-Bylaws- Pet Overpopulation Advisory Council

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of the Council shall be the Louisiana Pet Overpopulation Advisory Council (hereafter, the Council).

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

The purpose of the Council shall be to distribute funds obtained from the State of Louisiana in the following areas:

-To encourage and enable low cost spay and neuter programs and services throughout the state of Louisiana.

-To encourage and enable effective T&N programs and services throughout the state of Louisiana.

-To advocate for meeting the continuing needs of overpopulated domestic animals in Louisiana.

-To distribute funds fairly and effectively to Louisiana agencies that do mainly T&N and low cost spay and neuter services.

In pursuing this purpose, the council shall strive to meet the following goals:

A. To ensure that recipients of funds use them appropriately to further the purpose of the Council;

B. To promote better public understanding of the programs and objectives of the Council;

C. To cooperate with other agencies in the community and with appropriate State agencies in coordinating efforts with related programs.

ARTICLE III - COMPOSITION

The Council shall establish policies and procedures, subject to oversight by the House and Senate Transportation, Highways and Public Works Committees.

Members of the council shall serve on a voluntary basis and shall not receive any compensation or reimbursement of expenses.

The Council shall consist of the following ten (10) members:

(1) One representative of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, public safety services, appointed by the secretary of the department.

(2) One representative of the Department of Health and Hospitals appointed by the secretary of such a department.

(3) The state veterinarian or his designee.

(4) One member of the House of Representatives appointed by the speaker.

(5) One member of the Senate appointed by the president.

(6) One representative of the Humane Society of Louisiana appointed by the board of such an organization.

(7) One representative of the Louisiana Veterinary Medical Association appointed by the board of such organization.

(8) One representative of the Southern Animal Foundation appointed by the board of such an organization.

(9) One representative of a public animal sheltering agency appointed by the board of the Humane Society of Louisiana.

(10) One representative of a private animal sheltering agency appointed by the board of the Humane Society of Louisiana.

ARTICLE IV - MEETINGS

A. The annual meetings of the Council should be in October of each year.

B. The Council shall meet at least two (2) times per year.

C. The Council should meet a minimum of four (4) times per year.

D. Other than the annual October meeting, meetings shall be held at such times and places as the Council shall decide.

E. Special meetings may be called by the Council Chair at such times as are found necessary.

F. Written notice of regular meetings will be provided to all Council members. For special meetings, notification shall be given not less than five (5) days before the date of the special meeting.

G. Members of the Council, who miss four (4) regular meetings within a calendar year and whose absences are unexcused, shall receive written notice of their removal from the Council. Two unexcused absences within a calendar year will result in a warning letter being issued.

ARTICLE V - ORDER OF BUSINESS

The order of business for regular meetings may be as follows:

A. Call to Order

B. Approval of Minutes

G. Old Business

H. New Business

I. Open Session

J. Adjournment

The order of business at any meeting may be altered at the discretion of the Chair or presiding officer.

ARTICLE VI - OFFICERS

The officers of the Council shall be a Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary. Officers shall be elected by the Council at the annual meeting and shall hold office for one (1) year, or until their successors are elected. Officers shall be Council members in good standing.

ARTICLE VII - QUORUM

The quorum for a meeting of the Council shall be at least fifty (50) percent of the non-vacant seats on the Council. Quorum is obtained when six (6) members are present.

ARTICLE VIII - BYLAWS AMENDMENTS

After notice to the membership, the members of the Advisory Council must, by a 2/3 vote of the members present, amend or revoke these Bylaws at any regular or special meeting duly convened.