



City of Columbia, Missouri

Meeting Minutes - Draft

Board of Health



Thursday, August 14, 2025

5:30 PM

Regular

Columbia/Boone
County Public Health &
Human Services
Training Room 1
1005 W. Worley St
Columbia, MO

I. CALL TO ORDER

Heidt called the meeting to order at 5:31 P.M.

Public Health and Human Services staff present: Rebecca Roesslet, Kevin Meyers, and Jordan Bales.

Present: 10 - Harry Feirman, Jonathan Heidt, Rosann Geiser, R. Wade Schuette, Sonita Simelus, Ella Miller, Ashton Day, Joseline Hernandez Arroyo, Tom Rose and Bridget Kraus

Excused: 1 - Samantha Joiner

Introduction of new Board Member: Bridget Kraus PhD, MOT, OTR/L

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The board moves into the approval of the agenda, but before the agenda can be approved there are some items that will need to be changed on it. Day starts by stating that there will be an addition under the new business section. This will be the addition of Edits to Sec. 5-28 Appointment of deputy license administrators for collection of animal license tax, and Sec. 5-64 Tags and certificates, with the attachment as well.

Day proposes that those two sections be added to new business before the agenda is approved, seconded by Simelus. The motion passed unanimously.

Feirman moves to approve the amended agenda, seconded by Miller. The motion passed unanimously.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

BOH Draft Meeting Minutes 07.10.2025

Attachments: [BOH Draft Meeting Minutes 07.10.2025](#)

Day moves to approve the minutes, seconded by Hernandez Arroyo. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

Revising Language to section 5-6 (8)

Attachments: [Chapter 5 Section 5-6 final edits](#)

[National Weather Service Watch, Warning, Advisory explained](#)

[What Is the Difference Between a Winter Storm Watch, Warning, and Advisory](#)

[Connecticut & Delaware Weather ordinances](#)

The board begins by starting the conversation where they had left off at the last meeting with the discussion of the weather and Sec. 5-6 (d)(8). Meyers begins by going back to the topic of the differences between a warning, watch, and advisory, along with the discussion of if they wanted them to be listed in that section of the ordinance. Meyers suggestion was to reword the section to state "no animal may be tethered out during any inclement weather warning or advisory issued by the National Weather Service without providing adequate provisions as listed in Sec. 5-6 (b) of this article." When asked by Heidt if the board has any more comments or questions for Meyers, there were none at that time.

Moving forward with the discussion, they realized there was an error with the agenda topics of Removing Language to Section 5-11 (b) and Revising Language to Section 5-61 Vaccination Schedule. These topics should have been listed under new business to be discussed. The board then decides that these topics will be moved under new business on the agenda.

Fairman moves to accept the wording as it has been changed for Sec.5-6 (d) (8), seconded by Miller. The motion passed unanimously.

Hernandez Arroyo moves to change Section 5-11 (b) and 5-61 Vaccination Schedule so that it is located under new business on the agenda, seconded by Day. The motion passed unanimously.

V. NEW BUSINESS

Edits to Sec. 5-28 and Sec. 5.64

Attachments: [5-28 & 5-64 Edits](#)

Heidt directs the boards discussion on the new business topics. Meyers starts with Sec. 5-28 Appointment of deputy license administrators for collection of animal license tax. Meyers explains how the city has recently changed how they do the city licensing, which has now moved to a completely online model. Since the licensing process has changed it has posed an issue with the wording that the ordinance currently has. The ordinance currently states that the city shall supply the certificate, however there is no longer a certificate being supplied. Meyers suggested a change to Sec. 5-28, and that would be to change the wording to have it say receipt of purchase in the sections where it says certificates. After Meyers has finished discussing Sec. 5-28, Heidt again asks the board if they have any comments or questions before they move on, there are no comments from the board at that time.

Meyers moves on to Sec. 5-64 Tags and certificates. At this time Meyers notices that the name of Sec. 5-64 will need to be changed to be "Tags and Receipts, replacing certificates. Meyers continues explaining that the changes in this section are mostly the same as the changes made in Sec. 5-28, replacing the word certificate to state receipt as proof of purchase. As well as taking out the wording that states that a certificate will be provided.

Simelus moves to approve the changes to Sec. 5-28, seconded by Kraus. The motion passed unanimously.

Geiser moved to approve the changes to Sec. 5-64, seconded by Hernandez Arroyo. The motion passed unanimously.

Removing Language to Section 5-11 (b)

Attachments: [section 5-11 \(b\)](#)

Continuing their discussion on to Sec. 5-11(b) Sale of Reptiles. Meyers explains the change that they are wanting to make to this section which is to remove (b), that states "It shall be unlawful for any pet store owner or employee to sell a reptile unless the seller gives the purchaser written information provided by the director describing the human health and safety risk associated with reptile ownership. The seller shall require the purchaser to sign a statement acknowledging receipt of such information. The seller shall retain that statement for at least one year from the date of sale." Meyers says that is something that is not currently being done.

Fairman moves to approve the change to Sec. 5-11 (b), seconded by Kraus. The motion passed unanimously.

Revising Language to Section 5-61 Vaccination Schedule

Attachments: [Section 5-61 Vaccination Schedule](#)

Meyers goes forward in to Sec. 5-61 Vaccination schedule. Meyers tells how there is only a slight change that they are suggesting. That would be to change the required age for the animal to get the rabies vaccination from the age of 3 months to the age of 4 months. This is the suggested change because it better aligns with what most veterinarians do. Veterinarians typically won't give the rabies vaccination until they are 4 months old, because that is when they get their last puppy shot. The board also brings up feral cats and how they need to be addressed in some way in this section. They decide that domesticated is the language that they will use to keep feral cats separate.

Rose moves to approve the changes to Sec. 5-61, seconded by Geiser. The motion passed unanimously.

Final Review of Changes to Chapter 5 ANIMALS AND FOWL

Attachments: [Final Board of Health Edits](#)
[Final Review Board of Health Edits Comments](#)

Moving into the next topic under new business on the agenda, the final review of changes to Chapter 5 Animals and Fowl. The board is taking this time to review the changes that have been approved and confirmed, as well as discussing the changes that have not been confirmed so that they can come to a decision to approve these unconfirmed changes. Meyers begins this discussion by going into the first section about the Dangerous and Aggressive Animal advisory board. Roesslet at this time suggest that they not include the Dangerous and Aggressive animal advisory board section in the Chapter 5 recommendations to council, explaining that if council approves the recommendations the attorney will draft a separate legislation to create that viscous dog hearing board. After some discussion on this subject the board decides that they will come back to this subject later on during the meeting.

They continue to go over more of the approved changes making sure that there is no further discussions that they want to have over those sections. Starting with Sec. 5-3 Disposition of animals biting or attacking persons. The board comes to a change in Sec. 5-3 (b) where it states "Columbia Police Department" and it was decided in a previous meeting that it would be changed to "Law Enforcement."

The next section that comes up is Sec. 5-3 (d)(2) where the board discussed the way to make the wording stronger. The current wording is "The animal was properly licensed by the city or the owner has the ability to obtain a license." Roesslet makes the suggestion to change the wording so that it states, "The animal was properly licensed by the city or the animal is current on its rabies vaccination, and is licensed within three business days." The board agrees with this wording that it is stronger than what it was previously.

Next the board moves on to Sec. 5-3 (d)(6) where Meyers explains the change that would add in that an animal control officer could examine the animal on the tenth day of impoundment. This way the owner would have the option of taking their animal to their vet or an animal control officer could come out and examine the animal. This change is mirroring that of what is done in the county when there is an animal that is quarantined at home. The board agreed with this change.

Continuing on to Sec. 5-5 Redemption; microchipping; neutering; payment of fees; disposition of unredeemed animals. Meyers states that for this section the change would be to remove the wording that says "for running at large" and the board agrees to that change. There is also wording in Sec. 5-5 (6) where it was going to be changed, but they are no longer going to make the change. It was the wording where it was suggested to change the fee to \$25 for the \$100. That change is something that would be a completely different process with the city. So it was decided that the section would remain as it originally was. The wording "for running at large" is found again in Sec. 5-5 (c) and the board agrees to remove that wording as well.

Moving on to Sec. 5-6 Animal abuse; unlawful impoundment; unlawful confinement; tethering. They go over some of the changes that were previously approved making sure

there were no more comments that anyone wished to make about them. They then moved on to a change in Sec. (d)(8), which was discussed earlier in this meeting and that change was approved. The board also went in to Sec. 5-11 Sale of Reptiles and approved the change to remove Sec. 5-11 (b) that was discussed and approved earlier at this meeting.

This brings the board to Sec. 5-57 Dangerous and aggressive animals, the board goes over their confirmed changes, like the changing of Columbia Police Department to Law Enforcement. At this time Feirman brings up a concern about the wording in Sec. 5-57 (3) (b) where it states "Complaints shall be investigated only when submitted by a citizen..." Feirman suggest that they may want to find an alternate word to replace citizen with, as in some cases some people will want to see that the person who submitted the complaint is a citizen. The board then discusses what they could replace citizen with and they agree to change it to state person.

Meyers moves into Sec, 5-57 (3)(d), and Rose is the first to make a suggestion which is to change the Dangerous and Aggressive Animal advisory board to just An Advisory Board. Feirman also has a suggestion of some of the wording that needs to be changed. Feirman is suggesting adding to this section to state there recommendations are from each member of the advisory board, not just a recommendation from the advisory board as a whole. This would be added to clarify the wording and make it known that it is not just the advisory board as one whole that makes the recommendation, but each member makes their own. Heidt asks the board if these are the changes that they would like to make to this section, changing it from stating The advisory board to An advisory board. As well as adding in the section about the recommendation of an advisory board member.

Continuing the board goes over the changes to the next section which was Sec. 5-57 (3) (h). Here the board confirms what they want the wording in this section to be. The board agrees on the new wording for the section which states "premise and kennel or cage." This is referring to where the signs need to be placed for dangerous or aggressive animals that are owned.

Meyers moves forward into Sec. 5-60 Limitation upon number or dogs and cats kept. There is an approved change that was made at the June meeting to Sec. 5-60 (b) where it gives the owner the option to apply for a variance by the director to have more than the limit set in the ordinance. While looking over the Chapter 5 ordinance they notice that there is a change that needs to be made to Sec. 5-62 Same - Evidence prior to license issuance, where it says license tax certificate, that wording needs to be changed to receipt.

The board then moves to Sec. 5-112 Feral Cat caretaker permit. There is a change made in Sec. 5-112(2) where the board decides to change it to state "proof that the feral cat in the colony has been ear tipped, neutered, spayed, and vaccinated at least once against rabies." The change is to add in the wording that say they need to be vaccinated for rabies at least once. Another change that was unconfirmed in Sec. 5-112 (3) was if the board wanted to leave the wording to state permit holder or if they wanted to change the wording to state caretaker. After some discussion on this topic the board decided to leave the wording as it was with it stating permit holder.

After they finish going over the rest of the approved and confirmed changes, the board circles back around to the first topic about the dangerous and aggressive animal advisory board. Since the wording was removed in the other sections regarding the advisory board the board decides that they should remove it in this section as well.

Now that the board has done the final review of Chapter 5, Roesslet explains what the next steps are going to look like. Starting with explaining that they will have a pre-council meeting, it will be the first meeting of November on the third. This is where their suggested changes will be presented to council. Roesslet explains that the meeting will be open to the public, but it will not be open for public comment. She also lets the board know that they do not have to be in attendance at the meeting and that there is no quorum for the Board of Health for this meeting. Next Roesslet suggest to the board that they may want to cancel their November Board of Health meeting as they will be having the pre-council meeting in November. At this time Roesslet asks the board what they would like their next meeting to look like and what they would like to review and discuss then. The board would like to take that time at the next meeting to look at the marked version and the unmarked clean version of the Chapter 5 Animal and Fowl ordinance.

Fierman moves to approve the changes to Sec. 5-3 (b), seconded by Hernandez Arroyo. The motion passed unanimously.

Geiser moves to approve the change to Sec. 5-3 (d)(2), seconded by Miller. The motion passed unanimously.

Day moves to approve the change to Sec. 5-3 (d)(6), seconded by Hernandez Arroyo. The motion passed unanimously.

Simelus moves to approve the change to Sec. 5-5 (a), seconded by Kraus. The motion passed unanimously.

Kraus moves to approve the change to Sec. 5-5 (c), seconded by Geiser. The motion passed unanimously.

Kraus moves to approve the change to replace citizen to person in all areas, seconded by Simelus. The motion passed unanimously.

Rose moves to approve the changes to Sec. 5-57 (3)(d), seconded by Kraus. The motion passed unanimously.

Rose moves to approve the change to Sec. 5-57 (3)(h), seconded by Geiser. The motion passed unanimously.

Rose moves to approve the change to Sec. 5-112 (2), seconded by Kraus. The motion passed unanimously.

Hernandez Arroyo moves to approve the change, seconded by Rose. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. REPORTS

Director's Report - Rebecca Roesslet

Roesslet started by discussing the influenza vaccination and how that will be starting up in the middle of September, but there is not really an idea on what it is going to be like for the Covid vaccination. Roesslet say that they do not know what the recommendation is going to be for the Covid vaccination, but they are for sure going to have flu vaccines.

Roesslet turns the floor over to Jordan Bales. Bales begins by telling how there has been one confirmed case of N. Fowleri and that it is very rare, but it was not a Boone County resident who was the confirmed case. Bales tells how there have been 1,356 cases of Measles.

Feirman inquirers about if there has been any funding taken away from the health department, Roesslet responds that they have not lost any since the last meeting and she would say that things are stable for the most part. Day ask the question about the talk of the CDC resources being taken away, and wants to know what source would we direct people to if that is the case. Roesslet lets Day know that she will ask her staff and see what kinds of options there are.

VII. GENERAL COMMENTS BY PUBLIC, MEMBERS AND STAFF

None.

VIII. NEXT MEETING DATE

September 11, 2025

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Geiser moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Rose. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 7:06 P.M.