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**GRAND JUNCTION CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, JUNE 29, 2026
WORKSHOP, 5:30 PM
FIRE DEPARTMENT TRAINING ROOM
625 UTE AVENUE**

1. Discussion Topics

- a. Title 6, Animal Code
- b. Overview of Grand Junction Rural Fire Protection District Funding

2. City Council Communication

An unstructured time for Councilmembers to discuss current matters, share ideas for possible future consideration by Council, and provide information from board & commission participation.

3. Next Workshop Topics

4. Other Business

- a. Appointments to the One Riverfront Commission

What is the purpose of a Workshop?

The purpose of the Workshop is to facilitate City Council discussion through analyzing information, studying issues, and clarifying problems. The less formal setting of the Workshop promotes conversation regarding items and topics that may be considered at a future City Council meeting.

How can I provide my input about a topic on tonight's Workshop agenda?

Individuals wishing to provide input about Workshop topics can:

- 1. Send input by emailing a City Council member ([Council email addresses](#)) or call one or more members of City Council (970-244-1504)

2. Provide information to the City Manager's Office (johnnym@gjcity.org) for dissemination to the City Council. If your information is submitted prior to 3 p.m. on the date of the Workshop, copies will be provided to Council that evening. Information provided after 3 p.m. will be disseminated the next business day.
 3. Attend a Regular Council Meeting (generally held the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall) and provide comments during "Public Comments."
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Grand Junction City Council

Regular Session

Item #1.a.

Meeting Date: June 29, 2026
Presented By: William Baker, Deputy Police Chief, Jeremiah Boies, Interim City Attorney
Department: Police
Submitted By: Jeremiah Boies

Information

SUBJECT:

Title 6, Animal Code

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends adoption and setting a public hearing.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This item is for discussion only after Council moved to this item to a workshop.

After Mesa County ceased providing animal control in mid-2024, the GJPD Animal Control Services Unit began operations on January 1, 2025. The Ordinance repeals and reenacts Title 6 to align the code with City-provided services by centralizing licensing with the City and consolidating Chapters 6.04, 6.08, and 6.12, while preserving existing substantive provisions (including Downtown event rules and People's Ordinance No. 30 (1956)) and penalty practices.

BACKGROUND OR DETAILED INFORMATION:

In mid-2024, Mesa County notified the City of Grand Junction and the Grand Junction Police Department (GJPD) that the County would no longer provide animal control services within the City. Historically, the City contracted with Mesa County for those services, including enforcement of the animal provisions of the GJMC; care, custody, and impoundment of animals; and associated administrative functions such as animal licensing.

Following that notice, the GJPD established an Animal Control Services Unit, which commenced operations on January 1, 2025, and has been operating since that date.

Structure and Licensing Alignment

Title 6 of the GJMC, entitled “Animals,” was structured to effectuate the City’s former arrangement with Mesa County. Under that model, animal licensing was administered by the County, and related revenues offset the County’s costs of providing animal control services. Although the City now provides those services, the current code still contemplates County administration of licenses. As a result, City residents continue to pay licensing fees to Mesa County for services delivered by the City. The proposed revision brings licensing administration into alignment with current operations by authorizing City administration of animal licensing.

Consolidation and Modernization

The current animal code is spread across three chapters—GJMC 6.04 (Animal Regulations), 6.08 (Livestock and Fowl), and 6.12 (Dogs and Cats). The proposed ordinance consolidates these provisions into a single chapter that:

- Centralizes all licensing, prohibitions, regulations, and procedures;
- Clarifies enforcement authority and processes consistent with the GJPD’s Animal Control Services Unit; and
- Updates terminology and organization for clarity and ease of use.

Continuity of Substantive Provisions

The revision preserves all functional and unique provisions of the current Title 6, including special provisions related to Downtown events and People’s Ordinance No. 30 (1956). The fine schedule, penalty assessment framework, and court-appearance requirements remain consistent with the existing code.

Fee Schedule

In conjunction with the repeal-and-reenact ordinance, a companion resolution would adopt a City fee schedule for animal control services. Previously, applicable fees were adopted by the Mesa County Board of County Commissioners as part of the County’s animal ordinance. Staff has compiled the fees necessary to implement the regulations and requirements set forth in Title 6 and included them in the proposed resolution.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This Ordinance and companion resolution setting a fee schedule will increase revenue for the City through animal licensing fees. Those fees are currently being paid to Mesa County by City residents. The fees paid to the County will now be paid to the City instead.

SUGGESTED MOTION:

For discussion only.

Attachments

1. ORD - AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND REENACTING TITLE 6 OF THE GRAND JUNCTION MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING ANIMALS

36 their animals to prevent them from causing injuries to persons, animals, or property or
37 creating public nuisances. The regulation of dogs and other animals and the actions of
38 their owners through administrative regulation and civil and criminal enforcement is
39 necessary to protect the citizens of the City and their property. This Title 6 may be cited
40 and referred to as the "Animal Code."

41

42 6.04.020 Scope.

43 This Title, along with Title 21, are comprehensive and address many public health and
44 safety matters which may not be relevant to each animal owner within the City;
45 however, all animal owners are required to adhere to any portions of this Title that
46 address ownership of an animal and the actions of their animal.

47

48 6.04.030 Interpretation.

49 In interpreting and applying this Title, the requirements set forth herein are the minimum
50 requirements for the protection of the public health, safety, and welfare. The provisions
51 of this Title shall be liberally construed to accomplish its purposes.

52

53 6.04.040 Definitions.

54 The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this Title, shall have the
55 following meaning, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

56 *Abandon* means the leaving of an animal without adequate provisions for the animal's
57 proper care by its owner, the person responsible for the animal's care or custody, or any
58 other person having possession of such animal. This includes, but is not limited to,
59 leaving the animal unattended at the owner's residence for more than 24 hours,
60 depositing or dropping off an animal on public property, or on property other than that of
61 the owner or custodian, without prior permission of the property owner.

62 *Agricultural Animal* means any animal commonly kept or harbored, as a source of food,
63 hides, income through agricultural sale, as a pack animal or draft animal or for use as
64 transportation. Agricultural animal includes, but is not limited to, horses, mules, sheep,
65 goats, cattle, swine, geese, pigeons, turkeys, pea fowl, and guinea hens. In the event of
66 uncertainty concerning whether a particular animal is a species of agricultural animal
67 the presumption shall be that such animal is a species of agricultural animal until the
68 owner of such animal proves by a preponderance of the evidence to the Municipal Court
69 Judge that the animal is not a species of agricultural animal.

70 *Animal* means any living, nonhuman vertebrate or invertebrate creature.

71 *Animal Code* means this Title 6 of the City of Grand Junction Municipal Code.

72 *Animal Control Specialist* means any person designated by the City, including a law
73 enforcement officer, to enforce provisions of this Title or any other ordinances or laws of
74 the state pertaining to animals.

75 *Animal shelter* means any premise designated by the City for the purpose of boarding or
76 caring for any animal impounded under the provisions of this Title or any other
77 ordinance of the City or law of the state.

78 *At large* means to be off the premises of the owner or custodian and not under direct
79 physical control of the owner or custodian by means of a leash.

80 *Attractant* means any substance which could reasonably be expected to attract a wild
81 animal, or does attract a wild animal, including but not limited to, garbage, food
82 products, pet food, feed, grain or salt.

83 *Bite* means a wound to the skin causing it to bruise, puncture, or break.

84 *Bodily injury* means any physical pain, illness, or impairment of physical or mental
85 condition.

86 *Cat* means a domestic cat (*Felis catus*) regardless of sex.

87 *Chicken* means any member of the species *Gallus domesticus* kept for its eggs or meat,
88 excluding ducks, geese, pigeons, turkeys, pea fowl, and guinea hens.

89 *Common area* means and includes areas such as, but not limited to, the yards,
90 grounds, garden areas, play areas, clubhouses, swimming pools, walkways, common
91 garage areas, entryways, hallways, and driveways of condominiums, townhouses,
92 apartment complexes, motels, hotels and mobile home parks.

93 *Control* shall mean that the animal is on a leash, cord or chain not more than ten (10)
94 feet in length held by a person of sufficient age, size and physical ability to restrain the
95 animal. Electric leashes are specifically prohibited.

96 *Cruelty* means the act or omission to act of a person who knowingly or with criminal
97 negligence overdrives, overloads, tortures, torments, deprives of necessary sustenance,
98 unnecessarily or cruelly beats, needlessly mutilates, needlessly kills, carries or confines
99 in or upon vehicles in a cruel or reckless manner, or otherwise mistreats or neglects any
100 animal, fails to provide proper food, drink or protection from the weather or abandons it.

101 *Dangerous animal* means an animal which:

- 102 (a) Causes serious bodily injury to a person;
- 103 (b) Causes bodily injury to a person or animal on two or more occasions;
- 104 (c) Is infected with rabies;
- 105 (d) Causes bodily injury to a person or animal and the bodily injury occurs off the
106 animal owner's premises;

- 107 (e) Is at large and exhibits aggressive behavior on two or more occasions;
- 108 (f) Demonstrates tendencies that would cause a reasonable person to believe
109 that the animal would inflict bodily or serious bodily injury upon any person or
110 domestic animal while the animal is without effective and immediate control;
- 111 (g) Has engaged in a dogfighting contest with the owner's knowledge; or
- 112 (h) Has been specifically found to be dangerous by any court or jury; provided,
113 however, that an animal which attacks, terrorizes, or causes any bodily injury to a
114 person or animal in immediate response to objectively unreasonable provocation
115 shall not be found to be dangerous if the animal owner establishes such facts as
116 an affirmative defense to a charge for violation of GJMC § 6.04.180 or to the
117 satisfaction of the investigating Animal Control Specialist.

118 *Dog* means a domestic dog (*Canus familiaris*) regardless of sex.

119 *Domesticated animal* or *pet animal* means any domesticated animal commonly kept in a
120 household, excluding livestock, such as: dogs; cats; chinchillas; domestic rabbits;
121 guinea pigs; hamsters; domestic mice; domestic rats; gerbils; domestic ferrets;
122 hedgehogs; sugar gliders; canaries, finches, parakeets, doves, domesticated parrots (or
123 the like), aquarium fish; nonpoisonous amphibians; nonvenomous snakes;
124 nonvenomous invertebrates; and turtles of a species and size which is permissible
125 under state law.

126 *Duck* means a duck that has been domesticated and is kept for its eggs and meat.

127 *Emotional support animal* means a domesticated companion animal that provides
128 therapeutic benefit to an individual and is not specifically trained to address a specific
129 need of a disabled person.

130 *Estrus* means a recurring period of sexual reproductivity and fertility in many female
131 mammals; heat.

132 *Excrement* means waste matter discharged from the bowels; feces.

133 *Exotic animal* means an animal introduced from another country not normally kept as a
134 household pet or farm animal.

135 *Feed* means all provisions of edible or drinkable materials, including, without limitation,
136 bones, salt licks and water.

137 *Feral cat* means a cat that lives outside, does not have an owner, is unsocialized to
138 people, and typically avoids contact with humans. A feral cat is not domesticated, is
139 wild, and is not owned or controlled by anyone.

140 *Fowl* means geese, pigeons, turkeys, pea fowl, guinea hens, and the like. For purposes
141 of this Title, fowl expressly does not mean chickens or ducks.

142 *Habitual offender* is a person who has pled guilty to, or been found guilty of, violating
143 any provision of this chapter or any comparable municipal, County or State regulation
144 two or more times within the two-year period immediately preceding the present incident
145 and/or any dog whose owner, keeper or custodian has pled guilty to, or been found
146 guilty of, two or more violations of this chapter or any comparable municipal, County or
147 State regulations concerning the same dog within a two-year period.

148 *Harbor(ing)* means the act of keeping and caring for an animal or providing a premise to
149 which the animal is provided food, shelter or care. An individual shall be deemed to be
150 harboring an animal only if such care or provision continues for more than three
151 consecutive days.

152 *Humane trap* means a box-type trap that does not cause bodily harm to the animal
153 intended to be captured or to any other animal or person coming in contact with such
154 trap.

155 *Keeper* means any person who is in possession of, or is keeping, harboring or caring for
156 any animal.

157 *Keep(ing)* means to care for, to have custody of, to provide premises to which the
158 animal regularly returns for food and shelter, or to exercise physical control over, or to
159 have any right of property in, an animal, or to own, harbor or allow an animal to remain
160 about any premises within the City.

161 *Leash* means a chain, cord, or tether not more than 10 feet in length which is securely
162 attached to and capable of restraining the animal.

163 *Mistreatment* means every act or omission to act which causes or unreasonably permits
164 the continuation of unnecessary or unjustifiable pain or suffering.

165 *Neglect* means failure to provide food, water, protection from the elements, or other
166 care generally considered to be normal, usual and accepted for an animal's health and
167 well-being consistent with the species, breed and type of animal.

168 *Owner* means any person, or person acting as custodian, partnership, corporation, or
169 an agent of the foregoing, who owns, co-owns, possesses, keeps, harbors, or who has
170 control or custody of an animal; or the person named as owner in current animal
171 licensing records or on the dog identification license or rabies tag; or any parent,
172 guardian or legal custodian of any unemancipated child under 18 years of age, which
173 child owns, co-owns, possesses, keeps, harbors, or has control or custody of an animal.

174 *Person* means any natural person, corporation, partnership, association, or other entity.

175 *Pet animal facility* means any place or premise used in whole or in part, for the keeping
176 of pet animals for the purpose of adoption, breeding, boarding, day care, grooming,
177 handling, selling, sheltering, trading, or otherwise transferring such animals, as more set
178 forth in the Pet Animal Care and Facilities Act ("PACFA"), C.R.S. §§ 35-80-101 through
179 35-80-117 as amended. "Pet animal facility" also includes keeping any individual

180 animals for breeding stock. "Pet animal facility" shall not mean a common carrier
181 engaged in intrastate or interstate commerce. For purposes of this Title, two (2) or more
182 animal facilities that have the same or a similar purpose and operate from one (1) place
183 or premises shall be considered a single pet animal facility.

184 *Premises* means property owned, leased, or expressly permitted to be used by an
185 owner; or any confined area or locality such as a residence, business, room, shop,
186 building, or motor vehicle in which the animal's presence is authorized by the owner of
187 the premises. The term "premises" includes the open bed of a motor vehicle.

188 *Proper enclosure* means a structure which:

- 189 (a) Prevents the entry of young children;
- 190 (b) Prevents the animal from escaping.
- 191 (c) Has secure sides and a secure top or secure sides which are of sufficient
192 height to prevent the animal from escaping;
- 193 (d) Has sides that are constructed at the bottom to prevent the animal's escape
194 by digging under the sides.
- 195 (e) Provides appropriate protection from the elements for the animal.
- 196 (f) Complies with all zoning and building ordinances/regulations of the City.
- 197 (g) Must be kept in a clean and sanitary condition.
- 198 (h) Must be approved by an Animal Control Specialist

199 *Provocation* means harassment, teasing, threatening, striking, or attacking an animal or
200 its owner in the animal's presence, by either a person or another animal, which is
201 objectively unreasonable to an ordinary person. "Provocation" shall not include the
202 lawful presence of an individual or animal in close proximity to but not within or upon
203 property of another, or where a dog is tied, kept, kenneled or harbored.

204 *Public nuisance* means and includes any dog whose owner, keeper or custodian has
205 been charged with three or more violations of this title concerning the same dog within a
206 two-year period.

207 *Public safety risk* means any action or lack of action by an owner or dog that could
208 actively or inadvertently cause injury, death or illness to a person or animal.

209 *Rabies vaccination* means inoculation of a domestic animal with an anti-rabies vaccine
210 approved by the Mesa County Health Department or similar agency and administered
211 by a licensed veterinarian. The vaccination shall be valid for the period of time specified
212 in writing by the veterinarian for the specific vaccine used.

213 *Serious bodily injury* means bodily injury which, either at the time of the actual injury or
214 at a later time, involves a substantial risk of death, a substantial risk of serious

215 permanent disfigurement, a substantial risk of protracted loss or impairment of the
216 function of any part or organ of the body, or breaks, fractures, or burns.

217 *Service animal* means a dog or miniature horse that has been individually trained to do
218 work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability. Other species of
219 animals, whether wild or domesticated, trained or untrained, are not service animals for
220 the purposes of this definition.

221 *Spay or neuter* shall mean to render permanently incapable of producing offspring.

222 *Stray animal* means any animal for which there is no identifiable owner.

223 *Tether* means to tie up or chain to a fixed or heavy inanimate object so as to restrict the
224 free movement of any animal to a distance no greater than the length of its leash or
225 chain.

226 *City* means the City of Grand Junction as a municipal corporation or the territory
227 contained therein, as the context dictates.

228 *Wild animal* shall mean all wildlife, including, but not limited to, bears, coyotes, foxes,
229 wolves, mountain lions, opossums, raccoons, skunks, squirrels, raptors, all game
230 animals, and all other species of animals, which exist in their natural, unconfined state
231 and are usually not domesticated.

232

233 6.04.050 Powers and duties of Animal Control Specialists.

234 (a) Animal Control Specialists shall have the power and duty to enforce all Sections of
235 this Title pertaining to animals. In the furtherance of such duties, such specialists may
236 issue, sign and serve penalty assessments or summons and complaints to enforce the
237 provisions of this Title.

238 (b) Animal Control Specialists shall keep accurate and detailed records of the
239 impoundment and disposition of all animals coming into custody, and of all reports of
240 any animal bites reported to such specialists.

241 (c) It shall be lawful for any Animal Control Specialist to go upon private property to
242 capture any animal to be impounded for, or to investigate any report of a violation of this
243 Title, when:

244 (1) The Animal Control Specialist has obtained consent of the person in
245 possession of the property.

246 (2) The Animal Control Specialist has obtained a search warrant pursuant to Rule
247 241 of the Colorado Municipal Court Rules.

248 (3) The Animal Control Specialist is in pursuit of an animal which the Specialist
249 has probable cause to believe is, or has been, running at large.

250 (4) The Animal Control Specialist is in pursuit of an animal which the specialist
251 has probable cause to believe has caused injury to a person or other
252 domesticated animal.

253 Nothing in paragraphs (c)(3) or (c)(4) of this Section shall be deemed to
254 authorize entry into any enclosed building or fenced area on private property.

255 (d) If an affidavit has been submitted to the Municipal Court Judge which satisfies the
256 Judge that an animal which is the subject of a violation of this Title is located within the
257 City and that the animal either poses a clear and present danger to the health, general
258 welfare or safety of other persons or animals or is suffering extreme neglect or cruelty,
259 the Municipal Court Judge may issue a search warrant pursuant to Rule 241 of the
260 Colorado Municipal Court Rules for an Animal Control Specialist or a law enforcement
261 officer to enter a premise and seize the animal. The owner of the animal may request a
262 hearing concerning any such order for seizure entered pursuant to this Section by filing
263 an appropriate motion pursuant to applicable rules in the Colorado Municipal Court
264 Rules. Whenever an animal is seized by order of the Municipal Court or other court, the
265 animal shelter shall not adopt out, donate or euthanize the animal unless such action is
266 permitted by a subsequent order of the same court which ordered the initial seizure.

267 (e) Notwithstanding paragraph (c)(2) above, if an Animal Control Specialist has
268 reasonable cause to believe that the keeping or harboring of any animal is so
269 hazardous, unsafe or dangerous as to require immediate inspection to safeguard the
270 animal or the public health or safety, the Animal Control Specialist shall have the right to
271 immediately enter and inspect the property or vehicle in or upon which the animal is
272 kept, and may use any reasonable means required to effect such entry and make such
273 inspection, whether the property or vehicle is occupied or unoccupied and whether
274 permission to inspect has been obtained or not. If the property or vehicle is occupied,
275 the Animal Control Specialist shall first present proper credentials to the owner or
276 occupant of the property or vehicle and demand entry, explaining his or her reasons
277 therefore and the purpose of the inspection. Such entry shall be solely for the purpose
278 of abating the violation, and no evidence obtained during or as a result of such entry
279 shall be admissible for purposes of prosecution.

280

281 6.04.060 Interference.

282 (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to interfere with, molest, hinder or obstruct the
283 Animal Services Officer or any other City employee or official in the discharge of the
284 official's duties under this title.

285

286 (b) It shall be a misdemeanor for any person to refuse to identify themselves with their
287 legal name, address, and date of birth when requested by an Animal Control Specialist
288 when the Specialist has reasonable suspicion of any violation of this Title.

289

290 6.04.070 Prosecution.

291 (a) For the purpose of prosecuting any violation of this Title, it shall not be necessary in
292 order to obtain a conviction to prove knowledge or notice on the part of the owner of the
293 animal in question that said animal was violating any of the Sections of this Title at the
294 time and place charged. The purpose of this Section is to impose strict liability upon the
295 owner of any animal for the actions, conduct and condition of such animal, unless the
296 violation specifically provides otherwise.

297 (b) Each separate day, or any portion thereof, during which such violation of this Title
298 occurs or continues shall constitute a separate offense and, upon conviction thereof,
299 shall be punishable as provided in this Title.

300

301 6.04.080 Licensing, collar and tags or microchip required.

302 (a) Dog license required.

303 (1) It shall be unlawful for any owner of any dog, over the age of four (4) months,
304 or within thirty (30) days of acquisition of said dog, whichever occurs last, to fail
305 to obtain a license for such animal as required by this Section.

306 (2) Application for a dog license shall be made to Grand Junction Police
307 Department, or to such agents as designated by Grand Junction Police
308 Department. Dog licenses and tags shall be issued, renewed, replaced and
309 expired in accordance with the application requirements.

310 (3) The license fee, including the fee for replacement licenses, shall be in an
311 amount as set by resolution of the City Council.

312 (4) It shall be unlawful for any person to own, keep, or harbor any dog that has
313 not been licensed, or for any person to fail to produce proof that the animal is
314 currently licensed, as required by this Section, when requested by an Animal
315 Control Specialist.

316 (5) It is unlawful for any person to affix to the collar, or harness of any dog, or
317 permit to remain affixed, a dog license tag for any other dog or to display such a
318 tag to an Animal Control Specialist.

319 (b) Collar and tags or microchip required.

320 (1) It is unlawful for any person to own, keep, or harbor any dog that must be
321 licensed pursuant to this Section (a), which is not displaying a current dog license
322 tag affixed to a collar or harness worn on the dog.

323 (2) It is unlawful for the owner of any dog within the City to fail to cause such dog,
324 while off the premises of such owner to either:

325 (i) Wear at all times a collar or harness with a tag made of durable
326 material with legible and current identification attached thereto containing
327 words, numbers or a combination thereof, which enables the Animal
328 Control Specialist to readily ascertain the name, current home address,
329 and current home telephone number, of the owner and a valid current
330 rabies tag attached thereto, which tag shall be furnished by a veterinarian,
331 the number of such tag corresponding with the number of the rabies
332 certificate issued to the owner of the dog; or

333 (ii) Have a microchip surgically implanted into such dog or other similar
334 type of identification in lieu of wearing a name tag which enables an
335 Animal Control Specialist to readily ascertain the name, current home
336 address, and current home telephone number of the owner and a valid
337 current rabies tag. It shall be the responsibility of the owner or keeper of
338 such animal to ensure their information within the microchip database is
339 accurate at all times.

340 (3) It is unlawful for any person to possess or make use of a stolen, counterfeit or
341 forged license certificate or license tag.

342 (4) Dog license certificates and license tags are not transferable. It is unlawful
343 for any person to attach or cause to be attached any license tag to any dog other
344 than the dog for which the tag was originally used.

345 (5) Any dog found without the requirements identified in this Section A or B, may
346 be seized and impounded by the Animal Control Specialist.

347

348 6.04.090 Disease/rabies control.

349 (a) No domesticated animal afflicted with a contagious or infectious disease shall be
350 allowed to run at large or to be exposed in any public place whereby the health of any
351 person(s) or animal(s) may be affected, nor shall such diseased animal be shipped or
352 removed from the premises of the owner except under the supervision or approval of an
353 Animal Control Specialist to secure disposition of any diseased animal and such
354 treatment of affected premises as to prevent the communication and spread of the
355 contagion or infections, except in cases where the state health director is empowered to
356 act.

357 (b) It shall be unlawful for any owner of a dog or cat four (4) months of age or older, or
358 any domesticated animal capable of transmitting rabies, to fail to have such animal
359 vaccinated against rabies. All dogs and cats shall be vaccinated at four (4) months of
360 age and revaccinated thereafter at the expiration of the validity of the vaccine used, as
361 shown on the written document prepared by a licensed veterinarian. The vaccination
362 shall be valid for the period shown on the document. Any person moving into the City

363 from a location outside the City shall comply with this Section within thirty (30) days
364 after having moved into the City.

365 (c) It shall be unlawful for any person who owns a vaccinated animal to fail or refuse to
366 exhibit a copy of the certificate of vaccination upon demand to any person charged with
367 the enforcement of this Section. A current rabies tag should be attached to a collar,
368 harness or other device and shall be worn by the vaccinated dog or cat at all times.

369 (d) It shall be unlawful for any person to own, keep or harbor any dog or cat that has not
370 been vaccinated against rabies, as provided herein, or that cannot be identified as
371 having a current vaccination certificate.

372 (e) Rabies vaccination certificates and tags are not transferable and cannot be used for
373 any animal other than the animal that received the vaccination and for which the
374 certificate was originally issued.

375 (f) The owner of a dog or, cat may request an exemption to the vaccination provisions if,
376 for medical reasons, a dog or cat cannot be vaccinated. In this event, a dog or cat
377 owner must submit an affidavit from a licensed veterinarian stating the reasons why the
378 dog or cat is unable to be vaccinated.

379

380 6.04.100 Limits on dogs and cats.

381 (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to own, keep or harbor more than three (3) dogs
382 that are four (4) months of age or older on any premises.

383 (b) It shall be unlawful for any person to own, keep or harbor more than three (3) cats
384 that are four (4) months of age or older on any premises.

385 (c) Only one (1) litter of offspring of an age of six (6) months or less may be kept on any
386 premises at any given time.

387 (d) Limitations on the number of dogs and cats does not apply to Animal Shelters, as
388 defined in Section 6.04.040.

389

390 6.04.110 Animals running at large.

391 (a) It shall be unlawful for the owner, keeper, or harbinger of any animal to permit the
392 same to run or go or be at large on any street, public place, within the City or upon the
393 premises of any other person without permission of such other person, unless the
394 animal is accompanied by a person and is under control, as defined in this Title. This
395 does not apply to cats, as they are free roaming animals.

396 (b) It shall be unlawful to tether any animal on any property other than that of the owner
397 without permission of the property owner or occupant or to allow any animal tethered on

398 the property of the owner to have access to property other than that of the animal
399 owner.

400 (c) In addition to any other remedy provided by the City to prohibit the running at large
401 of an animal, any animal running at large may be seized and impounded pursuant to
402 this Section. This does not apply to cats, as they are free roaming animals.

403 (d) It shall be unlawful for any owner or keeper to fail to securely confine any unspayed
404 animal in the state of estrus (heat), in a house, building or proper enclosure, in such a
405 manner that such animal cannot come in contact with another animal except for planned
406 breeding, and such that the animal does not create a nuisance by attracting other
407 animals. When outside on the property of the owner for metabolic waste elimination, the
408 animal must be physically restrained on a hand-held leash or confined in a fenced yard.
409 Owners or keepers who do not comply may be ordered to remove the animals in heat to
410 a boarding kennel, veterinary hospital or animal shelter. All expenses incurred as a
411 result of the confinement shall be paid by the owner of the animal. Failure to comply
412 with the removal order shall be a violation of this Section and the animal shall then be
413 impounded as prescribed in this Title.

414 (e) Dogs may be off leash in a designated, enclosed dog park, if accompanied by a
415 person capable of managing the animal off leash.

416 (f) Sick or injured animals found on public property shall be presumed to be running at
417 large and may be impounded and provided any necessary veterinary medical treatment.
418 If the animal is significantly injured or sick, such that recovery is improbable, the animal
419 may be humanely destroyed, in order to avoid further pain and suffering by the animal,
420 without liability to the City, animal shelter, their employees, officers, or agents, or to any
421 veterinarian examining, diagnosing, or treating the animal. An Animal Control Specialist
422 shall make a reasonable attempt to contact the owner or keeper of an injured animal
423 that is treated or impounded. The owner of such animal shall be liable for all expenses
424 associated with the treatment or impoundment.

425 (g) It shall be prima facie evidence that a dog is running at large if the dog is out of its
426 owner's, harborers or keeper's sight, or if the dog goes upon public or private property
427 without the owner's, manager's or keeper's consent.

428

429 (h) A dog may be off leash and otherwise at large while actually working livestock,
430 locating or retrieving wild game in a lawful season for a licensed hunter, assisting law
431 enforcement officers or participating in an organized training class, dog show,
432 obedience trial or event in which the dog is participating and/or is entertainment. The
433 livestock and locating or retrieving wild game exceptions shall not apply in:

434 Downtown Grand Junction: defined as the area bounded on the east by 12th Street and
435 on the west by First Street; and on the north by the north side of the pavement of Grand
436 Avenue, and on the south by the south side of the pavement of Colorado Avenue; or

437 The North Avenue corridor: defined as the area one-half block north and south of North
438 Avenue, from First Street on the west to 29 Road on the east.

439

440 6.04.120 Animals at Downtown Events

441 (a) No animal owner, or any person who harbors an animal, shall permit his animal to
442 be at, in or within the permitted area of any special event(s) in downtown Grand
443 Junction unless prior written permission is granted by the City or the Downtown
444 Development Authority (“DDA”) allowing the animal(s) to be present within the permitted
445 area of the event. Physical or mechanical confinement of the animal is not a defense to
446 prosecution under this section. Service dogs and police canines shall be exempt from
447 this section. For purposes of this section special events are those activities which hold a
448 valid permit issued by the City or the DDA .

449 (b) The City or the DDA or an event promoter authorized by the City or the DDA may
450 allow animals at any event or may as part or all of an event authorize an organized
451 race, exhibition and/or parade, training class(es), show(s) or obedience trial or similar
452 activities or entertainment involving animals.

453 (c) Downtown Grand Junction is defined as the area bounded on the east by 12th Street
454 and on the west by First Street; and on the north by the north side of the pavement of
455 Grand Avenue, and on the south by the south side of the pavement of Colorado Avenue

456 6.04.130 Injuring or Meddling with Police Dogs.

457

458 (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to willfully or maliciously torture, torment, beat,
459 kick, mutilate, injure, disable or kill any dog, including a guard dog, used by a law
460 enforcement agency within the City in the performance of the functions and duties of
461 such agency, or to unwarrantedly interfere or meddle with any such dog while being
462 used by such agency or any member thereof in the performance of any of the functions
463 or duties of such law enforcement agency or of such members.

464 (b) Interference or meddling with a law enforcement dog includes yelling, barking at, or
465 otherwise distracting by noise, whether yelling or speaking to the canine while he is
466 located inside or outside the law enforcement vehicle. Unsolicited physical touching or
467 throwing objects at or near the dog shall also be included. These examples are inclusive
468 but not limitations.

469

470 6.04.140 Failure to Control.

471 No owner of a dog or dangerous animal shall fail to prevent it, without provocation, from:

472 Causing serious bodily injury to any person or animal, including pets, domestic
473 livestock, fowl or wildlife. No owner of a dog or dangerous animal shall fail to prevent it
474 from causing bodily injury to or biting any person or animal, including pets, domestic
475 livestock, fowl or wildlife;

476

477 Causing damage to the person or property of another; or

478

479 Threatening livestock, pet animal(s), or person(s) by chasing, pursuing, worrying, biting,
480 attacking, or harassing in any threatening manner while at large.

481

482 Provocation is not a defense to this section where the response of the dog or dangerous
483 animal is not in proportion to the claimed act of provocation.

484

485

486 6.04.150 Removal of animal excrement; damage to property.

487 Proper disposal of animal solid waste is necessary to protect public health, safety and
488 welfare.

489 (a) It shall be unlawful for any owner or keeper of any animal to refuse or fail to remove
490 promptly excrement deposited by said animal upon any common thoroughfare, street,
491 sidewalk, play area, park, other public property, or any private property when
492 permission of the owner or tenant of said property has not been obtained.

493 (b) It shall be unlawful to place animal excrement in storm sewers, or to dispose of
494 excrement in any manner except by depositing it in a toilet or a receptacle ordinarily
495 used for garbage and covered by a lid, or in an otherwise lawful and sanitary manner.

496 (c) When walking an animal off an owner's property, such owners or keepers are
497 required to have in their possession a viable means by which to pick up and remove
498 their animals' excrement.

499 (d) It shall be unlawful to fail to remove promptly all excrement from private property,
500 including the premises of the owner of an animal or any other person consenting to the
501 deposit of such waste on his or her premises, or to fail to place such waste in a closed
502 container or to fail to remove the contents of said containers from the City as necessary
503 to prevent such contents from becoming a nuisance.

504 (e) It shall be unlawful to fail to maintain the premises upon which animals are kept in a
505 clean and sanitary condition. It shall be a violation of this section if the animal is kept in

506 a premises which constitute a public nuisance as defined by section 6.04.170 of this
507 Animal Code.

508 (f) It shall be unlawful for any owner of any animal to permit said animal, whether or not
509 it is running at large, to destroy, damage or injure any shrubbery, plants, flowers, grass,
510 lawn, fence or anything whatsoever upon any public premises or private premises
511 owned or occupied by a person other than the owner of said animal.

512

513 6.04.160 Reporting animal bites and confinement.

514 (a) The owner or keeper of any domesticated animal that has bitten any person so as to
515 cause break in the skin shall immediately advise an Animal Control Specialist or law
516 enforcement officer of the incident. Any such animal shall be immediately confined for a
517 period of ten (10) days or longer on the advice of the Animal Control Specialist,
518 attending veterinarian or the Health Department or Health Officer. Confined animals
519 shall have no contact with the public, and it is unlawful for any person to remove any
520 confined animal from the designated quarantine location. As they are not considered to
521 be transmitters of the rabies virus, bites inflicted by domesticated rodents, rabbits,
522 reptiles or fowl need not be reported pursuant to this Section.

523 (b) Confinement may be on the premises of the owner or keeper if deemed appropriate
524 in the discretion of the Animal Control Specialist, attending veterinarian or Health
525 Department, or Health Officer but the animal must remain within the City for a minimum
526 of ten (10) days. If not confined on the premises of the owner or keeper, confinement
527 will be at the animal shelter site or any veterinary hospital or boarding kennel within the
528 City limits. Such confinement shall be at the expense of the owner or keeper. In the
529 case of an animal whose owner or keeper cannot be located, such confinement shall be
530 at the animal shelter. If the animal is confined on the owner's premises, an Animal
531 Control Specialist may make frequent checks to determine the condition of the confined
532 animal.

533 (c) The owner or keeper of any animal that has been reported as having inflicted a bite
534 causing a break in the skin of any person shall, on demand of an Animal Control
535 Specialist, produce said animal for examination and confinement, as prescribed in this
536 Section. It is unlawful to give away, sell or remove any such animal from the City or to
537 destroy such animal before it is properly confined by an Animal Control Specialist. It
538 shall be unlawful for the owner of any such animal to fail or refuse to produce the animal
539 on demand, and any such failure or refusal shall subject the owner to immediate arrest
540 if there shall exist probable cause to believe that the animal in question has inflicted a
541 bite upon a person and that the owner is harboring or keeping the animal and willfully
542 refusing to produce the animal upon such demand. Upon arrest, the owner shall be
543 taken by an Animal Control Specialist before a judge of the Municipal Court, who may
544 order the immediate production of the animal. Each day of such willful refusal to
545 produce the animal shall constitute a separate violation and offense.

546 (d) Every physician and other medical practitioner who treats a person for bites inflicted
547 by an animal shall report such treatment to an Animal Control Specialist within twenty-
548 four (24) hours, providing the name, address and telephone number of such person.

549 (e) The owner or keeper of any dog or cat shall inform the veterinarian before any
550 rabies inoculation is given of whether the subject dog or cat is under bite confinement or
551 has inflicted a bite on any person within the last ten (10) days. No rabies vaccination
552 shall be given while the animal is under quarantine. When an animal under quarantine
553 has been diagnosed by a licensed veterinarian as being rabid, the veterinarian making
554 such diagnosis shall immediately notify an Animal Control Specialist and advise it of any
555 reports of human contact with said animal.

556 (f) Animals known to have been bitten by or exposed to a rabid animal may be
557 destroyed or released upon proof of current rabies immunization and booster injection
558 provided by a licensed veterinarian at the expense of the owner or keeper. Prior to
559 release, the owner shall make payment of all impoundment and other quarantine fees
560 as applicable and vaccination for rabies. The owner or keeper of any animal released
561 under this Section shall be required to keep said animal under quarantine for a period of
562 six (6) months or as may be determined necessary by the treating veterinarian or the
563 Health Department or Health Officer.

564

565 6.04.170 Public nuisance.

566 Under this Title, it shall be unlawful for any person to cause or constitute a public
567 nuisance or to knowingly permit, encourage or unreasonably fail to prevent such
568 nuisances. Nuisance, for purposes of this Section include, but are not limited to:

569 (a) Any continuous and habitual violation of any Section within this Title. Factors to be
570 considered may be, but are not limited to, accumulated convictions for separate and
571 distinct violations, degree of aggravation or failure of the owner to take corrective action
572 for any violation or all violations.

573 (b) Negligence in allowing the accumulation of waste matter to the degree of creating a
574 putrid, offensive, unsanitary or unhealthy condition to the surrounding area.

575 Public nuisances under this section are subject to the provisions of Chapter 8.08 of the
576 GJMC.

577

578 6.04.180 Dangerous animals.

579 (a) Prohibited. No person shall own or harbor a dangerous animal within the City,
580 except as provided in this chapter. Such dangerous animal shall be impounded as a
581 public nuisance and/or public safety risk pursuant to the procedures set forth in GJMC §
582 6.04.210, and may be subject to disposition as contained therein.

583

584 (b) Confinement of Dangerous Animal. It shall be unlawful for any animal that has been
585 found to be a dangerous animal by any court to be confined in a manner that does not
586 include the following:

587 (1) When outside the owner's primary residence, the animal must be confined to
588 an escape proof kennel approved by an Animal Control Specialist; or

589 (2) When outside of the owner's primary residence, the animal must be on a
590 leash and under direct control of a responsible adult; and

591 (3) When outside of the owner's primary residence, the animal must be confined
592 in such a manner that complies with any additional safety or confinement
593 restrictions ordered by the court that found the animal dangerous unless
594 amended by a court within Mesa County.

595

596 (c) Dangerous Animal – Special Permit Required. The owner of any animal that has
597 been found to be a dangerous animal by any court and is residing within the City shall
598 obtain an annual special permit and identification tag for such animal. The permit shall
599 expire on December 31st of the year for which the permit is issued. An application for
600 the special permit and identification tag shall be made to the City within 30 days of
601 becoming a resident of the City and within 30 days prior to the expiration date of the
602 existing permit. The dangerous animal special permit tag shall be worn by the dog at all
603 times.

604

605 (d) Guard Dogs. The owner of any dog which has been specifically trained to attack
606 people shall:

607 (1) Keep the dog confined to an area from which it cannot escape; or

608 (2) Keep the dog under complete control of the handler at all times; and

609 (3) Post warning signs bearing letters not less than 10 inches high conspicuously
610 about the area of confinement indicating the presence of a guard dog.

611

612

613 6.04.190 Affirmative defenses to dangerous animal charges.

614 The Municipal Court shall consider the following affirmative defenses if evidence thereof
615 is presented in determining whether an animal is dangerous:

616 (a) The underlying evidence leading to the charge against the animal as dangerous.

617 (b) Whether any injury or damage to a person by the animal was caused or contributed
618 to by the actions of that person, including acts of physical abuse, tormenting, teasing or
619 assaulting the animal.

620 (c) Whether a person injured or damaged by the animal was committing a trespass or
621 other tort upon premises occupied by the owner or keeper of the animal or was
622 committing or attempting to commit a crime.

623 (d) Whether any injury or damage to a domesticated animal was caused or contributed
624 to by the actions and behavior of the domesticated animal such as teasing or attacking
625 the animal.

626 (e) Whether a person injured or damaged by the animal had gained uninvited and
627 unauthorized entry into the fenced or indoor property of the owner or keeper of the
628 animal. As used in this Section, unauthorized entry does not include entry into a fenced
629 residential front yard unless the yard is locked or posted to prohibit entry.

630 (f) Whether any injury or damage to a person by the animal was caused while the
631 animal was protecting or defending a person within the immediate vicinity of the animal
632 from an unjustified attack or assault.

633

634 6.04.200 Presumption of ownership of dangerous animal.

635 Any adult at whose residence a dangerous animal is kept or found shall be presumed to
636 be an owner of such animal and shall have the burden of rebutting such presumption. If
637 an animal has more than one (1) owner within the meaning of this Section, any one (1)
638 of such owners may be prosecuted for violations of this Section whether or not any
639 other owners are also prosecuted.

640

641

642 6.04.210 Impounded and seized animals; destruction of animals.

643 (a) Impoundment.

644 (1) Any time an Animal Control Specialist has reasonable suspicion to believe an
645 animal has engaged in any form of prohibited behavior under this Title, or any
646 other ordinance or any law of the State, is sick or injured, is a habitual offender of
647 this Title which creates a public safety risk, or is abused and/or neglected, such
648 animal may, at the discretion of an Animal Control Specialist, be taken into
649 custody by an Animal Control Specialist and impounded.

650 (2) Unless other time frames are specifically provided for in this Title (including
651 but not limited to bite confinement periods), any animal impounded which is not
652 claimed within a five-days upon the conclusion of any required impoundment

653 period, may be disposed of by the animal shelter. Disposal may be by adoption,
654 donation or humane destruction at the sole discretion of the animal shelter.
655 During the period of impoundment, the Animal Control Specialist shall make a
656 reasonable effort to ascertain and notify the owner.

657 (3) Any animal held as evidence at the animal shelter at the request of an Animal
658 Control Specialist or law enforcement officer shall remain impounded pending a
659 hearing. Any animal so impounded which is not claimed after resolution of the
660 pending court matter, or for which fees are not paid as set forth in this Title, may
661 be disposed of as set forth in Subsection 2 above.

662 (4) The owner of any impounded animal shall be responsible for the payment of
663 all charges and fees, including those for impoundment, boarding, euthanasia,
664 disposal, veterinary and all other services as needed. Fees and charges for
665 impoundment of animals shall be as set by the resolution of City Council in
666 accordance with the fees and charges incurred by the City. No impounded
667 animal shall be released until the owner has paid or arranged to pay all such
668 charges and fees. Failure of the owner of any impounded animal to claim such
669 animal from the animal shelter shall not relieve the owner from payment of all
670 applicable charges and fees as established by the shelter.

671 (5) In the sole discretion of the Animal Control Specialist, any dog found running
672 at large, which is not otherwise a dangerous animal under the provisions of this
673 Title, may be returned to its owner.

674 (6) Notice of Impoundment. When any animal has been impounded, an Animal
675 Control Specialist shall as soon as practicable give notice in person, by letter,
676 telephone, or service of a citation upon the owner of the animal's impoundment
677 and disposition alternatives. If the animal's owner is unknown at the time of the
678 impoundment, the Animal Control Specialist shall take all reasonable steps to
679 identify the owner and provide such notification. If the animal's owner still cannot
680 be established, the Animal Control Specialist may proceed with any disposition
681 authorized by this chapter. The Animal Control Specialist shall maintain records
682 of the times, dates, and manner of any notification or attempts at notification.
683 Such records shall constitute prima facie evidence of notification or attempted
684 notification.

685

686 (b) Seizure and immediate destruction.

687 (1) Any animal that has caused injury to any person or domesticated animal or
688 which has without provocation attacked any person or domesticated animal or
689 which otherwise meets the definition of a dangerous animal as set forth in this
690 Title, and is found running at large, may be seized and impounded at the owner's
691 expense by an Animal Control Specialist without notice to the owner. The Animal

692 Control Specialist shall make reasonable effort to notify such owner after seizing
693 and impounding the animal pursuant to this Section. If after making every
694 reasonable attempt to seize such animal the Animal Control Specialist
695 determines the animal cannot be captured without exposing the Animal Control
696 Specialist or other persons to danger of personal injury from the animal, and the
697 animal presents a present danger to any person or other animal, it shall be lawful
698 for a law enforcement officer to humanely destroy the animal without notice to the
699 owner. In the event an animal is destroyed pursuant to this section, the officer or
700 an employee of the City shall make all reasonable attempts to notify the owner,
701 and an officer or Animal Control Specialist may enforce any provision of this
702 Animal Code against the owner as applicable.

703 (2) When a veterinarian, animal shelter, Animal Control Specialist or law
704 enforcement officer has determined that an animal is critically ill or injured, is
705 suffering extreme pain, or has a poor prognosis for recovery, nothing in this Title
706 shall be construed to prevent the immediate impound and/or humane destruction
707 of such domesticated or wild animal.

708 (c) Seizure for Sterilization

709 (1) Any cat that is contacted and not found to have ownership identification may
710 be seized for the purpose of sterilization if it has not been sterilized or it cannot
711 be ascertained that the cat has been sterilized.

712 (2) The City may partner with available non-profit agencies for the purpose of
713 sterilizing any seized cats. Should no agency or program exist, sterilization at the
714 expense of the City shall be at the discretion of the City Manager.

715

716

717 6.04.220 Hearing on disposition of seized animals; financial bonding requirements;
718 destruction, seizure or release.

719 (a) Whenever an animal is seized or impounded pursuant to this Title and a summons
720 and complaint has been served, depending on the nature of the charge pending, the
721 animal owner may be summoned before the Municipal Court on the next available court
722 date following the seizure or impoundment to address only the issue of disposition of
723 the seized and impounded animal. The City, through its Animal Control Specialists, shall
724 make reasonable efforts to notify the owner in writing by personal service or by posting
725 notice on the front door of the owner's residence. Unless the animal owner waives the
726 time frame for advance service of such notice in order to expedite a hearing, this notice
727 shall be served at least five (5) days prior to the hearing and shall state the time, date,
728 location and purpose of the hearing. Such hearings resulting from animal seizures or
729 impoundments shall be held within ten (10) days of the seizure or impoundment in order
730 to minimize the expense to the animal owners for impoundment of seized animals.

731 (b) If an animal is seized and impounded on an evidence hold and the owner cannot be
732 ascertained or served with either a penalty assessment or summons and complaint,
733 disposition of the animal may proceed in accordance with the time frames and
734 requirements of this Section but the animal must be released from the evidence hold
735 prior to disposition.

736 (c) If, on the date of the hearing, notice to the owner was provided as required under
737 Subsection A, of this Section, the Municipal Court may proceed with the hearing as to
738 the disposition of the animal, whether or not the owner appears.

739 (d) Formal rules of evidence shall not apply at such animal disposition hearings, and
740 any statements made at such hearings shall not be used as evidence at any
741 subsequent hearing in the prosecution of the underlying charges. If the City establishes
742 by a preponderance of the evidence that there is a reasonable likelihood of future injury
743 to persons, property or animals, the Municipal Court shall order the animal to remain
744 impounded at the owner's expense until final disposition of the pending municipal
745 charges. If the Municipal Court determines that it is inappropriate to order the animal
746 impounded, the Municipal Court may order the animal returned to the owner and kept
747 under such circumstances as will ensure the safety of persons, property or other
748 animals, as the case may be.

749 (e) Financial bonding for cost of holding impounded animals.

750 (1) The owner of an animal that has been ordered impounded after the hearing
751 may be required to post a bond with the Municipal Court in an amount sufficient
752 to provide for the care and keeping of the animal from the date of impound, to the
753 extent any such charges remain outstanding as of the date of the hearing, until
754 the date set for trial on the pending municipal charges. Notice of such bond shall
755 be given at the conclusion of the hearing to the owner, allowing five (5) days for
756 the posting of such bond.

757 (2) If the owner does not appear at the disposition hearing, the City shall, if
758 ascertainable, send notice of the bond amount to the owner allowing the owner
759 five (5) days from the date of the notice to post such bond.

760 (3) Unless there is an evidentiary reason to hold an animal, if the owner fails to
761 post the bond or cannot be ascertained by the City following reasonable efforts,
762 the animal shall be deemed abandoned, and the animal shelter, upon issuance
763 of a Municipal Court order, may dispose of the animal at any time after five (5)
764 days from the date of notice, of the bond requirement. The date of notice shall be
765 the later of the date the owner is provided notice or the date that the Animal
766 Control Specialist or animal shelter makes reasonable efforts to ascertain and
767 provide the owner with such notice. Animal Control shall be provided copies of all
768 notices issued under this Section.

769 (4) At the end of the time for which expenses are covered by the bond, the
770 Municipal Court may determine disposition of the animal. The owner shall be
771 liable for the cost of the care, keeping or disposal of the animal.

772 (f) Destruction, seizure or release on Municipal Court's order.

773 (1) If a penalty assessment or summons and complaint has been filed in the
774 Municipal Court against the owner of an animal for a violation of this Animal
775 Code, the Municipal Court may, upon making a finding that the animal is
776 dangerous or that it represents a clear and present danger to the citizens or to
777 other animals in the community, order the animal to be destroyed in a humane
778 manner. Surrender of an animal by the owner thereof does not relieve or render
779 the owner immune from the decision of the Municipal Court, or to the fees, fines
780 or other penalties, and restitution which may result from a violation of this Animal
781 Code.

782 (2) If the Municipal Court determines that an impounded animal should be
783 released, the Court shall issue a release form signed by the Municipal Court
784 Judge to the owner of the animal, which the owner shall present at the animal
785 shelter to claim the animal. The Municipal Court shall also send a copy of the
786 release form to Animal Control and to the animal shelter. Any animal held
787 pursuant to court order may be disposed of by the animal shelter if unclaimed by
788 the owner within five (5) days following the issuance of a court order authorizing
789 the release of the animal.

790 (3) Trials involving charges resulting in animal seizures or impoundments shall
791 be given reasonable priority on the Municipal Court docket to minimize the
792 expense to animal owners for impoundment of seized animals.

793

794 6.04.230 PACFA guidelines.

795 Any person operating a pet animal facility within the City must have a valid license
796 issued by the Commissioner of the Colorado Department of Agriculture and such
797 person operating said pet animal facility must post or otherwise have available upon
798 request said valid license to operate in accordance with "PACFA" - the Pet Animal Care
799 and Facilities Act, C.R.S. §§ 35-80-101 through 117.

800

801 6.04.240 Service animal or emotional support animal.

802 (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly misrepresent an animal as a service
803 animal.

804 (b) It shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly misrepresent an animal as a
805 companion, assistance, or emotional support animal.

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6.04.250 Agricultural Animals and Fowl.

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person who keeps any chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, pigeons or other domestic fowl within the City to permit the yard or place within which such fowl are kept, by reason of any want of care, food, ventilation, cleanliness or otherwise, to be or become dangerous or detrimental to human health.

(b) The City Manager, his agent, or the County Health Department shall have the power to declare all yards or places where domestic fowl as described in subsection (a) of this section are kept in any unclean condition a nuisance, and the same shall be abated as such.

(c) It shall be unlawful for any person to permit any stable, stall, shed or apartment or any yard or appurtenance thereof in which any horse, cow, swine or any other animal is kept, or any other place in the City in which manure or liquid discharges of such animals shall collect or accumulate, to be kept in an unclean and unwholesome condition within the City so that an offensive smell is allowed to escape therefrom or otherwise to be or become dangerous or detrimental to human health; provided, that nothing in this subsection shall be construed to include manure deposits upon any private property for the purpose of cultivating such manure.

(d) The City Manager, his agent, or the County Health Department shall have the power to declare any stable, stall, shed or apartment or any yard or appurtenance thereof kept in any unclean or unwholesome condition a nuisance, and the same shall be abated as such.

6.04.260 Restrictions on sale of animals – Permit required.

(a) The City Council finds it is in the interest of the City of Grand Junction to regulate the sale and rehoming of animals pursuant to its home rule authority in Article XX of the Constitution of the State of Colorado and C.R.S. § 35-80-108(1)(o)(III).

(b) It shall be unlawful for any person to sell, trade, barter, lease, rent, give away, or display for any purpose a live animal on a public street, highway, median, recreation area, roadside, public right-of-way, commercial parking lot, public space, or at an outdoor special sale, swap meet, flea market, parking lot sale, or similar event. This restriction shall not apply to:

(1) The sale of livestock;

(2) A pet animal facility licensed under Article 80 of Title 35 of the Colorado Revised Statutes;

842 (3) A pet animal owner, breeder, handler, or trainer while transporting a pet
843 animal to or from exhibiting or competing at an event licensed, regulated, or
844 sanctioned by the American Kennel Club, the United Kennel Club, or any other
845 nationally recognized registering organization; or

846 (4) Hunting dogs bred or training for lawful hunting.

847 (c) Notwithstanding subsection (b) of this section, a person may display any dog or cat
848 for the purpose of selling, giving away, trading, bartering or adopting the animal with a
849 public pet rehoming permit.

850 (1) A public pet rehoming permit is not required when:

851 (i) An owner is selling, giving away, trading, bartering or adopting an
852 animal from a private residence; or

853 (ii) An owner holds a current license issued by the Colorado Pet Animal
854 Care and Facilities Act and is displaying the animals at that location; or

855 (iii) The owner is a governmental or tax-exempt, not for profit animal
856 welfare organization and is involved in an organized adoption event.

857 (2) The public pet rehoming permit can be obtained at Grand Junction Police
858 Department. The permit process will require the following:

859 (i) The owner/applicant will complete and submit a public pet rehoming
860 permit application no less than five business days prior to the date
861 needed; and

862 (ii) The owner/applicant will provide written documentation from a licensed
863 veterinarian that the animals have been examined within seven days, are
864 at least eight weeks old and current on all applicable vaccinations; and

865 (iii) The owner/applicant will provide written authority and contact
866 information from the owner of the property on which the animals will be
867 displayed.

868 (d) An Animal Services Officer shall forthwith investigate any credible complaint that a
869 person is in violation of the permit required for public rehoming. In the event that the
870 officer reasonably believes that this is the second offense or more of GJMC § 6.12.090,
871 the animal(s) may be immediately seized and impounded.

872 6.04.270 Disposition of dead animals.

873 (a) It is unlawful for the owner of any animal which has perished to fail to dispose of
874 such animal within twenty-four (24) hours of death by burial, incineration in a State
875 approved facility, rendering or other State-approved means.

876 (b) It shall be unlawful to dump or abandon any dead animal on any public or private
877 property within the City.

878 (c) If any animal dies on public property or on property other than that of the owner, it
879 may be removed by an Animal Control Specialist. The owner shall be responsible for
880 disposal fees, in addition to penalties for violation of this Section.

881

882 6.04.280 Cruelty to animals.

883 It shall be unlawful for any person knowingly, recklessly or with criminal negligence to
884 overload, overwork, inflict violence upon or kill, torture, torment, mistreat, deprive of
885 necessary sustenance, beat, mutilate, needlessly kill, carry or confine in or upon any
886 vehicle in a cruel or reckless manner, or allow to be housed in a manner that results in
887 repeated serious physical harm of any animal, or to cause any such acts or omissions
888 to be done. Neglect of an animal resulting in the death of the animal shall constitute
889 cruelty. Ownership of the animal or the commission of such acts or omissions on private
890 property shall not be a defense to prosecution for violation of this Section.

891

892 6.04.290 Humane care and treatment.

893 (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly poison any domesticated or
894 agricultural animal, or to knowingly distribute poison or toxicants on public or private
895 property in any manner whatsoever that causes the poisoning of any domesticated or
896 agricultural animal.

897 (b) A domesticated or agricultural animal is deprived of minimum care if it is not
898 provided with care sufficient to preserve the health and well-being of the animal
899 considering the species, breed and type of animal; and, except for emergencies or
900 circumstances beyond the reasonable control of the owner or keeper, minimum care
901 includes, but is not limited to, the following requirements:

902 (1) Food of sufficient quantity and quality to allow for normal growth or
903 maintenance of body weight. Food receptacles should be located for easy
904 accessibility to the domesticated animal and to minimize contamination from
905 trash, debris and waste.

906 (2) Open or adequate access to water in sufficient quantity to satisfy the
907 domesticated animal's needs. Water receptacles must be kept clean and sanitary
908 and shall be of appropriate size and design for the animal; and positioned to
909 prevent spillage.

910 (3) In case of domesticated animals, other than agricultural animals or fowl, such
911 animals shall have available a structure of a style suitable for the species in
912 question and sufficient to keep out the elements and such structure shall:

913 (i) Protect the animal from wind, rain, snow or sun;

- 914 (ii) Have adequate non-absorbent bedding (such as, wood chips, straw or
915 blankets, or with the exception of a chicken coop, which must contain a
916 sufficient quantity of absorbent litter) to protect against cold and
917 dampness;
- 918 (iii) Be large enough to prevent overcrowding and to allow the animal to
919 turn about freely and to easily stand and lie in a comfortable normal
920 position;
- 921 (iv) Be structurally sound and maintained in good repair so as to contain
922 the animal and protect it from injury and adverse conditions;
- 923 (v) Be adequately ventilated to provide for the health and comfort of the
924 animal;
- 925 (vi) Be constructed of solid wood, fiberglass or other weather-resistant
926 material. (No shelter may be constructed of metal except for a chicken
927 coop);
- 928 (4) An animal shall be afforded immediate veterinary care if it is known or
929 suspected to be ill or injured. The owner or person responsible for an animal
930 shall provide prompt veterinary care when the animal is exhibiting signs of illness
931 or injury that, to a reasonable person, would appear to cause, or be likely to
932 cause, significant pain, distress, or risk of serious harm if left untreated.
- 933 (5) Both indoor and outdoor enclosures shall receive cleaning as necessary to
934 remove pet solid waste and debris so as to minimize disease hazards, odor and
935 danger to the animal. Cleaning of coops and outdoor enclosures for chickens
936 shall comply with applicable provisions in Section 6.04.150.
- 937 (6) Animals with hair coats requiring grooming to prevent severe matting, filth
938 accumulation or skin disease shall be groomed in accord with normal and
939 accepted grooming practices.
- 940 (7) Animals which are being transported shall not be exposed to extremes in
941 temperatures or weather conditions.
- 942 (8) It shall be unlawful for any person to promote, stage, hold, manage, conduct,
943 carry on, or attend any illegal game, exhibition, contest, fight, or combat between
944 one (1) or more animals or between animals and humans, or to set free any
945 animal for the purpose of chasing or having a race thereafter. This shall include,
946 but is not limited to, hares or rabbits, cocks or other fowl, and dogs.
- 947 (9) It shall be unlawful for any person being the owner or keeper of a dog, cat, or
948 other domesticated animal or pet to abandon such animal. Abandon does not
949 mean transferring ownership to an animal rescue organization or another person.

950 (10) It shall be unlawful for any person to sell, give away or barter any domestic
951 dog or cat less than eight (8) weeks of age unless accompanied by its dame.
952 This provision does not apply to animals being surrendered to an animal control
953 agency, shelter, pound, or humane organization.

954 (11) It shall be unlawful for any person to place or confine an animal or allow an
955 animal to be placed or confined in a motor vehicle without allowing cross-
956 ventilation and under no circumstance shall a person confine any animal in any
957 parked, closed vehicle on any public or private street, parking lot, or way for any
958 amount of time that would endanger, or create an adverse condition placing at
959 risk the health or well-being of such animal due to temperature, lack of food or
960 drink or such other conditions as may reasonably be expected to cause suffering,
961 disability or death. Any Animal Control Specialist or law enforcement officer
962 observing an animal kept in violation of this Section may enter the vehicle,
963 including through the use of reasonable force, and impound the animal, if the
964 animal shows signs of stress. In addition to all other defenses and immunities
965 provided by law, any such officer making entry for the purpose of this Section is
966 immune from suit or liability, criminal or civil, caused by or arising out of such
967 entry.

968 (12) It shall be unlawful to use or set, or cause to be used or set, a leghold,
969 snare, instant kill, body gripping trap or such other trap which can cause pain,
970 injury or suffering for the purpose of trapping any feral cat or domesticated
971 animal.

972 (13) It shall be unlawful to tether an animal under circumstances that endanger
973 its health, safety, or well-being; that unreasonably limits an animal's movement or
974 allows the animal to reach an object, that poses a substantial risk of injury or
975 strangulation to the animal; that present an unsafe or unsanitary condition; or that
976 causes injury, stress, or demonstrable socialization problems to the animal.

977 (14) It shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly abandon an animal by
978 leaving the animal with intent not to return. Abandonment includes, but is not
979 limited to, the dumping of an animal from a moving or stationary motor vehicle.
980 This Section shall not apply to voluntary relinquishments to the animal shelter, an
981 Animal Control Specialist, or to a licensed veterinarian.

982 (15) It shall be unlawful for any person to cause, sponsor, instigate, allow or
983 encourage any animal to fight with another of its own species or with another of a
984 different species. It shall be unlawful for any person to train, breed or keep any
985 animal for the purpose of fighting. It shall be unlawful for any person to maintain
986 a place where animals are permitted to fight.

987 (16) Any person who, as the operator of a motor vehicle, strikes a domesticated
988 animal shall immediately stop and, to the extent it is safe to do so, render such
989 assistance as may be possible and shall immediately report injury or death to the

990 animals' owner or keeper. If the owner or keeper cannot be ascertained and
991 located, such operator shall at once report the accident to an Animal Control
992 Specialist or other law enforcement agency.

993 (17) It shall be unlawful to crop a dog's ears or dock a dog's tail, or to spay or
994 neuter an animal, by anyone other than by a licensed veterinarian.

995

996 6.04.300 Capturing animals.

997 (a) An Animal Control Specialist or law enforcement officer is authorized to enter in or
998 upon private property, including motor vehicles and fenced areas but not private
999 buildings, to apprehend an animal running at large, a dangerous animal, an animal
1000 suspected of being infected with rabies, or an animal that the officer reasonably
1001 believes is neglected, sick or injured such that the animal faces a serious risk of death
1002 or substantial suffering.

1003 (b) An Animal Control Specialist or law enforcement officer is authorized to use
1004 tranquilizer guns, humane traps or other suitable devices to subdue or apprehend a
1005 stray animal, pet animal running at large, or wild animal, and is authorized to destroy an
1006 animal that the officer reasonably believes to be an immediate danger to the officer or to
1007 the public.

1008 (c) An Animal Control Specialist or law enforcement officer is authorized to place a
1009 humane trap on private property for the purpose of capturing a stray animal, wild
1010 animal, or domesticated or pet animal running at large, when requested to do so by the
1011 owner or possessor of the property.

1012 (d) It shall be unlawful for any person to set or cause to be set any steel-jaw leg hold
1013 trap, snare, or any trap other than a humane trap for the purpose of capturing an
1014 animal, whether wild or domestic, except a licensed or recognized business that has
1015 been given permission by the Colorado Parks and Wildlife, the Tri-County Health
1016 Department or similar agency, or an Animal Control Specialist. Any trapping authorized
1017 under this Section must be in compliance with the Colorado Revised Statutes.

1018

1019 6.04.310 Feeding of wild animals prohibited.

1020 (a) It is unlawful for any person to feed, provide, leave, distribute or scatter attractants in
1021 a manner in which any wild animal would reasonably be able to gain access to such
1022 attractant, or which might entice any wild animal within the City.

1023 (b) This Section shall not apply to any person utilizing a bird feeder, provided that the
1024 feeder is elevated or suspended on a pole, (e.g. shepherd's pole), cable or other similar
1025 device to make it inaccessible to wild animals and the area below the feeder is kept free
1026 from the accumulation of seeds and seed debris and waste debris.

1027 (c) It is unlawful for any person to dispense, feed of otherwise make available to any
1028 birds, either on such person's property, or on the property of another, or of the City any
1029 type or amount of food in a manner that:

1030 (1) Creates an unclean, unsafe or unsanitary condition either on such person's
1031 property or on the property of another or of the City.

1032 (2) Results in the accumulation of droppings, feces, or feathers either on such
1033 person's property or on the property of another or of the City.

1034 (3) Creates an unreasonable disturbance either on such person's property or on
1035 the property of another or of the City.

1036 (4) Attracts other wildlife, vermin, or pests either to such person's property or the
1037 property of another or of the City.

1038 (5) Otherwise deleteriously affects the quiet enjoyment by others of any private or
1039 public property.

1040

1041 6.04.320 Keeping livestock, wild, or exotic animals.

1042 (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to own, possess, harbor, sell, or in any other
1043 manner traffic in the following species of animals:

1044 (1) All poisonous or venomous animals, anacondas, reticulated pythons,
1045 Burmese pythons and amethystine pythons.

1046 (2) All other non-venomous snakes with a length greater than six (6) feet
1047 measured from the tip of the nose to the tip of the tail.

1048 (3) All other reptiles with a length greater than three (3) feet measured from the
1049 tip of the nose to the tip of the tail.

1050 (4) Gorillas, chimpanzees, orangutans, baboons and any other primates.

1051 (5) Any species of feline not falling within the categories of ordinary domesticated
1052 house cats.

1053 (6) Bears of any species.

1054 (7) Marsupials, squirrels, minks, raccoons, porcupines, skunks, badgers or other
1055 like species, except ferrets (*Mustela furo*).

1056 (8) Foxes, wolves, coyotes or other species of canines other than dogs.

1057 (9) Crocodilians and monitor lizards.

1058 (10) Any animal that is not indigenous to the state and is not classified as a
1059 domesticated animal or pet.

1060 (b) Domestication of any prohibited animal shall not affect its status under this Section.
1061 In the event of uncertainty whether a particular animal is a prohibited animal, it shall be
1062 presumed prohibited until proven not prohibited by a preponderance of the evidence to
1063 the satisfaction of the Municipal Court.

1064 (c) Livestock is not permitted unless allowed under the zoning provision of Title 21 of
1065 the GJMC. Permitted livestock shall be contained within a secure fence and shall keep
1066 such animals from streets, parks and other public areas as well as other private
1067 premises.

1068 (d) This Section shall not apply to any zoological garden or any special event
1069 sanctioned by the City or other governmental entity, or any approved research institute
1070 using livestock, wild, or exotic animals for scientific research, or any state licensed
1071 wildlife rehabilitator, organization or individual who performs wildlife rescue and
1072 rehabilitation.

1073 (e) Animal Control Specialists or law enforcement officers will have the authority to
1074 apprehend any livestock, wild, or exotic animal that may be at large within the City.
1075 Such livestock, wild, or exotic animal may be impounded, released in wild areas which
1076 are representative of the animal's natural habitat, released to an appropriate keeper or
1077 humanely destroyed. Animal Control Specialists or law enforcement officers are
1078 authorized to use any firearm to subdue or destroy any livestock, wild, or exotic animal
1079 that is determined by the Animal Control Specialist or law enforcement officer, in his or
1080 her discretion, to be of danger to either itself or to the public health and safety.

1081

1082 6.04.330 Fees.

1083 (a) Fees for permits, licenses, impound, adoptions and other services or fees shall be
1084 established by resolution of the City Council..

1085 (b) Fees shall be waived for any active certified governmental police dogs, military dogs
1086 or service dogs provided the owner has appropriate certifying documentation.

1087 (c) It shall be unlawful to fail to pay for permits, licenses, impound, adoption or any other
1088 services or fees levied by the City and/or the local animal shelter.

1089

1090 6.04.340 Penalties.

1091 (a) Procedure. Whenever a law enforcement officer or Animal Control Specialist has
1092 personal knowledge or probable cause to believe that a violation of this chapter has
1093 occurred, they may arrest the alleged violator, and either issue a penalty assessment
1094 notice pursuant to GJMC § 2.28.100, or issue a summons and complaint pursuant to
1095 GJMC § 2.28.110.

1096 (b) Penalty Assessment Procedure.

1097 (1) Penalty Assessment. The penalty assessment procedure consists of personal
1098 service of written notice upon a person charged with violating this Title. Personal
1099 service may be waived. The alleged violator may be released upon conditions of
1100 the notice, or may choose to appear before a judge in a court of competent
1101 jurisdiction if conditions for release are not met. Conditions for release shall
1102 include payment of the applicable fine.

1103 (2) Summons and Complaint. The summons and complaint procedure
1104 consists of personal service, or waiver by the recipient, of a summons and
1105 complaint. The summons requires the recipient to appear before the
1106 Municipal Court Judge at a specified time and place to answer to charges
1107 of violating this chapter, as set forth in the complaint.

1108 (3) Mandatory Court. A summons and complaint shall be issued to anyone who
1109 is:

1110 (i) Charged under GJMC § 6.04.180 involving a dangerous dog;

1111 (ii) Charged under GJMC § 6.04.280 involving cruelty to an animal;

1112 (iii) Charged under GJMC § 6.04.260 as a second violation or more for
1113 GJMC § 6.04.260;

1114 (iv) Charged under GJMC § 6.04.210 involving failure to comply with
1115 impound requirements;

1116 (v) Known to have been issued three or more penalty assessment notices
1117 for violation of this chapter within the last two years; or

1118 (vi) Charged with a violation of this chapter involving serious bodily injury
1119 to or death of any person or animal.

1120 (vii) Charged with a violation of this chapter involving damage to property
1121 or injury to any person or animal where restitution may be required.

1122 (4) Optional Court. Except for the mandatory requirement for court set forth in
1123 subsection (3) of this section, an Animal Services Officer may, at his discretion,
1124 issue either a penalty assessment notice or a summons and complaint.

1125 (5) Content. A penalty assessment notice as well as a summons and complaint
1126 shall contain the following:

1127 (i) Document sworn to by the arresting officer;

1128 (ii) Name of the alleged offender;

1129 (iii) Specific offense;

1130 (iv) Applicable fine;

1131 (v) A brief summary of the circumstances of the offense, including the
1132 alleged offender's attitude.

1133

1134 (c) Except as provided in this section, any violation of this Title where a summons and
1135 complaint are issued which do not involve bodily injury to any person or animal shall be
1136 punishable upon conviction by a fine of not more than \$500.00. If the animal owner has
1137 been convicted of three or more violations of any section of this chapter not involving
1138 bodily injury within a two-year period, the Court may impose a sentence of
1139 imprisonment in the County jail for not more than 90 days in addition to any fine and
1140 may order the destruction of the animal.

1141

1142 (d) Except as provided in this section, any violation of this Animal Code where a
1143 summons and complaint are issued which involve bodily injury to any person or bodily
1144 injury or death to an animal by an animal shall be punishable upon conviction by a fine
1145 of not less than \$250.00 nor more than \$1,000, or by imprisonment of not less than
1146 three months nor more than 364 days, or by both such fine and imprisonment for each
1147 separate offense. In addition, the Court may order the destruction of the animal upon
1148 conviction of the owner of any violation with bodily injury.

1149

1150 (e) Pursuant to People's Ordinance No. 30 (1956), the court may impose a fine of not
1151 less than \$1.00 and not more than \$300.00 for any violation of GJMC § 6.04.110 where
1152 the at-large animal is a dog, in addition to any other sentence or imprisonment or other
1153 sanctions deemed appropriate by the court in accordance with this Animal Code. Each
1154 day any violation of GJMC § 6.04.110 continues involving a dog constitutes a new
1155 violation. The head of any household having a dog in its possession shall be presumed
1156 to be the owner or possessor of such dog.

1157

1158 (f) The Animal Control Specialist, or the City Attorney or designee may recommend that
1159 one or more special sanctions be levied against any owner convicted of any violation of
1160 this Title. This recommendation may be presented to the Municipal Court as a proposed
1161 condition of sentencing upon conviction and may be in lieu of or in addition to any other
1162 penalty permitted under the Municipal Code. The Municipal Court may take into
1163 consideration the severity of the incident, the prior history of the animal or the owner
1164 and the recommendation of the Animal Control Specialist, City Attorney, or designee.
1165 Without in any way limiting the power of the Municipal Court to impose special sanctions
1166 as it deems appropriate, special sanctions may include, but are not limited to:

1167 (1) Construction of a proper animal enclosure (built to specifications as ordered
1168 by the Municipal Court and in compliance with City zoning requirements).

- 1169 (2) Microchipping, spaying or neutering of the animal.
- 1170 (3) Obedience training or behavior modification.
- 1171 (4) Responsible pet ownership class(es).
- 1172 (5) Community service work.
- 1173 (6) Surrender or euthanasia of the animal.
- 1174 (7) Prohibition from owning animals for a specified period of time.
- 1175 (8) Use of specified humane training devices for behavior modification.
- 1176 (9) Inspections of premises where the animal is kept.
- 1177 (10) Restitution for costs of care rendered, shelter provided at the animal shelter
- 1178 and costs of veterinary care and medical treatment.
- 1179 (11) Treatment or counseling programs.
- 1180 (12) Any other appropriate sanction.

1181 (g) In addition to payment of any fine or other punishment, any person violating this Title
 1182 shall be required as a condition of probation or sentencing to pay to the Animal Shelter
 1183 all applicable fees and charges pursuant to this chapter, and costs of prosecution as
 1184 may be required by the court.

1185 (h) Suspension of any penalty or punishment for violation of this Title may be
 1186 conditioned upon compliance with any reasonable order or condition designed to protect
 1187 the public or abate a public nuisance caused by an owner’s animal.

1188

1189 6.04.350 Penalty assessment – Fine schedule.

1190 If the penalty assessment procedure is used by the Animal Control Specialist or any
 1191 arresting law enforcement officer, the following fine schedule shall be applied for
 1192 violations of any section of this chapter which are committed or repeated by the same
 1193 person within two years from the date of any prior offense:

1194	First offense (up to)	\$50.00
1195	Second offense (up to)	\$100.00
1196	Third offense (up to)	\$250.00
1197	Fourth and subsequent offenses (up to)	\$500.00

1198 Penalties for violation of GJMC § 6.04.110, Animals Running at Large, shall include a
 1199 surcharge of \$25.00 payable to the City of Grand Junction Parks and Recreation

1200 Department for the establishment and maintenance of dog park(s). Fines shall not be
1201 suspended or waived in order to offset the surcharge.

1202 Penalties for violation of GJMC § 6.04.110, Animals Running at Large, shall include a
1203 surcharge of \$50.00 payable to Mesa County Animal Services Canine Spay/Neuter
1204 Voucher Program if a dog owner cannot provide proof that the dog has been spayed or
1205 neutered. The surcharge cannot be waived unless the dog owner provides
1206 documentation from Mesa County Animal Services proving that the animal was
1207 subsequently neutered.

1208 Surcharges are separate and apart from the fine. Fines shall not be specifically
1209 suspended or waived in order to offset a surcharge, but may otherwise be suspended or
1210 waived as deemed appropriate by the court.

1211

1212 6.04.360 Immunity from liability.

1213 The City and its employees and agents and the animal shelter and its employees shall
1214 be immune from liability for any actions taken pursuant to this Title.

1215

1216 6.04.370 Indemnity Clause.

1217 The City Council, the Health Officer, Director, Animal Services Officers, or any other
1218 employees, persons or agents authorized to enforce the provisions of this chapter shall
1219 not be held responsible for any accident or subsequent disease or for any loss or
1220 damages resulting from administration of this chapter.

1221

1222 6.04.380 Severability Clause.

1223 If any provision of this chapter or the application thereof to any person or circumstances
1224 is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or application of this
1225 chapter which can be given effect without the invalid provisions or applications, and to
1226 this end, the provisions of this chapter are declared to be severable.

1227

1228 **Section 3. Codification.**

1229 The City Clerk and the City's codifier are authorized and directed to make such non-
1230 substantive formatting, numbering, and stylistic changes as necessary to codify this
1231 ordinance into the Grand Junction Municipal Code, including updating internal cross-
1232 references.

1233

1234 **Section 4. Severability.**

1235 If any provision of this ordinance or its application to any person or circumstance is held
1236 invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications that can be given
1237 effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
1238 ordinance are declared severable.

1239 **Section 5. Effective Date.**

1240 This ordinance shall take effect in accordance with the City Charter following its
1241 passage and publication.

1242 Introduced on first reading the _____ day of _____, 2026, and
1243 ordered published in pamphlet form.

1244 Adopted on second reading this _____ day of _____, 2026, and
1245 ordered published in pamphlet form.

1246 _____
1247 _____

1248 Laurel Lutz
1249 President of City Council

1250
1251 ATTEST:
1252 _____
1253 _____

1254 Selestina Sandoval
1255 City Clerk

1256



Grand Junction City Council

Workshop Session

Item #1.b.

Meeting Date: June 29, 2026
Presented By: Peter Skeris, Fire Chief
Department: Fire
Submitted By: P. Skeris

Information

SUBJECT:

Overview of Grand Junction Rural Fire Protection District Funding

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Background on the contract between the City of Grand Junction and the Grand Junction Rural Fire District (GJRFD), and the financial impact to the City.

BACKGROUND OR DETAILED INFORMATION:

In early 2026, with a change in leadership, a review of contracts and MOU's was undertaken to get a realistic picture of what services the GJFD are committed to, and their impact on both our service level, staffing, and financial impacts. Our contract with the GJ Rural Fire District (GJRFD) was reviewed, and it was discovered that the City has been subsidizing fire protection and inspection services for many years, meaning the income received from GJRFD doesn't match what it costs to provide the level of service provided. Historically speaking, the GJFD, under contract, has provided services to the GJRFD since it's inception, and the revenue generated by their mill levy "passes through" to the city, minus a small amount for administrative costs for the GJRFD Board to operate. The gap between revenue and cost is difficult to project, as the line between the two districts, although clearly defined on a map, is not as easy in response data. However, to the best of our ability, the GJRFD accounts for approximately 13.5% of our total call volume, but 71.17% of the new Colorado Wildland Resilience Code (CWRC) identified land parcels. In addition, we provide fire inspection (6.3%), burn permit response and enforcement (543), and Community Education. The totals presented are based on a 13.5% operational cost impact on the GJFD budget.

2026 Adopted Budget
Total Revenue \$40,620,205.00
Est. Revenue (GJRFD+EMS) \$13,636,187
General Fund \$26,984,018

GJRFD Revenue from Mil Levy (Est.) \$3,395,984
13.5% of Service Workload (Budget/13.5%) \$5,483,727
Est. City Subsidy (Service Cost - GJRFD Revenue) \$2,087,743

FISCAL IMPACT:

See table above as an estimate

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Discussion Only

Attachments

None



Grand Junction City Council

Workshop Session

Item #4.a.

Meeting Date: June 29, 2026
Presented By: Selestina Sandoval, City Clerk
Department: City Clerk
Submitted By: Kerry Graves

Information

SUBJECT:

Appointments to the One Riverfront Commission

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

There are four full-term and two partial-term vacancies on the One Riverfront Commission.

BACKGROUND OR DETAILED INFORMATION:

Jane Quimby, Sarah Brooks, Tom Freimann, and Joel Sholtes have terms expiring July 31, 2026. Hayden Janssen resigned effective December 9, 2025, and Kelsey Heath resigned May 21, 2026. Applications were received from Thomas Freimann, Lori Schroeder, Sara Warzecka, Joseph Moreng, Julia Surkis, Ian Thomas, and Erin McDermott.

FISCAL IMPACT:

N/A

SUGGESTED ACTION:

For discussion only.

Attachments

None