***BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS***

***WORKSHOP: ANIMAL CONTROL***

***FEBRUARY 18, 2014***

The Board of County Commissioners in and for Wakulla County, Florida met for a regular scheduled Workshop on Tuesday, February 18, 2014, Chairman Richard Harden presiding. Present were Commissioners Ralph Thomas, Howard Kessler, Jerry Moore, and Randy Merritt. Also, present were County Administrator David Edwards, County Attorney Heather Encinosa and Deputy Clerk Evelyn Evans

5:00 p.m. The Workshop was called to order by Chairman Harden.

The Workshop objective is to allow Board discussion of the current status of Animal Control and to allow Board and citizen input.

Changes have taken place over the past years that have resulted in a change of policy of the Board’s oversight of Animal Control and a change in the way Animal Control is functioning.

Commissioner Kessler asked to have the Workshop and he expressed what his concerns were as it pertains to Animal Control. He said that there has been a change in policy as no policy has come before the Board to prohibit Animal Control from becoming an adoption facility. It appears that they have taken on a mission of an adoption center without Board approval. If the County is engaged in the adoption of animals it becomes an increased liability for the County.

Director Ivanhoe Carroll was present and provided an overview of the shelter. Animal Control was previously under the direction of the Sheriff and in 2009 the structure changed and Animal Control came back to the Board.

There were numerous citizens present to speak in support of the Animal Shelter and expressed that the shelter is running well and would like to see it continue.

The County Administrator will proceed with the RFP for adoption and the Board should be involved in any setting of policy as it relates to Animal Control.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned by order of the Chair at 6:00 p.m.