

6.04.031 Administration and enforcement.

A. ~~Sheriff. A humane society or other animal control authority as defined under RCW 16.52 and that is designated by the County Council and the County Executive Administration and enforcement of this chapter shall be the responsibility of the Whatcom County sheriff, his deputized agent (the animal control authority) or other official designated by the county council and the county executive's office. The sheriff or deputized designee shall be responsible for administration and enforcement of this chapter, as to include the following:~~

1. Operate or cause to be operated an animal shelter;

2. If the designee deems deemed it necessary by the designee, select, train, hire, and retain a qualified animal control officer or officers who shall to enforce the provisions of this chapter;

3. Investigate complaints pertaining to animal misconduct occurring in the unincorporated areas.

4. Administer animal licensing obligations provided for in this chapter, to include: the issuance and re-issuance of licenses; the collection of licensing fees, taxes, and penalties; and the enforcement of licensing requirements.

~~B. County Executive. The county executive's office shall oversee the administration, issuance, re-issuance and enforcement of license fees and other tax charges or penalties as provided for in this chapter.~~

B. In the absence of a designated humane society or other animal control authority pursuant to Section A, the Whatcom County Sheriff's Department Office shall be responsible for the administration and enforcement of this chapter. (Ord. 98-022; Ord. 90-82 (part)).