Date Received/Office Staff Initials

WASHOE COUNTY
REGIONAL ANIMAL SERVICES

2825 LONGLEY LANE, STE. A
RENO, NEVADA 89502
CENTER: (775) 353-8900
FAX: (775) 353-8905
www.washoeanimals.com

EXOTIC ANIMAL PERMIT CHECKLIST
WCC 55.650

Non-refundable application fee - $250.00. WCC 55.650(7)

☐ Drawing of the property reflecting layout **and** location of appropriate enclosure, ex. satellite view. WCC 55.650(2)(b)

☐ Drawing of enclosure (including size and type of materials). WCC 55.680 through 55.720

☐ Behavioral enrichment plan for each animal on application. WCC 55.650(2)(c)

☐ Certification that the proposed enclosure comports with applicable local jurisdiction's zoning restrictions. WCC 55.650(2)(e)

☐ Copy of written approval from Nevada Department of Wildlife pursuant to NRS 503.597, if applicable, and if animal is to be imported into the County. WCC 55.650(2)(g)

☐ Emergency preparedness plan: to include a plan and procedures for the animal evacuation, animal escape and contingency animal care. WCC 55.650(2)(f) (*See Emergency Preparedness Form* located in packet)

☐ Authorization letter from HOA/property owner/landlord, as applicable (*HOA/Property Owner/Landlord Form* located in packet). WCC 55.650(2)(d)

☐ Certification of veterinary inspection (required for tier 3 only). WCC 55.650(2)(h)

WASHOE COUNTY
REGIONAL ANIMAL SERVICES

2825 LONGLEY LANE #A
RENO, NEVADA 89502
CENTER: (775) 353-8900
DISPATCH: (775) 322-3647
FAX: (775) 353-8905
www.washoeanimals.com

EXOTIC ANIMAL PERMIT FAQ

Why do I need to have an Exotic Animal permit?
Pursuant to Washoe County Code ("WCC") 55.650, you are required to have an Exotic Animal Permit from Washoe County Regional Animal Services ("WCRAS") to keep tier 2 or tier 3 exotic animals, at any place or residence within Washoe County.

What is a tier 2 or tier 3 exotic animal?
WCC 55.010 defines tier 1, tier 2 and tier 3 exotic animals. If you are unsure under which tier your animal would be classified, please call us at (775) 322-3647, and we can help you.

How do I obtain an application for an Exotic Animal Permit?
You can pick up an application at the WCRAS office at 2825 Longley Lane, Suite A, Reno, Nevada 89502, during normal business hours (Mon-Fri, 8 a.m.- 4 p.m., Sat, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.) or print the online application, which can be found at www.washoeanimals.com.

Is there a fee?
There is a non-refundable $250 application fee to apply for an Exotic Animal Permit.

How long does it take to get a permit?
The time frame for permit review, inspection and approval/denial is 60-90 days, depending on the circumstances related to the permit application.

If my Exotic Animal Permit is approved, what conditions may be placed on my permit? The complete list of requirements can be found within WCC 55.650 to 55.660. This following list is not conclusive and is subject to change dependent on species:

- Annual inspections by WCRAS
- Emergency plan including evacuation and escape procedures
- Animals housed on premises will not likely be subject to cruelty, neglect or abuse
- Certificate of veterinary inspection (Tier 3 animal)
- Liability insurance for each exotic animal; $25,000 (Tier 2 animal) $250,000 (Tier 3 animal)

Is there an annual fee?
There is an annual fee of $250 per permit.

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Do I need to build an enclosure to house my exotic animal?
Possibly, depending on the species you are intending to keep. Enclosure requirements can be found in WCC 55.680 through 55.720. Depending on the species, other conditions, such as a secondary fence around the enclosure, may also be required (WCC 55.730).

Do I need to have my enclosure built before I apply?
No. As part of your application, you must submit drawings showing the method of containment that comports with WCC 55.680 through 55.720, as applicable, and its location on your property. If your permit is approved, you are responsible for obtaining any necessary building permits, and the applicable enclosure must be constructed within 60 days.

Do I need to obtain insurance for my exotic animal?
Yes. Within 30 days of the Exotic Animal Permit approval, you must provide proof to WCRAS of liability insurance for each animal on the permit. Tier 2 animals require $25,000 liability coverage and tier 3 animals require $250,000 liability coverage.

What can I do if I am denied?
If your application for an Exotic Animal Permit is denied, you may appeal the decision within 30 days to the Washoe County Administrative Hearing Office, located at 1001 East 9th Street, Building A, Reno, Nevada 89512. You may also call their office at (775) 328-2001.

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EXOTIC ANIMAL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PLAN
WCC 55.650(2)(f)

Name: _____

Physical Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ (home) _____ (cell) _____ (work)

Emergency Contact(s):

Please list contact information for all persons who can make medical decisions about your animals on your behalf and/or care for your animals should you become incapacitated:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number(s): _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number(s): _____

Please list contact information for all persons who are authorized to provide temporary housing or care for your animals in the event you cannot be reached:

Name, address, phone:

_____

_____

_____

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Where are the exotic animals housed on your property (garage, yard, enclosure in rear of property, residence, etc.)?

Veterinarian Information:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

What specific plans do you have in place to recapture your animal if it should escape from its enclosure and/or escape from your property? (What will you use and who will help you to recapture the animal?)

In the event of an animal's escape, I acknowledge that I am required to report the escape immediately to WCRAS even if I successfully recapture the animal. WCC 55.660(8).

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What specific plans do you have in place to evacuate your exotic animal(s) in the event of an emergency? (Example: transport to friend's house, transport to specific boarding facility).

Do you have the capability to evacuate each animal in an emergency, and how will you do so? (Example: vehicle, horse trailer, crates, etc.).

Permit Applicant: _____ Date:

WASHOE COUNTY
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EXOTIC ANIMAL PERMIT
HOA/PROPERTY OWNER/LANDLORD AUTHORIZATION FORM
WCC 55.650(2)(d)

☐ HOA	☐ Property Owner	☐ Landlord

Applicant: [To be filled out by applicant(s)]
Name(s): _____
Address: _____
Phone Number(s): _____
Number of Animals: _____
Species of Animals: _____

HOA / Property Owner/ Landlord: [To be filled out by HOA/ Property Owner/ Landlord]
Name: _____ Address: _____
Phone Number(s): _____

☐ Approved for ____ (number of) _____ (species of animals)

Any restrictions and/or conditions (continue on additional sheet if necessary):

☐ Denied

Disclaimer: An HOA denial may not result in WCRAS denying the application for an Exotic Animal Permit. However, the applicant should be aware that keeping an exotic animal in derogation of HOA regulations may result in fines, fees or other legal action from the applicant's HOA.

Reason for denial (continue on additional sheet if necessary):

Signature of authorized agent: _____Date _____
(HOA representative, Property owner, or Landlord)

Date Received/Office Staff Initials

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EXOTIC ANIMAL PERMIT APPLICATION

Applicant Name: _____

Co-Applicant Name: _____

Street Address: _____City: _____St: _____ Zip _____

Mailing Address: _____City: _____St: _____ Zip_____

Telephone: Home (___) _____ Work (___) _____ Cell (___) _____

Please mail the completed application and additional required forms (as indicated on the checklist) to 2825 Longley Lane Suite A, Reno, NV 89520, or submit the application in person at: 2825 Longley Lane Suite A, Reno, NV 89520. Upon receipt, an Animal Control Officer will call you to schedule an appointment to meet with you.

Pet Name	Species	Color	Age	F/M	Spay/ Neuter	Microchip # or other identifier
1.						
2.						
3.						
4.						
5.						
6.						

Signature of Applicant_____ Date_____

SUMMARY: An ordinance amending Washoe County Code Chapter 55 by modifying provisions related to exotic animal permits; and by adding and revising various definitions.

BILL NO. 1794

ORDINANCE NO. 1609

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING WASHOE COUNTY CODE CHAPTER 55 BY SEPARATING EXOTIC ANIMALS INTO A THREE-TIERED CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM; BY EXEMPTING TIER 1 EXOTIC ANIMALS FROM THE EXOTIC ANIMAL PERMIT PROCESS; BY REQUIRING PERSONS WISHING TO POSSESS TIER 2 OR TIER 3 EXOTIC ANIMALS TO OBTAIN AN EXOTIC ANIMAL PERMIT; BY AMENDING PROVISIONS RELATED TO THE APPLICATION FOR AN EXOTIC ANIMAL PERMIT, THE PROCESSING OF AN EXOTIC ANIMAL PERMIT, THE REQUIREMENTS OF AND CONDITIONS IMPOSED UPON AN EXOTIC ANIMAL PERMIT, THE APPROVAL OR DENIAL OF AN EXOTIC ANIMAL PERMIT, THE REVOCATION OF AN EXOTIC ANIMAL PERMIT, AND THE APPEAL PROCESS; BY MODIFYING MINIMAL STRUCTURAL ENCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS FOR PRIMATES, FELINES, CANINES, REPTILES, BEARS, HOOFED ANIMALS, MARSUPIALS AND RAPTORS; BY AMENDING PROVISIONS RELATED TO THE IMPOUNDMENT OF EXOTIC ANIMALS; AND BY ADDING AND REVISING VARIOUS DEFINITIONS.

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF WASHOE DO ORDAIN:

SECTION 1. Section 55.010 of the Washoe County Code is hereby amended to add the following new definitions:

"Alternative livestock" means the following species, including subspecies, of the family Cervidae, if they are born and reared in captivity and raised on private property to produce meat or other animal by-products, or as breeding stock to produce alternative livestock:

1. Fallow deer (Dama dama); and
2. Reindeer (Rangifer tarandus).

Persons with alternative livestock must be in compliance with Nevada Administrative Code ("NAC") 503 and 504.

"Amphibian" means any cold-blooded vertebrate of the class Amphibia, comprising frogs, toads, newts, salamanders and caecilians, the larvae being typically aquatic and breathing by gills, and the adults being typically semi-terrestrial and breathing by lungs and/or through the moist, glandular skin.

"Tier 1 exotic animal" means an exotic animal for which an exotic animal permit is not required. Tier 1 exotic animals are

those animals that are customarily sold in a retail pet store, and include but are not limited to, guinea pigs, hamsters, gerbils, rats, mice, gophers, chinchillas, domestic ferrets, domestic farm animals, birds, hedgehogs, sugar gliders and coldblooded species not otherwise listed in tier 2 or tier 3. Tier 1 exotic animal also includes raptors.

"Tier 2 exotic animal" means an exotic animal that may be allowed within all areas of Washoe County with an exotic animal permit. Tier 2 exotic animals include:

1. Any constrictor who, at maturity, is greater than 12 feet in length and 30 pounds in weight, such as but not limited to, the Burmese python;
2. Any Varanidae, who at maturity, is greater than 20 pounds in weight, such as but not limited to, the Nile monitor;
3. Potos flavus, the kinkajou;
4. Cynomys, the prairie dog;
5. All Felidae (except the domestic cat), who at maturity, are less than 65 pounds, including F1 hybrids (exotic cat bred to domestic cat), such as but not limited to, the ocelot and serval;
6. Any other exotic animal that is not identified as a tier 1 or tier 3 exotic animal.

"Tier 3 exotic animal" means an exotic animal that may be allowed within all areas of Washoe County with an exotic animal permit. Tier 3 exotic animals include:

1. All Marsupial (except the sugar glider), such as but not limited to, the kangaroo;
2. All Mustelidae (except the domestic ferret), such as but not limited to, the otter, badger and weasel;
3. All Felidae, who at maturity, are 65 pounds or greater, such as but not limited to, the clouded leopard or tiger;
4. All Ursidae, such as but not limited to, the black or brown bear;
5. All Canidae (except the domestic dog), such as but not limited to, the wolf;
6. All Hyaenidae, such as but not limited to, the spotted hyena or striped hyena;
7. All Procyonidae (except the kinkajou), such as but not limited to, the ring-tailed cat or coati;
8. All non-human primates of the family Hominoidea, such as but not limited to, the gorilla, gibbon, chimpanzee or orangutan;
9. All Cercopithecidae (old world monkey), such as but not limited to, a macaque or baboon;
10. All Aotidae, such as but not limited to, a night monkey;
11. All Atelinae, such as but not limited to, the howler

monkey or spider monkey;
12. All Pitheciidae, such as but not limited to, a titi or saki;
13. All Viverridae, such as but not limited to, a binturong or African palm civet;
14. All venomous reptiles and amphibians that are harmful to humans and pets (except any species of dart frog), such as but not limited to, a rattlesnake;
15. All Crocodilia, such as but not limited to, a crocodile or alligator;
16. The Komodo dragon;
17. All Heloderma, such as a Gila monster or beaded lizard;
18. All Tapiridae, such as a tapir;
19. All Giraffidae, such as a giraffe;
20. All Elephantidae, such as an elephant;
21. The Hippopotamidae, such as a hippopotamus;
22. The Rhinocerotidae, such as a rhinoceros;
23. The Hydrochoerus hydrocaeris, such as a capybara; and
24. Any wild hybrids thereof, such as a tigon or liger.

SECTION 2. Section 55.010 of the Washoe County Code is hereby amended as follows:

Exotic animal includes any bear, canine, feline, hoofed animal, marsupial, primate, any wild hybrids thereof, raptor and reptile.

Primate means any non-human member of the order Primates.

Reptile means any cold-blooded, usually egg-laying vertebrate of the class Reptilia, comprising snakes, lizards, turtles and tortoises, having an external covering of scales or horny plates and breathing by means of lungs.

SECTION 3. Section 55.650 of the Washoe County Code is hereby amended as follows:

55.650 Possession of exotic animals: Exotic animal permit; application for permit to keep a tier 2 or tier 3 exotic animal; inspection; fees.
1. It is unlawful for any person to keep any tier 2 or tier 3 exotic animal within the county without an exotic animal permit approved by regional animal services.
2. Application to keep a tier 2 or tier 3 exotic animal. All persons wishing to keep a tier 2 or tier 3 exotic animal must submit an application to regional animal services and must:
(a) Specify the exotic animal(s) for which the permit is requested;

(b) Submit drawings showing the proposed design and location of the appropriate enclosure required under sections 55.680, 55.690, 55.700, 55.710 and/or 55.720. If the animal(s) is to be kept in an existing enclosure, a detailed drawing of the enclosure must be submitted. All drawings must specify the type and size of the enclosure, the type of material used to construct the enclosure and the location of the enclosure on the premises;

(c) Submit a behavioral enrichment plan that the applicant will implement for the species;

(d) If applicable, submit a letter of approval from the applicant's homeowners' association for the subject property;

(e) Submit a certification that the proposed enclosure comports with the applicable local jurisdiction's zoning restrictions;

(f) Submit a proposed emergency plan, which must include animal evacuation and animal escape procedures, and contingency animal care in the event the applicant becomes incapacitated;

(g) If an exotic animal is to be imported into the county, submit a copy of the written approval received from the department of wildlife pursuant to NRS 503.597; and

(h) Submit a certification of veterinary inspection (required for tier 3 exotic animals only).

3. Upon receipt of the application to keep a tier 2 or tier 3 exotic animal, an animal control officer shall review the submitted materials and conduct an investigation to verify:

(a) Keeping the animal at the location specified in the application comports with the local jurisdiction's zoning requirements; and

(b) The applicant's emergency plan is adequate to safely move the animal during times of emergency and to adequately protect the public in the event the animal escapes.

4. The animal control officer shall also consider:

(a) Any animal related complaints pertaining to the premises; and

(b) Whether the applicant has received a notice of civil penalty or citation for more than one violation of Washoe County Code Chapter 55 within one year immediately preceding the application for an exotic animal permit.

5. The animal control officer shall inspect the premises for which the application for an exotic animal permit is made to determine that:

(a) Keeping the animal(s) at the location specified in the application will not violate any state or local animal welfare laws or regulations;

(b) The enclosure will meet the applicable requirements set forth in sections 55.680, 55.690, 55.700, 55.710 or 55.720;

(c) Maintenance of the animal(s) is not likely to endanger

the peace, health or safety of persons residing in the county; and

(d) The premises are capable of being maintained in a clean and sanitary condition, and any exotic animal(s) housed on the premises is not likely to be subjected to neglect, cruelty or abuse.

6. The animal control officer shall notify and/or contact persons residing within 200 feet of the location at which the exotic animal(s) will be kept or maintained and persons residing on property adjacent to the property for which the exotic animal permit application has been submitted to inform them that an application has been filed. Such persons may submit written objections to the application to regional animal services within 15 days of the notification.

7. Each application shall be accompanied by a nonrefundable fee set by the board of county commissioners.

SECTION 4. Section 55.660 of the Washoe County Code is hereby amended as follows:

55.660 Exotic animal permit: approval or denial of application to keep exotic animal; issuance of permit; appeals.

1. Upon completion of the animal control officer's review, investigation and inspection, the animal control officer shall submit his or her written recommendation to approve or deny the application for an exotic animal permit, along with all supporting documentation, to the director of regional animal services. The animal control officer shall not recommend approval of the permit unless the officer can make the findings set forth in sections 55.650(3) and (5). The animal control officer may also recommend conditions on the issuance of the permit.

2. The director of regional animal services or the director's designee shall review the animal control officer's recommendation, and approve or deny the application for an exotic animal permit within 90 days of receiving the completed application. If approved, the director may impose conditions he or she deems necessary or advisable to the permit, including, but not limited to at what times and under what conditions the animal may be removed from its enclosure. In considering removal of the animal from its enclosure, the director shall consider, among other things, and in the following order of priority:

(a) The effect on public health and safety if such removal is allowed;

(b) Whether the animal should be restrained by leash or other device, while the animal is removed from the enclosure;

(c) Whether, and by what method, the animal will be

transported to other areas within or without the county; and

(d) Whether the method of transportation of the animal is adequate to insure public health and safety.

The holder of an exotic animal permit shall strictly adhere to each condition imposed by the director of regional animal services pursuant to this section. Failure to do so constitutes cause for immediate revocation of the permit to keep the animal.

3. Regional animal services shall impose the following conditions on all exotic animal permits:

(a) Within 30 days of the exotic animal permit's approval, the applicant must provide evidence of liability insurance to cover any personal injuries and property damage inflicted by the exotic animal for which the permit has been issued. Liability insurance must be obtained from an insurer authorized to do business in Nevada, and Washoe County shall be listed as an additional interest for notification purposes. Required insurance coverage is $25,000 for a tier 2 exotic animal and $250,000 for a tier 3 exotic animal;

(b) Within 30 days of the exotic animal permit's approval, the applicant must provide a color photograph of each exotic animal for which the permit has been issued;

(c) The applicant must maintain an annual certificate of veterinary inspection for each tier 3 exotic animal. This certificate must be made available to animal control officers upon request, and during the annual renewal inspection; and

(d) The applicant must grant animal control officers' access to inspect the premises where the exotic animal(s) is located upon reasonable notice at a reasonable time.

4. If the director of regional animal services determines that the applicant must construct or remodel an enclosure to comport with sections 55.680, 55.690, 55.700, 55.710 or 55.720, the applicant must immediately apply to the building department of the local jurisdiction where the enclosure is to be located for the appropriate permits. The enclosure must be constructed or remodeled within 60 days of issuance of the building permit and in strict compliance with the provisions this chapter, including any conditions imposed by the director of regional animal services.

5. If the director of regional animal services denies an application for an exotic animal permit, the director shall provide the applicant with written reasons for the denial.

6. If the director of regional animal services denies an application for an exotic animal permit, or if the applicant disagrees with a condition on the permit, the applicant may file an appeal with the administrative hearing office not later than 30 days after receiving the director's written notification that the application has been approved or denied. A failure to appeal the decision within 30 days precludes further

administrative or judicial review.

7. The administrative hearing office shall hold a hearing on the appeal as soon as practicable. If the administrative hearing officer affirms the director's decision, the applicant may file a petition for judicial review in the district court within 30 days.

8. Any person having custody or control of a tier 2 or tier 3 exotic animal must provide immediate notice to regional animal services of the animal's death, relocation or escape. Such person shall be liable for costs incurred by regional animal services and/or any law enforcement agency involved as a result of the animal's escape.

9. A permit obtained under this section is valid for one year and must be renewed annually. However, when the location where the animal is kept changes, the permit automatically becomes void and a new application must be submitted to regional animal services.

10. Any person who holds a valid exotic animal permit with regional animal services as of April 1, 2018 may continue to possess the permitted exotic animal(s) at their current permitted location, and shall continue to comply with the conditions placed on their permits.

SECTION 5. Section 55.670 of the Washoe County Code is hereby amended as follows:

55.670 Exotic animal permit: revocation; appeal.

1. The holder of an exotic animal permit is subject to continued compliance with the provisions of sections 55.650 to 55.730, inclusive, and to any conditions imposed on the permit. An exotic animal permit issued under sections 55.650 to 55.730, inclusive, may be revoked if:

(a) the permittee receives more than one notice of civil penalty or citation for violating the provisions of Washoe County Code Chapter 55 within the permit year;

(b) the permittee receives a notice of civil penalty or citation for cruelty to animals, as described in section 55.140, or state law;

(c) the permittee fails to comply with the provisions of sections 55.650 to 55.730, inclusive, or

(d) the permittee fails to comply with any condition(s) imposed on the permit.

2. If an animal control officer determines that a permittee has engaged in activity in violation of section 55.670(1)(a) or (b), or is not complying with the provisions of sections 55.650 to 55.730, inclusive, or with any conditions imposed on the permit, the animal control officer may submit his or her recommendation to revoke the exotic animal permit, along with

supporting documentation, to the director of regional animal services. If the director revokes an exotic animal permit, the permittee shall be advised in writing of the reason(s) for the revocation, and the permittee may appeal that decision to the administrative hearing office not later than 30 days after receiving the notice. A failure to appeal the director's decision within 30 days precludes further administrative or judicial review.

3. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, in cases where an animal control officer believes that the health and safety of the public or the exotic animal is in jeopardy, the animal control officer may take immediate action to suspend the permit, and may take appropriate action to protect the health and safety of the public or the animal, including, but not limited to removing the animal from the premises.

4. A permittee aggrieved by the administrative hearing officer's decision may file a petition for judicial review in the district court within 30 days. During the course of judicial review, the exotic animal permit's revocation shall be held in abeyance until a decision is rendered by the district court.

5. If an exotic animal permit is revoked, the owner of the animal which is the subject of the permit shall transfer ownership of the exotic animal to another person who is capable of compliance with this chapter, or alternatively, shall remove it from the county. If the exotic animal is transferred within Washoe County, the transferee shall immediately apply for an exotic animal permit. If a permit is not obtained, the animal shall be confiscated by regional animal services.

SECTION 6. Section 55.680 of the Washoe County Code is hereby amended as follows:

55.680 Enclosures for primates; minimum structural requirements.

1. The minimum enclosure and shelter requirements specified in subsections 2 to 8 inclusive, shall be adhered to before a primate may be kept pursuant to a permit issued under the provisions of section 55.660.

2. Enclosures for small size primates, such as marmosets and squirrel monkeys, shall be not less than 3 feet by 4 feet by 4 feet (48 cubic feet) for two or less of such primates. The size of the enclosure shall be increased by not less than 1 foot by 3 feet by 4 feet (12 cubic feet) for each additional small size primate.

3. Enclosures for medium size primates, such as capuchins, shall be not less than 6 feet by 6 feet by 6 feet (216 cubic feet) for two or less of such primates. The size of the

enclosure shall be increased by 2 feet by 4 feet by 6 feet (48 cubic feet) for each additional medium size primate.

4. Enclosures for large size primates, such as spider monkeys, woolies and macaques, shall be not less than 10 feet by 10 feet by 8 feet (800 cubic feet) for two or less of such primates. The size of the enclosure shall be increased by not less than 10 feet by 20 feet by 8 feet (1,600 cubic feet) when there are more than two but less than five of such primates. The size of the enclosure shall be increased by 4 feet by 10 feet by 8 feet (320 cubic feet) for each additional large size primate thereafter.

5. Enclosures for large size primates, such as chimpanzees, gorillas, orangutans and gibbons, shall meet Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) specifications unless regional animal services determines, under the circumstances, that other specifications are appropriate.

6. Enclosures for small and medium size primates shall be constructed of not less than 9 gauge chain link or heavy wrapped wire. The floor of such enclosures shall consist of concrete, wood or gravel. All enclosures shall have a secure top.

7. All primates shall have access at all times to an area sheltered from adverse climatic conditions. The sheltered area shall be heated during winter months.

8. Regional animal services may require security fencing surrounding any primate enclosure if it determines, under the circumstances, that such fencing is warranted.

SECTION 7. Section 55.690 of the Washoe County Code is hereby amended as follows:

55.690 Enclosures for felines; minimum structural requirements.

1. The minimum enclosure and shelter requirements specified in subsection 2 to 7 inclusive, shall be adhered to before a feline may be kept pursuant to a permit issued under the provisions of section 55.660.

2. Enclosures for small size felines, 65 pounds and under, such as margays, servals and ocelots, shall be not less than 10 feet by 10 feet by 6 feet (600 cubic feet) for two or less of such felines. The size of the enclosure shall be increased to at least 20 feet by 10 feet by 6 feet (1,200 cubic feet) for each additional small size feline.

3. Enclosures for large size felines, over 65 pounds, such as cougars, leopards and jaguars, shall be not less than 10 feet by 20 feet by 8 feet (1,600 cubic feet) for one of such felines. The size of the enclosure shall be increased to at least 20 feet by 20 feet by 8 feet (3,200 cubic feet) when there is more than one but less than four of such felines. The size of the

enclosure for four or more of such felines shall be established by regional animal services on a case-by-case basis.

4. Enclosures for lions shall be not less than 15 feet by 20 feet by 8 feet (2,400 cubic feet) for each lion.

5. Enclosures for tigers shall be not less than 15 feet by 20 feet by 10 feet (3,000 cubic feet) for each tiger.

6. Enclosures for all felines shall be constructed of not less than 9 gauge chain link or comparable material approved by regional animal services. The floor of all enclosures for felines shall consist of concrete or wood. Gravel or dirt flooring may be used if the enclosure is properly secured against escape by such felines through digging. All enclosures must have a secure top, or meet height and cantilever United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) guidelines.

7. All felines shall have access at all times to an area sheltered from adverse climatic conditions.

SECTION 8. Section 55.700 of the Washoe County Code is hereby amended as follows:

55.700 Enclosures for canines; minimum structural requirements.

1. The minimum enclosure and shelter requirements specified in subsection 2 to 4, inclusive, shall be adhered to before a canine may be kept pursuant to a permit issued under the provisions of section 55.660.

2. Enclosures for canines, such as wolves and coyotes, shall be not less than 10 feet by 20 feet by 6 feet (1,200 cubic feet) for one of such canines. The size of the enclosure shall be increased to at least 20 feet by 20 feet by 6 feet (2,400 cubic feet) when there is more than one but less than five of such canines. The size of the enclosure for five or more of such canines shall be established by regional animal services on a case-by-case basis.

3. Enclosures for canines shall be constructed of not less than 9 gauge chain link or comparable material approved by regional animal services. The floor of such enclosures shall consist of concrete. Gravel or dirt flooring may be used if the enclosure is properly secured against escape by such canines through digging. All enclosures shall have a secure top, or meet height and cantilever USDA guidelines.

4. All canines shall have access at all times to an area sheltered from adverse climatic conditions.

SECTION 9. Section 55.710 of the Washoe County Code is hereby amended as follows:

55.710 Enclosures for reptiles; minimum structural

requirements.

1. The minimum enclosure and shelter requirements specified in subsections 2 to 5, inclusive, shall be adhered to before a reptile may be kept pursuant to a permit issued under the provisions of section 55.660.

2. Enclosures for reptiles shall be of an escape-proof design with sufficient area to insure that the reptile obtains necessary exercise. Enclosures shall be constructed of materials that allow for proper sanitation, and cage furnishings must be removable to facilitate sanitation. Enclosures shall be constructed in such a manner as to produce as closely as possible the temperature, humidity and other conditions found in the reptile's native environment.

3. Enclosures for reptiles shall conform to the following specifications:

(a) Size requirements for snakes:

(1) Floor space: The width of the enclosure shall be equal to or greater than one-half the body length of the snake; the length of the enclosure shall be equal to or greater than the body length of the snake; and

(2) Height: equal to or greater than the flat coil dimension.

(b) Size requirements for lizards:

(1) Floor space (length of enclosure): at least one and one-half times the length of the animal;

(2) Floor space (width of enclosure): at least one-half the length of the animal;

(3) Height: equal to or greater than the length of the animal for arboreal;

(4) Height: at least one-half the length of animal for terrestrial.

4. Enclosures for venomous reptiles shall not be constructed of screen wire unless the wire is at least 2 layers thick with a space of not less than 1 inch between layers.

5. Enclosures for potentially dangerous or venomous reptiles shall have an appropriate warning sign affixed thereto and shall be equipped with a locking device.

SECTION 10. Section 55.720 of the Washoe County Code is hereby amended as follows:

55.720 Enclosures for bears, hoofed animals, marsupials and, raptors; minimum structural requirements.

1. The minimum structural enclosure and shelter requirements specified in subsection 2 and 3 shall be adhered to before a bear, hoofed animal, marsupial or raptor may be kept pursuant to a permit issued under the provisions of section 55.660.

2. The size of enclosures for bears, hoofed animals,

marsupials and raptors shall be established by regional animal services on a case-by-case basis. Regional animal services may require that the enclosures be at least equal in size to county, state or federal zoo enclosures for such animals.

3. Raptors shall be kept in accordance with all applicable provisions and standards found in the falconry regulations (Commission General Regulation No. 15) of the board of wildlife commissioners.

SECTION 11. Section 55.730 of the Washoe County Code is hereby amended as follows:

55.730 Additional standards. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this chapter, the director of regional animal services may require that security fencing and double gates be installed with any enclosure if he or she determines that such fencing and gates are warranted for animal welfare or to protect the public.

SECTION 12. Section 55.740 of the Washoe County Code is hereby amended as follows:

55.740 Impoundment of exotic animals.

1. Any exotic animal which is kept by any person in contravention of sections 55.650 to 55.730, inclusive, may be taken up and impounded by an animal control officer for the protection of public health and safety as well as for the protection and health of the animal. Whenever possible, the animal control officer shall take up and impound the animal in the presence of the owner.

2. If an exotic animal is impounded pursuant to subsection 1, regional animal services shall notify the animal's owner either in person or, if the owner is not present when impoundment occurs, by certified mail, return receipt requested. Notification shall be considered completed on the date that the owner of the animal is personally notified, or if notified by certified mail, on the date indicated on the return receipt. If the exotic animal owner holds an exotic animal permit issued under the provisions of section 55.660, the notice of impoundment shall be accompanied by notice of immediate suspension or revocation.

3. Any animal impounded pursuant to this section shall be cared for at the expense of the owner. If the animal is being held pending a revocation appeal, the animal shall be kept in impound until any appeal is concluded or ownership is relinquished.

4. If the appeal is upheld or ownership is relinquished, regional animal services may release the animal to a receiving

sanctuary, rescue or releasing agency. If regional animal services is unable to transfer the animal to a sanctuary, rescue or releasing agency with the appropriate local, state and/or federal licensing and permits, the animal may be euthanized in a humane manner.

[Business Impact Note: The Board of County Commissioners hereby finds that this ordinance does not impose a direct and significant economic burden upon a business, nor does it directly restrict the formation, operation or expansion of a business.]

Proposed on the 9th day of January, 2018.

Proposed by Commissioner Hartung.

Passed on the 23rd day of January, 2018.

Vote:

Ayes: Marsha Berkbigler, Kitty Jung and Bob Lucey

Nays: Vaughn Hartung and Jeanne Herman

Absent: none.

Marsha Berkbigler
Chair
Washoe County Commission

ATTEST:

Nancy L. Parent
County Clerk

This ordinance shall be in force and effect from and after April 1, 2018.