

# TITLE 10

## SPECIAL ORDINANCES, REGULATIONS, RULES, POLICIES, AND BARGAINING AGREEMENTS

### SUBTITLE 3 — POLICIES

#### POLICY 22

#### DOG ADOPTION

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#### I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

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#### **22.050 Background**

(A) ORS 609.090 which, in regard to impounded dogs which no owner has redeemed, says in part, "the dog control board or county governing body may release the dog to a responsible person upon receiving assurance that the person will properly care for the dog and upon payment of a sum established by the county governing body

plus cost of keep during its impounding, and purchase of a license if required."

(B) LCC 560.440 provides that if a dog "is not redeemed by the owner, and in the opinion of the Director, the dog is not a threat to the health or safety of persons, pets, domestic animals, or livestock and can be safely kept, the Director may release the dog to a responsible person or organization, other than a research facility or person who breeds or possesses animals for sale to research facilities, upon receiving assurance that the person will properly care for the dog and not allow it to become a nuisance, and upon payment of a sum established by the Board plus the boarding costs accrued during its impoundment, and purchase of a license, if required. "

(C) The Board, finding that the Director of the Dog Control Department is knowledgeable and suited by his experience and training to make determinations regarding a dog's dangerousness and suitability for being safely kept, delegates to the Director the duty of determining which dogs are suitable for release under subsection (A) of this section, subject to the provisions of this policy.

[Adopted 85-354 eff 6/19/85; amd 2010-331 eff 10/13/10]

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#### II. ADOPTION PROCESS

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#### **22.150 Qualifications to adopt a dog**

(A) Dogs taken into custody by the Linn County Dog Control Department for running at large, or other violation of ORS Chapters 609 or 433, or LCC Chapter 560, remaining unclaimed after three (3) days if the dog is without a license or identification tag, or after five (5) days if the

dog has a license or identification tag, may be released for adoption only to a person:

- (1) at least eighteen (18) years of age;
- (2) who will be personally responsible for permanent proper care of the dog;
- (3) who will not allow the dog to be used for research or medical or veterinary training;
- (4) who has a suitable place to keep the dog so that it is not likely to run at large or become a nuisance;
- (5) who agrees that any dog released for adoption from the Linn County Animal Shelter shall not be used for research, or fighting, or treated in a cruel or inhumane manner; and
- (6) who completes an application and an agreement in a form determined by the Director which shall, at a minimum, be designed to capture sufficient information for the Director to determine compliance with and agreement to the requirements of subsection (A), or

(B) if the dog has not been claimed by its owner when the time specified in subsection (A) has passed, the dog may, at the sole discretion of the Director of the Linn County Dog Control Department, be held for additional time for adoption or euthanized as provided under LCP 22.270.

(C) Dogs given to the Linn County Dog Control Department shall be:

- (1) where feasible, accompanied by a completed animal release authorization in a form determined by the Director which shall, at a minimum, fully release all rights over the dog to the Linn County Dog Control Department and authorize disposal of the dog in a manner consistent with Policy 22; and
- (2) released for adoption in accordance with the criteria set out in subsection (A); or
- (3) euthanized as provided under LCP 22.270.

[Adopted 85-354 eff 6/19/85; amd 85-506 eff 9/4/85; amd 2010-331 eff 10/13/10]

[LCP 22.250 Deleted 2010-331 eff 10/13/10]

### **22.270 Disposition of dogs not adopted or re-leased**

If the dog has not been released as provided in LCP 22.150 after being held for a reasonable time, as determined by the Director of the Linn County Dog Control Department, the dog shall be euthanized by a lethal injection of sodium pentobarbital, or other substance approved by the Oregon State Veterinary Medical Examining Board.

[Adopted 85-354 eff 6/19/85; amd 85-506 eff 9/4/85; amd 2010-331 eff 10/13/10]

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## **III. DIRECTOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

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### **22.400 Director’s responsibility**

The Director of the Linn County Dog Control Department is vested with authority and delegated the duty to make the determination required by ORS 609.090 and LCC 560.440 whether to release unclaimed dogs to qualified applicants, upon the conditions of this policy and upon payment of the fees set by the then current Linn County Fee Order.

[Adopted 85-354 eff 6/19/85; amd 2010-331 eff 10/13/10]

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### **References and Authorities:**

ORS 609; ORS 433; LCC 560; Linn County Fee Order

### **Legislative History of Policy 22:**

Adopted 85-354 eff 6/19/85

Amendments to 85-354:

#1 85-506 eff 9/4/85

#2 2010-331 eff 10/13/10

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