

Chaffee County does have a county resolution that deals with canines. Below is that resolution in its entirety. At this time Chaffee County does not have any resolutions that deal with the control of other domestic animals. Deputies will respond to just about any animal complaint but may be limited as to what they can do. If evidence exists that a violation of the below resolution occurred, officers can issue pet owners a citation for the violation. At this time deputies cannot transport canines in their patrol cars. If you have captured a stray dog, other arrangements must be made to transport it to the impound so the officer can take custody of the animal. Deputies will initially respond to most situations involving wildlife but most situations involving wildlife are handled by the [Division of Wildlife](#).



**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF CHAFFEE COUNTY COLORADO**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 2001-4**

A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE CONTROL OF DOGS, VACCINATION OF DOGS AND THEIR IDENTIFICATION, CONTROL OF VICIOUS DOGS AND OTHER ANIMALS, THE IMPOUNDMENT OF ANIMALS AND DESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATING SUCH PROVISIONS.

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Chaffee County is empowered by 30-15-101 to 30-15-105 CRS to adapt a resolution concerning the control and licensing of dogs

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Chaffee County deems it advisable for the protection of the general health, safety, and welfare of the residents of the County of Chaffee to adopt the following resolution to be entitled Chaffee County Dog Control Resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Chaffee County.

**Section 1 - Definitions** - When used in this resolution the following words and terms, unless the context indicates a different meaning, shall be interpreted as

follows:

- 1.1 OWNER: Any person or persons, firm, association or corporation who has right of property in an animal or who harbors an animal or allows an animal to remain about his premises for a period of five (5) days.
- 1.2 HARBORING: The act of keeping and caring for a dog or of providing a premises to which the animal returns for food or shelter or care.
- 1.3 DOG: A domestic canine of either sex, including one neutered or sterilized.
- 1.4 VICIOUS DOG: Any dog which has previously attacked or bitten any person or which has behaved in such a manner that the person who harbors the dog knows or reasonably should know that the animal is possessed of tendencies to attack, bite, or harass persons or livestock. Neither this definition nor this resolution shall apply to any dogs under the control of a law enforcement agency.
- 1.5 RUNNING AT LARGE: Any dog off the premises of the owner and not under the physical or effective immediate audible control of the owner or his authorized representative shall be deemed to be running at large. A dog intruding upon the property of a person other than the owner shall be deemed to be "running at large." A dog within an automobile or other vehicle of its owner shall not be deemed "running at large" nor shall any dog actually working livestock or locating and retrieving wild game for a licensed hunter.
- 1.6 ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER: Any police officer, deputy sheriff, or code enforcement officer charged with the enforcement of this resolution.
- 1.7 RABIES VACCINATION: Shall mean the vaccination of a dog with an anti-rabies vaccine approved by the Colorado Department of Health and administered by a veterinarian licensed by the State of Colorado.

## **Section 2 - Identification**

- 2.1 IDENTIFICATION REQUIRED: All dogs shall wear a suitable identification tag sufficient to identify the owner and the owner's

address.

### **Section 3 - Rabies Control**

3.1 VACCINATIONS: Every owner of a dog three months of age or older shall have such animal vaccinated against rabies. All dogs vaccinated at three months of age shall be re-vaccinated at one year of age and bi-annually thereafter.

3.2 CERTIFICATE OF VACCINATION: Upon vaccination, the veterinarian shall execute and furnish to the owner of the dog, as evidence thereof, a certificate. The veterinarian shall retain a duplicate copy. Such certificate shall contain the following information

A. The name, address and telephone number of the owner.

B. The date of vaccination (which shall in all cases comply with the requirements of 2.1 above.)

C. The type of rabies vaccine used.

D. The year and number of the rabies tag.

E. The breed, age, color, and sex of the vaccinated dog.

3.3 RABIES TAG: Concurrent with the issuance and delivery of the certificate of vaccination referred to in Section 3.2, the owner of the dog shall cause to be attached to the collar or harness of the vaccinated dog a metal tag, serially numbered to correspond with the vaccination certificate number and bearing the year of issuance and the name of the jurisdiction and state. Such tag shall be worn by the dog at all times.

3.4 DUPLICATE TAG: In the event of loss or destruction of the original tag provided in Section 3.3, the owner of the dog shall obtain a duplicate tag.

3.5 PROOF: It shall be unlawful for any person who owns or harbors a vaccinated dog to fail or refuse to exhibit his copy of the certificate of vaccination upon demand to any person charged with the enforcement of this resolution.

- 3.6 HARBORING UNVACCINATED DOGS: It shall be unlawful for any person to harbor any dog which had not been vaccinated against rabies as provided herein, or which cannot be identified as having a current vaccination certificate.

#### **Section 4 - Control of Dogs**

- 4.1 CONTROL REQUIRED: It shall be the responsibility of each dog owner to keep his or her dog under control at all times. Failure to do so shall be a violation of this resolution.
- 4.2 BARKING DOG: A dog shall be considered to be out of control if it barks, howls or otherwise emits sound without a pause of more than one minute and such barking, howling, or other noise continues for a period of five minutes or more.
- 4.3 LIVESTOCK AND WILDLIFE: A dog shall be considered to be out of control if, while it is running at large, it is chasing or worrying, or barking at or otherwise harassing livestock or wildlife.
- 4.4 RUNNING AT LARGE: A dog shall be considered to be out of control if it is running at large as defined herein.

#### **Section 5 - Vicious Dogs and Other Animals**

- 5.1 It shall be unlawful for any person to own, harbor or keep a vicious wild animal or other vicious animal within Chaffee County. Any vicious wild animal or other vicious animal shall be deemed a public nuisance and may be seized by any police officer, deputy sheriff or code enforcement officer charged with enforcement of this resolution. Upon appropriate complaint and appropriate order of a court of competent jurisdiction, the vicious animal may be killed or otherwise disposed of as the court may determine necessary to preserve public safety and abate such public nuisance.
- 5.2 No person who owns or harbors a vicious dog shall fail to control such dog.
- 5.3 A vicious dog shall be considered to be out of control if it is allowed to approach in a vicious or threatening manner or in an attitude of attack, any person upon any road, street or other public way or upon property not owned or occupied as a residence by the

owner of the dog.

- 5.4 A vicious dog shall be considered to be out of control if it bites, inflicts injury, or otherwise assaults or attacks a human being or other domestic animal while on public or private property.
- 5.5 Any person who owns a vicious dog as defined herein shall at all times keep the dog under control through one of the following means:
- A. The use of a leash not more than six feet in length attached to a leather or nylon collar firmly affixed around the dog's neck.
  - B. Keeping the dog tied or tethered by a chain, wire or other material which cannot be broken or chewed in two by the dog. Such tether shall not permit the dog to reach any road, street, sidewalk, or other public way.
  - C. Keeping the dog enclosed by means of a fence or structure of at least six feet in height. Which enclosure shall be designed with secure sides, top and bottom, which are constructed in a manner that shall be securely locked whenever the dog is within.
  - D. In addition to the use of a leash, whenever any vicious dog is taken by the owner upon any public street, road or other public way or upon other public property the owner shall place upon the dog a muzzle. Such muzzle shall be constructed in a manner that will not cause injury to the dog or interfere with its vision or respiration, but will prevent it from biting any human or animal.

## **Section 6 - Violations - Penalties**

- 6.1 Whenever any peace officer or any animal control officer has probable cause to believe that a violation of this resolution has been committed, the officer may issue a citation or a summons and complaint to the violator which citation or summons and complaint shall state the nature of the violation with sufficient particularity to give notice of such charge to the violator.

6.2 Any person found guilty of any violation of any of the provisions of this resolution, which violation does not involve bodily injury to any person, shall be guilty of a class 2 petty offense and may be punished by a fine according to the following schedule:

First Offense	\$25.00
Second Offense	\$50.00
Third Offense	\$100.00
For each violation thereafter	\$300.00

6.3 Any offense involving bodily injury to a person caused by a dog shall be a class 2 misdemeanor and, for each such offense, the violator shall be punished by a fine of not less than two hundred and fifty dollars and not more than five thousand dollars or imprisonment in the county jail for not less than three (3) months and not more than twelve (12) months or by both such fine and imprisonment.

6.4 During any trial held subsequent to the issuance of a summons and complaint pursuant to this ordinance, if the court feels that the evidence is sufficient, the court may formally declare the dog to be a vicious dog whether or not the owner is found guilty of the offense charged.

### **Section 7 - Penalty Assessment Procedure**

7.1 Whenever any peace officer or animal control officer has reason to believe that a violation of this resolution has occurred that does not involve injury to a person or an animal, the officer may issue a penalty assessment notice. Such notice shall specify the nature of the offense and the fine and shall require the alleged offender to pay the fine or appear to answer the charge at a specified place and time. A duplicate copy shall be sent to the clerk of the Chaffee County Court.

7.2 If the person given a penalty assessment notice chooses to acknowledge his guilt, he may pay the specified fine in person or by mail at the place and within the time specified in the notice. If he chooses not to acknowledge his guilt, he shall appear as required in the notice. Upon trial, if the alleged offender is found guilty, the

fine imposed shall be that specified on the notice for the offense of which he was found guilty, but customary court costs and fees may be assessed against him in addition to the fine.

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners of Chaffee County this 6th day of February, 2001.