

ORDINANCE NO. 16-4(1)

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 4, ANIMALS AND FOWL, ARTICLE II, DOGS, DIVISION I, IN GENERAL, OF THE CODE OF THE COUNTY OF ALBEMARLE, VIRGINIA

BE IT ORDAINED By the Board of Supervisors of the County of Albemarle, Virginia, that Chapter 4, Animals and Fowl, Article II, Dogs, Division I, In General, is hereby amended as follows:

By Amending:

Sec. 4-201 Dogs killing, injuring or chasing livestock or poultry - Generally

CHAPTER 4. ANIMALS AND FOWL

ARTICLE II. DOGS

DIVISION I. IN GENERAL

4-201 Dogs killing, injuring or chasing livestock or poultry--Generally.

A. It shall be the duty of any animal control officer who may find a dog in the act of killing or injuring livestock or poultry to seize or kill such dog forthwith, whether such dog bears a tag or not. Any person finding a dog committing any of the depredations mentioned in this section shall have the right to kill such dog on sight, as shall any owner of livestock or his agent finding a dog chasing livestock on land utilized by the livestock when the circumstances show that such chasing is harmful to the livestock. Any court shall have the power to order the animal control officer or other officer to kill any dog known to be a confirmed livestock or poultry killer, and any dog killing poultry for the third time shall be considered a confirmed poultry killer. The court, through its contempt powers, may compel the owner, custodian, or harbinger of the dog to produce the dog.

B. Any animal control officer who has reason to believe that any dog is killing livestock or poultry shall be empowered to seize such dog solely for the purpose of examining such dog in order to determine whether it committed any of the depredations mentioned herein. Any animal control officer or other person who has reason to believe that any dog is killing livestock, or committing any of the depredations mentioned in this section, shall apply to a magistrate of the county, who shall issue a warrant requiring the owner or custodian, if known, to appear before the general district court at a time and place named therein, at which time evidence shall be heard. If it shall appear that the dog is a livestock killer, or has committed any of the depredations mentioned in this section, the district court shall order that the dog be: (i) killed or euthanized immediately by the animal control officer or other officer designated by the court; (ii) or removed to another state that does not border the Commonwealth and prohibited from returning to the Commonwealth. Any dog ordered removed from the Commonwealth that is later found in the Commonwealth shall be disposed of pursuant to Virginia Code § 3.2-6552

C. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection B, if it is determined that the dog has killed or injured only poultry, the district court may, instead of ordering killing, euthanasia, or removal to another state pursuant to this section, order either (a) that the dog be transferred to another owner whom the court deems appropriate and permanently fitted with an identifying microchip registered to that owner or (b) that the dog be fitted with an identifying microchip registered to the owner and confined indoors or in a securely enclosed and locked structure of sufficient height and design to prevent the dog's escape; direct contact with the dog by minors, adults, or other animals; or entry by minors, adults, or other animals. The structure shall be designed to provide the dog with shelter from the elements of nature. When off its owner's property, any dog found to be a poultry killer shall be kept on a leash and muzzled in such a manner as not to cause injury to the dog or interfere with its vision or respiration, but so as to prevent it from biting a person or another animal.

State law reference--Va. Code § 3.2-6552.

(Code 1967, § 4-9; 4-13-88; Code 1988, § 4-9; Ord. 98-A(1), 8-5-98, § 4-203; Ord. 09-4(1), 7-8-09; Ord. 14-4(1), 6-4-14, effective 7-1-14)

I, Travis O. Morris, do hereby certify that the foregoing writing is a true, correct copy of an Ordinance duly adopted by the Board of Supervisors of Albemarle County, Virginia, by a vote of _____ to _____, as recorded below, at a regular meeting held on _____.

Acting Clerk, Board of County Supervisors

	Aye	Nay
Mr. Dill	_____	_____
Ms. Mallek	_____	_____
Ms. McKeel	_____	_____
Ms. Palmer	_____	_____
Mr. Randolph	_____	_____
Mr. Sheffield	_____	_____