DOG ORDINANCE

§ 54-2. License required; exception.
No person shall keep or harbor any dog within the limits of Breckenridge unless such dog is properly licensed in accordance with the provisions of this chapter. Persons visiting Breckenridge for 30 days or less are not required to license their dog.

§ 54-3. Annual license tags; fees; number of dogs.
License tags shall be issued annually for a one-year period, which shall begin on March 15 of each year. The license fee for each male dog and spayed female and for each unspayed female dog shall be as provided in Chapter 86, Fees ($10.00). No person shall counterfeit license tags or otherwise fraudulently display any facsimile thereof or purchase more than one license for a dog except as provided. No household shall keep or maintain more than two dogs as are required to be licensed nor shall the City Administrator or his or her designee issue more than two dog licenses to any household unless said household otherwise is properly licensed as a kennel.

§ 54-4. Time limit for licensing of dogs brought into city; rabies vaccination.
The City Administrator shall secure tags in a design and color necessary to readily distinguish the year of license. As to newly acquired dogs brought into the City of Breckenridge during the year, licenses shall be acquired within 15 days after such dog is acquired or brought into the city, except as provided. No dog license shall be issued for any dog that has not been immunized against rabies by vaccination during the two years preceding the application for such license. All dogs kept in the city that are unlicensed because their age will not permit them to be safely vaccinated as required must be fitted with a collar and identification of the owner.

§ 54-5. Application; issuance of license; records.
Applications for dog licenses shall be made with the City Administrator or his or her designee (Dakota Veterinary Hospital). Upon payment of the required license fee and a presentation of a certificate from a licensed veterinarian or the production of other satisfactory evidence that the dog has been immunized against rabies by vaccination within two years preceding the date of the application, the license may be issued. The City Administrator shall cause to be kept a record of all licenses, the name and address of the owner, the date the dog was immunized against rabies, the license number issued and description and name of the dog.

§ 54-6. Affixing of tag to collar; removal.
The owner of the dog shall cause the license tag to be affixed to the collar of the dog so licensed and shall see that the license tag is constantly worn by the dog. No person shall wrongfully remove a tag or identification legally placed on a dog.
§ 54-7. Duplicate tag; fee.
In the event a license tag is lost or otherwise missing from a licensed dog, a duplicate may be procured from the City Administrator upon a payment of a fee as provided in Chapter 86, Fees.

§ 54-8. Dogs running at large.
No dog shall run at large in the city limits of the City of Breckenridge whether such dog is licensed or not. The police or Dog Catcher may impound such dog.

§ 54-9. Dog bites; rabies investigation; destruction of dogs.
Any dog which bites or scratches any person shall be immediately confined or impounded under the supervision of the police or operator of the pound. When it is believed that an unvaccinated dog is responsible, the health office shall be notified and such dog confined or impounded for observation for such time as deemed necessary, or such dog may be destroyed and its carcass examined for the purpose of determining if it has rabies. Any dog or animal found to have rabies shall be destroyed. The owner shall be responsible for payment of all expenses in boarding animals confined as a result of rabies investigation. Any dangerous, vicious or diseased dog or other animal, whether licensed or not, found running at large may be summarily destroyed by the police without notice to the owner.

§ 54-10. Animal pound.
An animal pound is hereby authorized. Such pound shall be approved by the City Administrator and the Chief of Police. The pound should meet the reasonable standards of cleanliness and security. The operator of the pound shall be responsible for the humane care and custody of all animals impounded. Police or dog catchers shall be provided access to the impoundment facility 24 hours per day every day. The City Administrator and Chief of Police may approve reasonable and customary hours and rates or fees charged by the pound for services rendered. Such services may include keeping impound records, issuing dog licenses, collecting fees and penalties as authorized, notification of owners when identified, boarding and destroying animals as provided in this chapter.

The City Council may authorize the City Administrator to retain the services of a Dog Catcher to assist police in capturing and impounding dogs. The Dog Catcher shall work under the supervision of the Chief. Such Dog Catcher may serve in a part-time capacity. The City Administrator shall negotiate with other agencies if necessary for equipment and compensation and hours of work to best benefit the city.

§ 54-12. Power of police and Dog Catcher.
No one shall in any way interfere with the police or Dog Catcher in the performance of their duties. The Dog Catcher shall be empowered to cite all violations under this chapter. For the purpose of enforcing this chapter, the police and Dog Catcher are authorized and empowered to enter upon any private premises where they have reasonable cause to believe there is an unlicensed dog, a dog running at large or an animal causing a nuisance.
§ 54-13. Minimum impoundment period; disposal of impounded dogs.
All impounded dogs shall be kept at the pound for a minimum of five full days beginning at 12:00 midnight the date of their capture and impoundment, unless redeemed by the owner. After such period, impounded dogs may be destroyed or disposed of as provided in this chapter; provided, however, that no dog shall be destroyed on a Sunday or legal holiday. In the event the five-day period would expire on a Sunday or legal holiday, such impounded dog shall be kept in the pound until the following Monday or day after the holiday.