole syringe is used for the IM administration of Ketamine/Xylazine only. The pole syringe shall not be used to administer sodium pentobarbital.

IMPORTANT: While tranquilizers and sedatives make some animals more tractable, don't be lulled into a false sense of security. Tranquilizers may mask or distort normal body language making dogs less predictable.

Euthanasia Procedure by Species

All dogs and cats euthanized at the Yadkin County Animal Shelter shall be euthanized by way of lethal injection. Other methods of euthanasia are strictly prohibited without prior written approval from the County Manager for each individual animal that is euthanized by other methods.

All other species may be euthanized by the appropriate method determined by the state and federal laws and regulations.

Euthanasia Log

Only certified personnel will record the animals euthanized in the euthanasia log. The number of animals euthanized is recorded and amounts of drugs used must be listed along with the initials of the staff involved in the procedure. Never log an animal before the task has been completed. The completed log includes the animal ID number, weight, date, amount of drugs used, bottle numbers and CET initials. The log will keep a running inventory of each bottle of Fatal Plus and deduct amounts of FP and pre-mix used and show amount left on hand. A running deduction of the amount must be calculated each time they are used and must correspond with the amount of drug on hand. Waste and errors such as "blowing a vein", needle coming off the syringe, or the solution is clouded with blood so you can't see aspiration do occur, but these occurrences must be recorded as they happen.

The CET should enter each animal in the logbook as the animal is euthanized. Do not accumulate registry cards for euthanized animals until the euthanasia session is over. Be sure to make each entry on the Registry Card and in the log as you complete the process for each individual animal.

Euthanasia Requests by Owner

Euthanasia requests are animals brought in by their owners for the specific purpose of immediate euthanasia. After the paperwork is completed, a Shelter Attendant will take the animal. It is extremely important that the Shelter Attendant act in a professional yet compassionate manner. This can be a very traumatic time for the owners as they have just made a decision to end the life of their beloved pet and companion. Be patient and understanding, never be in a hurry. Be extremely careful with your conversation. Be as reassuring and compassionate as possible. After the owner has left the premises, euthanasia requests should be performed immediately. Do not delay unless absolutely necessary.

Controlled Substance Security

Fatal Plus is the drug used to perform euthanasia. Fatal Plus is a Schedule II substance and therefore, is a controlled substance. Telazol and Ketamine are Schedule III substances. Use of controlled substances is regulated under Title 21 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Chapter II - Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Department of Justice.

Under these regulations, the department is subject to the same security and record keeping requirements that regulate doctors and veterinarians. The security requirements include storage in a safe or locked cabinet in a secure location. Drugs must be inventoried upon receipt and dosage and administration specifically recorded. Records must be kept for at least 2 years. It is extremely important that all CETs keep accurate records of controlled substances. The consequences for failure to keep accurate records could range from financial penalty to loss of our license to use the substance. Access to the controlled substance safe to dispense controlled substances is restricted to the certified staff.

Employee Safety

There are several sources of potential danger to employees connected with euthanasia:

1. Injury from an animal. Wounds caused by scratches or bites should be treated with standard first aid procedures when appropriate. In the event of an injury it is important to follow standard operating procedure. An animal that bites during the euthanasia process but before the final injection has been given should be quarantined like any other animal. If the animal has already been injected, notify the Health Department.
2. Injury from equipment such as accidental needle puncture occurs most often with excitable animals. A physician should examine all needle injuries. Needle injuries may be reduced by leaving the cap on the needle until immediately before the injection is made and by clear communication between the holder and injector. Small cuts from the clippers can also occur and should be treated with first aid.

3. Accidental injections of Fatal Plus are less dangerous than most people believe. The dosages used to kill animals are not sufficient to kill a human. However, because there is always the possibility of an allergic reaction to the drug, anyone injected with pentobarbital should be transported to a hospital immediately. Pentobarbital may also be accidentally squirted into the eye when a needle comes off the syringe. When pentobarbital comes into contact with the eye it should be considered a medical emergency and first aid procedures should be applied. Contact lenses should be removed immediately.

4. There is no doubt that euthanizing animals is highly stressful work. In addition to the inherent danger of the task the emotional dismay of having to euthanize friendly, healthy animals day after day can affect any employee. Grief and sorrow are the two most commonly reported feelings regarding euthanasia. Euthanasia technicians are encouraged to talk about the issue and to seek constructive outlets for these emotions.

MANAGER REPORTS/COMMENTS

(1) County Manager Church reported that legislation regarding E-911 funds has changed. The legislation allows the County to spend 50% of its \$850,000 E-911 fund balance on any item concerning public safety. Yadkin County has a Communications Committee with Chairman Wagoner and Commissioner Wooten participating. This committee is not active at this time. County Manager Church recently met with David Matthews, Major Widener, Dale Ring, Josh Arnder, and Keith Vestal to discuss options and need. It was identified that radio equipment must be upgraded by 2013 at a cost of approximately \$1 million. Some equipment currently used by the County is not compliant with current bandwidth standard and must be replaced.

Chairman Wagoner asked if there was a time limit for spending the E-911 funds. County Manager Church explained that the new legislation provides a 2-year window in which E-911 funds can be spent on any matter of public safety. It is assumed that beyond the 2-year time frame, the typical restrictions will apply. Chairman Wagoner stated that he did not favor frivolous spending solely for the fear of loss. Vice Chairman Austin proposed that E-911 funds are not grant monies that must be returned if unspent. However, if these funds are not used, Yadkin County may see a cut in future funding.

County Manager Church surmised that agencies of public safety and concern may come forward in the next few weeks seeking funding from this source. Commissioner Wooten stated that communication infrastructure must be the first priority for Yadkin County.

It was the consensus of the Board to continue to review the communication and public safety needs of the County and take no action on the E-911 funds at this time.

(2) Regarding the County's responsibility and authority for private roads, and specifically to address the power of eminent domain, County Manager Church contacted Professor Charles Szypszak at the UNC Institute of Government. Mr. Szypszak is the State's foremost specialist on eminent domain. County Manager Church asked Mr. Szypszak, "Can you [the County] condemn or declare eminent domain due to dangerous conditions on a private road where school buses may travel or other commercial vehicles?" Mr. Szypszak responded, "Safety is not, by itself, an authorized public purpose for the use of eminent domain."

County Manager Church further explained that this would be in the jurisdiction of the regulatory powers of the State police in regards to the requirement for safe roads. In order to declare eminent domain, the County would be required to add a park or other facility specifically for public use.

Quoting from various memos on this subject, County Manager Church reported that there are roads owned and maintained by the State and private roads maintained by citizens. There has not been a 'county' road in North Carolina since 1931. According to Professor Szypszak, Yadkin County could not legally exercise eminent domain in this matter.

Vice Chairman Austin stated that he would like to see additional research on this matter and have the legal opinion of the County Attorney or other legal counsel. Commissioner Garner and Vice Chairman Austin agree that emergency vehicles such as fire truck and ambulance cannot travel Virgil Hodges Lane and be able to turn around. Commissioner Wooten would also like to continue the search for a solution to this issue. Vice Chairman Austin suggested that the County 'think outside the box' in order to differentiate the safety issue of Virgil Hodges Lane between other private roads of the County. Chairman Wagoner advised caution as other citizens with similar issues of private roads would feel their concern is distinguishable as well.

The majority of the Board would like to determine a legal resolution to this matter. Attorney Graham agreed to provide information on the legal authority of the County for eminent domain in this issue.

Chairman Wagoner called for a recess at 9:01pm. Meeting resumed at 9:20pm.

CALENDAR NOTES

Chairman Wagoner drew attention to the calendar items; particularly the Community Visioning Meeting to be held at Forbush Middle School on Tuesday, July 20, 2010 at 7:00pm. This is the second meeting with the first having been held at Starmount Middle School in the prior week.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Wooten stated that estimates of courthouse roof repairs had been presented under the county management of Jim Haynes. Commissioner Wooten would like to direct management to present those figures once more for Board review at the morning meeting in August with possible contract approval at the evening meeting of August. Commissioner Wooten stated that it is very important to protect assets from weather and that the County cannot continue to let the courthouse deteriorate. It was noted that Mr. Haynes remains the special projects coordinator for Yadkin County. The remaining Board members agreed with Commissioner Wooten's direction on this matter.

Commissioner Moxley had these additional comments:

(1) Commissioner Moxley stated that he was pleased with the County's euthanasia policy adopted at today's meeting.

(2) Commissioner Moxley had visited Virgil Hodges Lane and agrees that there is a safety issue. At this point, it appears that the County's "hands are tied." However, Commissioner Moxley would like for the County to continue to search for a solution.

Vice Chairman Austin had these additional comments:

Vice Chairman Austin thanked individuals for their assistance with the euthanasia policy. Vice Chairman Austin especially thanked County Manager Church for his research and for providing the figures. Vice Chairman Austin stated that he appreciated the enthusiasm of County Manager Church to enforce the policies and procedures set forth by the Board.

Vice Chairman Austin stated that the adoption of the euthanasia policy was a positive step for Yadkin County and may indicate to outsiders that Yadkin County is moving in a forward direction. Vice Chairman Austin suggested that the new euthanasia policy may invigorate citizens to become more active in the fostering of animals and may increase the commitment to spay and neuter appropriately. As mentioned earlier by Animal Control Officer, Jerry Hutchens, the spaying and neutering of pets is a key issue. Farm animals are generally controlled, but domestic animals such as dogs and cats are often out of control and pet owners must be made more accountable. Vice Chairman Austin stated that the euthanasia policy is a great beginning.

Chairman Wagoner had no additional comments at this time.

Commissioner Garner had these additional comments:

Commissioner Garner stated that many citizens feel that he does not listen to their wishes nor do they agree with his beliefs or his actions. Commissioner Garner stated that he does not only think of himself and had campaigned on the idea that he would do what was best for the majority of the people. Commissioner Garner stated that his aunt, for whom he has power of attorney and serves as the executor of the estate, is in her final hours at Baptist Hospital. Though Commissioner Garner had plans to be at the beach, those plans were changed due to his aunt's condition indicating that he is not heartless and does care for others.

Commissioner Garner addressed anonymous comments from The Yadkin View. Commissioner Garner further stated that he has had no incident with local law enforcement.

Attorney Graham had no additional items for discussion.

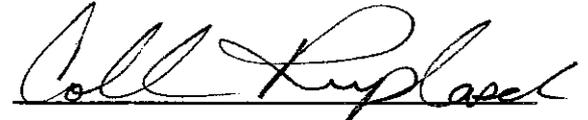
Commissioner Wooten made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Moxley second.

Vote: 5/0

Meeting adjourned at 9:47pm.

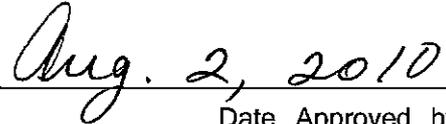
[The meeting was attended and recorded by the Administrative Clerk, Colleen Rumplach. The final document was prepared by Clerk, Gina Brown]

Attest



Administrative Clerk, Colleen Rumplach

Clerk to the Board, Gina Brown



Date Approved by the
Yadkin County Board of Commissioners