



Lewis County Public Health & Social Services

News Release

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Dangerous Animal Designation Board Volunteers Sought

Chehalis, WA – Lewis County Public Health & Social Services (LCPHSS) is seeking community volunteers to serve on a newly formed Dangerous Animal Designation (DAD) Board. This five-member board will conduct hearings when county residents receive a dangerous animal notification from Lewis County.

According to LCPHSS Environmental Services Division Supervisor Bill Teitzel, the DAD Board will take over the initial process that has been done by a designated county Hearings Officer. Teitzel said county residents have historically shown tremendous interest in animal welfare. This board was created to enhance public participation in the dangerous animal designation process.

County residents who receive a dangerous animal notification from Lewis County are required to attend a hearing where, based on evidence presented, the hearings officer(s) determine if the animal is to be declared dangerous. The DAD board will conduct these hearings.

Teitzel said that while the caseload cannot be predicted accurately, on average one or two cases per month are typically heard in the spring and summer, and far fewer cases in the fall and winter. Each case hearing is 60 to 90 minutes long.

Desired qualifications for applicants include the ability to:

- Read and interpret Lewis County Code, specifically 6.05.050
- Pay attention in a highly emotional setting.
- Apply the evidence and facts to Lewis County Code.
- Be non-partial.
- Recuse oneself from hearings which personal/professional acquaintances or family may be involved
- Understand the basic nature of animals.

Applications are available at www.lewiscountywa.gov or on the third floor of the LCPHSS building at 360 NW North Street in downtown Chehalis. Application deadline is Friday, September 28, 2018. Once all applications are reviewed, the Lewis County Board of Commissioners will appoint five candidates to three-year terms on the DAD Board.

For more information about the Board and its duties, contact Bill Teitzel at 360-740-2718.

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