The proposed adoptions – 02 NCAC 52J .0901 and 02 NCAC 52J .0902 – are proposed under the permanent rulemaking process, making the temporary rules previously adopted permanent.

The Animal Shelter Support Fund was created by the General Assembly to reimburse local governments for expenses related to their operation of a registered animal shelter due to the denial, suspension, or revocation of the shelter's registration, or an unforeseen catastrophic disaster at an animal shelter. These rules spell out the requirements.

The comment period ends July 31, 2017. Written comments may be submitted to Tina Hlabse, Secretary, NC Board of Agriculture, 1001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1001. Tina.hlabse@ncagr.gov

SECTION .0900 – ANIMAL SHELTER SUPPORT FUND

02 NCAC 52J .0901 ELIGIBLE EXPENSES

Eligible expenses include:

(1) Veterinary costs – Reimbursement may be requested for veterinary expenditures incurred for the assessment, diagnostic and triage evaluation, medical treatment, minor surgical treatment, medications, first aid and minor medical supplies, vaccinations, parasite control/treatment and/or euthanasia of animals housed at the shelter at the time of the event and/or impounded during the interim or transition period.

(2) Sanitation costs – Reimbursement may be requested for expenditures related to sanitation of the affected shelter to include: detergent/disinfectant supplies, cleaning supplies, labor costs for the sanitation of the shelter, waste and carcass disposal costs.

(3) Animal sustenance and supplies – Reimbursement may be requested for expenditures for animal food, provision of water to the shelter, and food and water bowls or buckets as well as labor costs for the feeding and watering of the shelter animals.

(4) Temporary housing and sheltering of animals – Reimbursement may be requested for expenditures for animal cages and kennels, animal transport carriers, fencing panels for runs, tarps, fencing, dog or cat houses and other construction supplies as well as labor costs or equipment or facility leasing expenses incurred during the construction or repair of temporary animal housing.

History Note: Authority G.S. 19A-68(a); G.S. 19A-67(b)(1), (2)

02 NCAC 52J .0902 APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Local government applying for reimbursement from the Fund shall submit the request for reimbursement to the Animal Welfare Section (AWS) of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. The request shall:

(1) be received by AWS by mail, email or fax within 60 days of the date the eligible expense was been incurred;

(2) include a completed "Animal Shelter Support Fund Reimbursement Application" with the county name, tier of county, facility name, facility license number, and contact information. This application can be found on the AWS website (http://www.ncagr.gov/vet/AWS/);

(3) include an itemized listing of eligible expenses for which reimbursement is sought;

(4) include proof that matching funds have been provided; and

(5) include proof of payment of the eligible expense. Should the payment of expense occur after the application was submitted, proof of payment is to be submitted to AWS within 30 days of payment of the expense.

History Note: Authority G.S. 19A-68(a); G.S. 19A-67(b)(1), (2)