

MARIPOSA COUNTY ORDINANCE NO. 765

AN ORDINANCE
AMENDING SECTION 6.08.110 ENTITLED
"IMPOUNDMENT - DISPOSITION OF ANIMALS", AND
REPEALING SECTION 6.08.130 ENTITLED
"POUND--FEE REQUIRED WHEN",
OF CHAPTER 6.08 ENTITLED "ANIMAL CONTROL"

WHEREAS, Mariposa County's contracted veterinarian has given notice to the County relative to the termination of his contract, and

WHEREAS, Mariposa County has been unable to locate a local alternative contractor and/or facility, and

WHEREAS, County Code Section 6.08.110 currently requires a five (5) day impoundment period for dogs, and

WHEREAS, State law only requires a seventy-two (72) hour impoundment for dogs,

WHEREAS, the current ordinance which requires an additional two (2) days impound period over State law has produced the following results:

- a. very few late retrivals by owners,
- b. decreased available space for animals,
- c. increased exposure to infection from other dogs, and
- d. the County expending up to (\$3,600) per year in additional costs;

NOW THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS of Mariposa County, a political subdivision of the State of California, does ordain as follows:

SECTION I: Section 6.08.110 entitled "Impoundment--Disposition of animals.", of Chapter 6.08 entitled "Animal Control", is amended to read in its entirety as follows:

"6.08.110 Impoundment--Disposition of animals.

Impounded dogs and other animals shall be kept at the pound, shelter, or other facility approved by the county and may be disposed of in the following manner:

A. Unlicensed, nonexempt dogs and other domestic animals will be kept for three days (72 hours). Thereafter, they may be given to any person who will comply with this chapter or they will be destroyed in a humane manner. Persons taking unclaimed or stray animals from the control of the animal control officer shall pay to the county reasonable charges for licensing, rabies inoculations and/or impoundment. Spaying and neutering of cats shall be in conformance with Agriculture Code Sections 31750 and 31751.

B. When a dog which is impounded bears a valid current license tag, said dog shall be kept ten (10) days after mailing notice of impoundment by certified mail at the owner's expense, to the licensed owner. The owner may reclaim said dog upon payment of a fee in the amount of thirty dollars (\$30.00), plus the expenses resulting from impoundment and the mailing of notice. If the owner does not reclaim the dog within ten (10) days from the date notice is mailed, the animal control officer may dispose of it in the manner described in Subsection A of this section.

C. If an animal has bitten a person or there is reason to suspect that it is infected with rabies or other communicable diseases, to wit: "Q" fever, psittacosis, brucellosis, encephalitis, and others as may be designated by the state department of health from time to time, the county health officer, or his designee, shall isolate the animal in strict confinement in a place and manner approved by the county health officer, pursuant to current state law as amended from time to time. Charges for animals held in isolation are the expenses resulting from the impoundment and shall be paid as follows:

1. If the bite takes place on the animal owner's property and the owner can show proof of a current valid rabies shot then the animal owner shall be not charged any costs;

2. If the bite takes place off of the animal owner's property or the animal owner can not show proof of a current valid rabies shot then the animal owner shall be responsible for all costs incurred as a result of the isolation, examination shots, and other impoundment expenses incurred.

If the animal proves to be infected with any of the above diseases, it will be disposed of as directed by the health officer.

D. Dogs, cats and other domestic animals and livestock brought to a county shelter for disposal by their owners, shall be euthanized provided that the owners present proof of ownership and sign a release.

E. When any dog, cat, other domestic animal or livestock is impounded and reclaimed for a second time, an additional fee in the amount of fifty-five dollars (\$55.00) shall be charged to reclaim such animal the second time; when any such animal is reclaimed three (3) or more times, an additional fee in the amount of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) shall be charged each time the animal is reclaimed commencing with the third time. All fees described herein shall be in addition to the basic impound and notice fees."

SECTION II: Section 6.08.130, entitled "Pound--Fee required when", is repealed in its entirety.

SECTION III: This ordinance shall become effective thirty (30)

days from the date of final passage, pursuant to California Government Code Section 25123.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors this 13th day of March, 1990, by the following vote:

AYES: RADANOVICH, TABER, BAGGETT, ERICKSON, PUNTE
NOES: NONE

ABSENT: NONE
ABSTAINED: NONE



ARTHUR G. BAGGETT, JR., Chairman
Mariposa County Board of Supervisors

APPROVED AS TO FORM
AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

ATTEST:



MARGIE WILLIAMS
Clerk of the Board



JEFFREY G. GREEN
County Counsel