ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 14 OF THE WINNEBAGO COUNTY CODE

WHEREAS, Chapter 14 of the Winnebago County Code is entitled “Animal Control Ordinance of Winnebago County”; and

WHEREAS, the Illinois legislature has granted the authority to County Boards pursuant to the Animal Control Act at 510 ILCS 5/3 to mandate by ordinance the registration of both dogs and cats within the county; and

WHEREAS, the Illinois legislature, pursuant to the Animal Control Act at 510 ILCS 5/8, has mandated owners of dogs to have their dogs inoculated against rabies, and for veterinarians who perform such inoculations to obtain tags from the animal control department of the county in which their office is located, to be issued to the animal owner upon inoculation; and

WHEREAS, inoculations against rabies are available as one-year inoculations or three-year inoculations; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the people of Winnebago County, Illinois, that the veterinarians distributing rabies inoculation tags are able to distribute said tags without undue burden.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the County Board of the County of Winnebago, Illinois, that Sections 14-66 and 14-67 of the Winnebago County Code be amended to read as follows:

Sec. 14-66. - Registration and inoculation of dogs.
(a) Required; certificate. Every owner of a dog four months or more of age shall cause such dog to be inoculated against rabies and registered. Evidence of such rabies inoculation shall be entered on a certificate, the form of which has been approved by the state department of agriculture and the certificate shall be signed by the veterinarian administering the vaccine.

(b) Registration fees; tags. Upon inoculation, the owner shall register such dog by presenting to the administrator or his authorized agents the
certificate of inoculation, together with the appropriate fee. The owner may request the registration time period to correspond with the inoculation time period. The owner shall be supplied with a rabies inoculation tag for each dog registered, and such tag shall be worn by each dog that is required to be registered whenever such dog is off the property of its owners and not within a motor vehicle. The tag shall be in a form and color approved by the state department of agriculture. The method of distributing the tag and collecting registration fees shall be determined by the county board.

(c) *Failure to register; penalty.* Failure to register a dog at the time of the inoculation or failure to comply with subsection (a) of this section shall be an offense punishable by a fine of up to $500.00 and shall result in the registration fee being doubled.

Sec. 14-67. - Registration and inoculation of cats.

(a) *Required; certificate.* Every owner of a cat four months or more of age shall cause such cat to be inoculated against rabies. Evidence of such rabies inoculation shall be entered on a certificate, the form of which has been approved by the state department of agriculture, and the certificate shall be signed by the veterinarian administering the vaccine.

(b) *Registration fees; tag.* Upon inoculation, the owner shall register such cat by presenting to the administrator or his authorized agent, the certificate of inoculation together with the appropriate fee. The owner may request the registration time period to correspond with the inoculation time period. The owner shall be supplied with a registration tag for each cat registered, and the tag shall be worn by each cat whenever the cat is off the property of its owner and not within a motor vehicle. The tag shall be in a form and color approved by the state department of agriculture. The method of distribution of the tags and collection of the registration fees shall be determined by the county board.

(c) *Failure to register; penalty.* Failure to register a cat at the time of the inoculation or failure to comply with subsection (a) of this section shall be
an offense punishable by a fine of up to $500.00 and shall result in the registration fee being doubled.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this Ordinance shall be effective on 11-13, 2014.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the Clerk of the County Board is hereby directed to prepare and deliver a certified copy of this Ordinance Amendment to the Administrator of the Winnebago County Animal Services Department.

The above and foregoing Ordinance Amendment was adopted by the County Board for the County of Winnebago, Illinois, this 13th day of November, 2014.

Scott Christiansen, Chairman of the County Board of the County of Winnebago, Illinois

ATTEST:

Margie Mullins, Clerk of the County Board of the County of Winnebago, Illinois