BYLAWS

OF

WEST COAST DOG AND CAT RESCUE

Adopted: Jan 4, 2015 (Date)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ARTICLE I. PURPOSE

Section 1. Purpose

ARTICLE II. NONVOTING MEMBERS

Section 1. Nonvoting Members

Section 2. Rights and Obligations of Nonvoting Members

ARTICLE III. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. Duties of the Board

Section 2. Qualifications of Directors

Section 3. Number of Directors

Section 4. Terms of Directors

Section 5. Selection of Directors

Section 6. Filling Vacancies

Section 7. Removal of Directors

Section 8. Resignation of Directors

Section 9. Election of Officers

Section 10. Conduct of Directors

Section 11. Quorum

Section 12. Decision-Making and Voting

Section 13. No Proxy Voting

Section 14. Meetings

Section 15. Executive Session Meetings

Section 16. Telephonic Meetings

Section 17. Decisions Without Meetings

Section 18. Notice of Meetings

Section 19. Waiver of Notice

Section 20. Authority of Directors

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS AND STAFF

Section 1. Officers

Section 2. Election and Term of Office

Section 3. Removal

Section 4. Vacancies

Section 5. President

Section 6. Vice President/President Elect

Section 7. Secretary

Section 8. Treasurer

Section 9. Chair

Section 10. Executive Director and Staff

ARTICLE V. COMMITTEES

Section 1. Establishment

Section 2. Board Committees

Section 3. Non-Board Committees

Section 4. Committee Members

Section 5. Chair

Section 6. Committee Procedures

Section 7. Limitation on Powers

ARTICLE VI. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Section 1. Compensation of Officers and Directors

Section 2. Conflicts of Interest

Section 3. Tax Year

Section 4. Financial Controls

Section 5. Annual Financial Assessment

Section 6. No Discrimination

ARTICLE VII. AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws

NOTE: The Oregon Nonprofit Corporation Act (ORS Chapter 65) both establishes and limits the powers and procedures available to nonprofit corporations. Where any questions arise about the meaning of these bylaws, or where these bylaws are silent on an issue, the Oregon Nonprofit Corporation Act should be consulted. If you would like assistance in updating, amending, or interpreting these bylaws, contact David Atkin, Attorney, at Nonprofit Support Services.

BYLAWS

OF

WEST COAST DOG AND CAT RESCUE

ARTICLE I. PURPOSE

Section 1. <u>Purpose</u> The purposes of West Coast Dog and Cat Rescue are exclusively those allowed for organizations defined under §501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Within these limits, the purposes of WCDC include the following:

To reduce the number of animals euthanized in our community by providing the animals temporary housing, in foster homes or other suitable venues, until they can be placed in adoptive homes.

To work to reduce the feral cat population through education and through a trap neuter-release program.

To educate the public in areas of humane treatment of animals, the importance of spaying and neutering, the importance of pet adoption, and animal husbandry skills to help eliminate the need to euthanize animals due to lack of space in existing shelters and humane societies.

To work with humane societies, other animal rescue groups, the public and governmental agencies to offer relief from pet overpopulation.

To provide medical care to all animals in WCDC custody, through local veterinarians.

ARTICLE II. NONVOTING MEMBERS

Section 1. <u>Nonvoting Members</u>. WCDC will not have voting members who have the authority to vote in the election of the Board of Directors, but may have nonvoting members.

Section 2. <u>Rights and Obligations of Nonvoting Members</u>. The Board of Directors may, at its sole discretion, by ordinary resolutions establish categories of nonvoting membership and determine the dues, obligations, and privileges of members in those categories. The nonvoting members will have no power to vote on the election of directors or members, or to participate in a binding vote on any corporate matters.

ARTICLE III. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. <u>Duties of the Board.</u> The Board of Directors must establish the corporation's policies and review and change them as necessary, oversee its programs, appoint or

employ and supervise its staff director, authorize its expenditures, oversee its financial affairs, and ensure the proper management and use of its assets and property. The Board must also ensure that the corporation properly employs the necessary corporate formalities to make its decisions, that it prepares and submits all required state and federal reports, and that it operates in compliance with relevant state and federal laws. Board members must diligently prepare for, attend, and participate in the meetings of the Board of Directors and any Board committees as needed, in order to carry out these tasks. The Board must meet at least four times per year, and shall strive to do this by meeting at least once each quarter of the year. The role of the Board does not include direct management or conduct of the daily operations of the organization, or the supervision of staff members other than the staff's executive director.

Section 2. <u>Qualifications of Directors</u>. Nominees for positions on the Board of Directors must have exhibited an interest in and commitment to the purposes of WCDC, and must have expertise in areas relevant to the needs of the organization

Section 3. <u>Number of Directors</u>. The Board of Directors will consist of no fewer than three and no more than nine members.

Section 4. <u>Terms of Directors</u>. Directors will serve one-year terms. However, unless they formally resign or are removed from office, directors will remain in office until their successors are properly elected, designated, or appointed. There is no limit to the number of terms, successive or otherwise, a director may serve.

Section 5. <u>Selection of Directors.</u>

A) Directors will be elected by the Board of Directors at an annual meeting held for that purpose. Nominations for new Board members may be made by the Board of Directors, by individual Board members, or by a Nominating Committee.

B) The Board may prepare and adopt by resolution, a formal written policy regarding the details of the Board election process, including requirements for the announcement of elections and the solicitations of nominations, the role of a nominating committee, and the schedule and procedures that must be used to hold elections.

C) The Annual election meeting for the election of directors will take place during the <u>1st</u> <u>quarter of the calendar year</u>, unless the meeting is set for a different period of the year by resolution of the board. The exact time and location of the election meeting will be set by resolution of the Board.

Section 6. <u>Filling Vacancies</u>. The Board of Directors, by a majority vote of all of the Directors in office, may elect new directors to fill any vacancies on the Board, including vacancies created by the passage of a resolution increasing the total number of Board member positions. A director elected to fill a vacancy will serve the remainder of the term normally associated with that position.

Section 7. Removal of Directors. A director may be removed for the causes stated in these bylaws by a majority of the directors in office not counting the director to be removed. A director may be removed without cause by a two-thirds vote of the directors in office, excluding the director to be removed. The person being considered for removal has no vote in the process of removal. Notice of the meeting must be given that states that the removal of a director is to be considered at that meeting. A director may be removed for the following causes: repeated failures to attend Board meetings, failing to fulfill the duties required of directors, or intentional acts or omissions that a prudent person could reasonably have foreseen would seriously damage the reputation or interests of the corporation.

Section 8. <u>Resignation of Directors</u>. A director may resign at any time. The resignation of a director must be in writing and be delivered to the Board of Directors, its presiding officer, the president, or the secretary. Once delivered, a notice of resignation is irrevocable.

Section 9. <u>Election of Officers</u>. As soon as possible following each annual election of directors, the Board of Directors must elect officers of the corporation.

Section 10. <u>Conduct of Directors</u>. <u>Directors must discharge their duty of loyalty and their duty of diligence in good faith with the care an ordinarily prudent person in a like position would exercise under similar circumstances and in a manner the director reasonably believes to be in the best interest of the corporation.</u>

Section 11. <u>Quorum.</u> At all meetings of the Board of Directors, the presence or participation of a quorum, which is at least a fifty-one percent (51 %) majority of the number of Directors in office immediately before the meeting begins, is necessary to allow the transaction of corporate business or the making of corporate decisions.

Section 12. <u>Decision-Making and Voting.</u> The directors must diligently and conscientiously attempt to make decisions by consensus. They must employ all standard consensus practices and techniques including the expression and careful consideration of minority views. When a consensus apparently cannot be achieved, any director may request and require that a vote be taken instead. The affirmative vote of at least a majority of all of the Directors in office is necessary and sufficient to make a decision of the Board of Directors of unless a greater proportion is required by law or by these bylaws. An abstention counts as part of the total number of votes cast, and does not reduce the number of affirmative votes required to pass a motion.

All decisions require a clearly stated motion, a second, and a vote that must be recorded in the written minutes. Each member of the Board of Directors will have one vote. At the request of any director, the names will be recorded in the minutes of each director who voted for, voted against, or abstained on a particular motion.

Section 13. No Proxy Voting. No voting by proxy is allowed at any meeting of the Board of Directors or as part of reaching any decision of the Board.

Section 14. <u>Meetings.</u> The Board must meet at least four times per year, and shall strive to do this by meeting at least once each quarter of the year. Meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the president, the chair of the Board, or 50% of the directors in office. <u>Roberts Rules of Order</u> may be consulted for guidance but shall not be binding.

Section 15. Executive Session Meetings. The Board President or the Board by a majority vote of the Directors present may at any time decide to go into an Executive Session meeting. Executive Session shall be used when the Board deems it is necessary to protect the confidentiality of the matters that will be considered there. Executive Session meetings may be attended only by members of the Board of Directors, and any guests the Board invites to join the meeting, which may include the Executive Director, other staff, or any other person the Board wishes to invite. A Director may also be excluded from any portion of Executive Session meetings in which matters will be considered that present a conflict of interest for that Director. Minutes shall be properly recorded, but shall only be read or approved at a subsequent Executive Session if there is a need to continue to insure the confidentiality of the matters contained in the minutes. The Secretary shall take care to record in the minutes only the motions passed and information essential to comply with the law, in order to protect the confidential nature of Executive Sessions.

Section 16. <u>Telephonic Meetings</u>. Meetings may be held by telephone, video conferencing, internet based communication or other method, as long as all participating directors may simultaneously hear and speak with each other. A director participating in such a meeting is deemed present for purposes of a quorum.

Section 17. Decisions By Mail or Email. The Board may use mail, fax or email to make any decision or take any action that is within its power, without a real-time meeting, through the use of a "Unanimous Consent Resolution." A clearly stated motion must be sent to all of the directors on the Board by mail, fax or email, with clear instructions that this process requires 100% of the directors to vote "yes" for the motion to pass. If the motion is sent by mail or fax, then it must be signed and returned by mail or fax by each director. If the motion is sent by email then each director must send their vote by email in reply, in which case no signature is necessary. Motions are adopted and effective on the date that all directors in office have responded with an affirmative "yes" vote. If any director votes "no," abstains, or fails to vote, then the motion fails to pass. A printed record of each director's vote must be kept in the corporate records.

Section 18. <u>Notice of Meetings</u>. Notice must be given of every meeting of the Board, stating the date, time, and location of the meeting, and the purpose of the meeting if so required by law or these bylaws. The notice must be given not less than 2 days in advance of the meeting if delivered by telephone conversation or in person, and not less than 7 days in advance if delivered by first class mail, email, or fax to an address provided by the individual director.

Regular meetings: After the initial notice is given of the schedule for a series of regular meetings, which will occur at a fixed time and place, no further separate notice is required for each of those regular meetings. Notice must state the time, date, and location of the meeting. The Board may by resolution establish or change the dates of regularly scheduled meetings, with proper notice given to all directors.

Section 19. <u>Waiver of Notice</u>. Any director may waive the right to receive full advance notice of any meeting. Waivers of notice must be in writing, signed by the person entitled to notice, and given to the secretary to be placed in the corporate records. Waivers may be signed before or after the meeting has taken place. The attendance of a director at any meeting without specific objection to the notice constitutes a waiver of the right to receive full notice of that meeting.

Section 20. <u>Authority of Directors</u>. The president shall be an official spokesperson for WCDC, and may represent the organization and its positions whenever appropriate. No other member of the Board of Directors may officially represent the positions of the organization or speak or act on behalf of the corporation without specific approval by the Board to do so.

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS AND STAFF

Section 1. Officers. The officers of WCDC must carry out the policies and decisions of the Board of Directors as directed by the Board. Officers must include a president, secretary, and treasurer, and may also include a vice president/president elect, a chairperson and any other officers the Board may desire. The same person may not hold the offices of president and secretary at the same time, but the same person may hold any other two offices. Officers do not have to serve simultaneously as members of the Board of Directors. Officers who are not members of the Board have no right to vote on Board decisions.

Section 2. <u>Election and Term of Office</u>. The officers of WCDC will be elected for a oneyear term by the Board of Directors. Election of officers must be done as soon as possible following the election of directors. However, unless they formally resign or are removed from office, officers will remain in office until their successors are properly elected, designated or appointed. There is no limit to the number of terms, successive or otherwise, an officer may serve.

Section 3. <u>Removal.</u> Any officer elected by the Board of Directors may be removed by the Board of Directors whenever, in its judgment, the interests of the corporation would be best served by such removal. The person being considered for removal has no vote in the process of removal.

Section 4. <u>Vacancies</u>. If any office of the corporation becomes vacant by death, resignation, retirement, removal, disqualification, or any other cause, the remaining directors still in office, although less than a quorum, may elect or appoint an officer to

fill such a vacancy. The elected officer will hold office for the unexpired portion of the term of that office.

Section 5. <u>President.</u> The president is the principal officer of the corporation and will, in general, supervise or oversee the supervision of all of the affairs of the corporation. The president generally will preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors unless the Board selects another person to preside. The president must also perform other duties as may be assigned by the Board of Directors. The president may serve as an ex-officio member of any committee.

Section 6. <u>Vice-President/President Elect.</u> In the absence of the president or in the event of the president's inability to act, the vice-president performs the duties of the president. The vice-president, when acting as president, has all the powers of and is subject to all the restrictions on the president. The vice-president must also perform other duties assigned by the Board of Directors. More than one position of vicepresident may be created and their duties clarified in an ordinary resolution of the Board.

Section 7. Secretary. The secretary must perform or oversee the performance of the following duties: a) record and keep the minutes of the meetings of the members and of the Board of Directors or any Board committees, b) see that all notices are duly given in accordance with the provisions of these bylaws or as required by law; c) be custodian of the corporate records; d) keep a register of each member's mailing address provided by such member; e) ensure that all required state and federal reports are prepared and filed in a timely fashion; and f) perform or oversee all duties incident to the office of secretary and such other duties as from time to time may be assigned by the president or by the Board of Directors. The Secretary may delegate some or all of these tasks but remains responsible for their proper completion.

Section 8. <u>Treasurer.</u> The treasurer must perform or oversee the performance of the following duties: a) be responsible for the proper management and control of all funds of the corporation; b) prepare full and accurate financial records on a timely basis of all of the income, expenses, and assets of the corporation; c) present reports at Board meetings on the financial affairs of the corporation; and d) provide financial information necessary to prepare and file the required reports to state and federal government agencies, showing the income, disbursements, and assets of the corporation. The Treasurer may delegate some or all of these tasks but remains responsible for their proper completion.

Section 9. <u>Chair.</u> The Board may elect a chair and determine his or her duties.

Section 10. Executive Director and Staff. The Board may appoint or employ an executive director or other staff, whether paid or unpaid, to perform and conduct the programs and activities of the organization. The Board of Directors shall evaluate the performance of the Executive Director on an annual basis. Unless the Board determines otherwise, the executive director will have the power, subject to the approval of the

Board of Directors, to hire staff, establish staff duties and performance standards, evaluate the performance of staff, and when necessary terminate the employment of staff of the corporation. The Executive Director shall receive notice of all Board meetings and Executive Committee meetings, and shall ordinarily attend all Board meetings, except when the Board goes in to Executive Session to meet without the Executive Director present.

ARTICLE V. COMMITTEES

Section 1. <u>Establishment.</u> The Board may establish any committee, including standing committees or temporary committees, by a resolution of the Board. Such resolutions must name the committee and the purpose of the committee, must state whether it is a "Board" committee or a "non-Board" committee, as defined below.

Section 2. <u>Board Committees</u>. The Board may establish "Board" committees to which are delegated part of the power of the whole Board to authorize expenditures, approve amendments to budgets, set policies, and authorize programs or activities. Such committees must be established by the affirmative vote of at least a majority of all directors then in office. Board Committees must consist of two or more directors, and they must not have any members who are not members of the Board of Directors. Board Committees must follow all of the meeting requirements that the Board of Directors itself must follow, including the requirements for proper notice, for having a quorum to conduct votes, the passage of motions, the writing of minutes, and the subsequent approval and permanent storage of Board Committee minutes. The Board may require further procedures that Board Committees must follow as well. For all Board committees, the Board must pass a resolution that clearly states what powers, authority, and duties have been delegated to the committee, who is the chair of the committee, and who are the members of the committee.

Section 3. Non-Board Committees.

A. The Board may establish "non-Board" committees, including working committees or advisory committees, which do not have the power to authorize expenditures, adopt budgets, set policy, establish programs, or make decisions for the corporation. Such committees are established through a resolution adopted by the directors present at a properly called meeting. Any person may be a member of such a committee, whether or not that person is a member of the Board of Directors.

B. Financial Oversight Committee. The Board shall be responsible for financial oversight of the organization's income and expenses. The Board may do this itself or may form a Financial Oversight Committee. The Board or committee shall be responsible for overseeing the organization's financial transactions and the implementation of the organization's financial policies. There shall be a review on a quarterly basis of the organization's expenditures, financial transactions, bank statements, returned checks, and credit card statements.

Section 4. <u>Committee Members</u>. The Board must appoint the members of every Board committee. The Board may appoint the members of Non-Board Committees, or delegate this task to the President or the Committee Chair. The term of office of a member of a committee will continue until his or her successor is appointed unless the committee is terminated, the member resigns or is removed from the committee, or the member ceases to qualify as a member of the committee.

Section 5. <u>Chair.</u> One member of each committee will be selected or appointed chair by the Board, or if the Board wishes, it may delegate that power to the president or the members of the committee.

Section 6. <u>Committee Procedures</u>. Unless otherwise specified, Board Committee meetings will operate with the same quorum and voting requirements as the full Board, and as far as possible will operate according to the procedures of the Board as stated in these bylaws. If any formal decisions or resolutions are voted on at a committee meeting, then the votes and the resolutions so adopted must be recorded in the form of corporate minutes and filed with the secretary.

Section 7. <u>Limitation on Powers.</u> No committee may a) elect, appoint, or remove any officer, member of the Board of Directors, or member of a Board committee; b) authorize the sale, lease, exchange, or mortgage of all or substantially all of the property and assets of the corporation; c) authorize the dissolution of the corporation or revoke proceedings therefore; or d) amend, alter, or repeal the Articles, the bylaws, or any resolution of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VI. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Section 1. Compensation of Officers and Directors. No officer or member of the Board of Directors will receive any compensation for fulfilling the responsibilities of a member of the Board or of an officer as defined in these bylaws. However, the corporation may pay compensation to officers and members of the Board of Directors for other services performed as employees or independent contractors as long as the required rules for conflicts of interest are followed. Board members and their relatives who receive regular compensation from the corporation must always constitute less than a majority of the Board. Officers and members of the Board of Directors may receive reimbursement for actual expenses they incur in the course of fulfilling their responsibilities.

Section 2. <u>Conflicts of Interest.</u> A conflict of interest is always present whenever the corporation pays money or other compensation, or provides any tangible benefits, to an officer or member of the Board or to a member of a director's or officer's family. All transactions involving conflicts of interest must be approved using the following procedures: 1) Conflict of interest transactions must be approved by the full Board of Directors; they cannot be approved by staff, the executive director, or by a committee. 2) Directors and officers who have a conflict of interest in any matter must a) declare

the existence of any direct or indirect conflict of interest, b) disclose the details of the proposed transaction on the record, c) abstain from voting on that matter and d) leave the room where the vote is to take place, until the votes have been counted. The minutes must record this to show that it was done. 3) The rest of the Board must analyze the transaction and sufficient information to ensure that all transactions involving a conflict of interest are fair to the corporation and that no special benefits are being given to any person. The information relied upon by the Board, and its source, must be recorded in the minutes. 4) All conflict-of-interest transactions must be approved by the affirmative vote of a majority of all of the members of the Board of Directors who do not have a conflict of interest involved in that issue, as long as no less than two disinterested directors vote to approve the transaction.

Section 3. <u>Tax Year.</u> The tax year of the corporation is the calendar year.

Section 4. <u>Financial Controls.</u> The Board of Directors shall adopt formal Board policies that provide a system of financial controls that are adequate to prevent the misuse, embezzlement or theft of the organization's funds and assets, and that would discover it if those problems or crimes were to occur. Those financial policies shall require that there must be at least two separate levels of financial operations, and that those operations shall be performed by different people: 1) those with the authority to sign checks or spend the organization's money; and 2) those who are the bookkeeper(s) who record and track the income and expenditures. This means that the persons who have authority to sign the corporation's checks or use its credit cards shall not be allowed to also serve as the organization's bookkeeper(s); and that the organization's bookkeeper(s) shall not be given permission or authority to spend the organization's money, sign its checks or use its credit cards.

Section 5. <u>Annual Financial Assessment</u>. The Board must require the performance of an annual audit, financial review, financial compilation or financial assessment, which must involve the services of a trusted person with bookkeeping skills and knowledge, who does not do the bookkeeping for the organization or sign checks for the organization. This need not be a formal GAAP audit, but must at least involve a sufficiently thorough review of the organization's financial records so that it would likely discover any misuse, embezzlement or theft of the organization's funds or assets. The financial oversight committee described above shall select the person performing the annual financial assessment and shall ensure that the resulting report is presented to the entire board.

Section 6. <u>No Discrimination</u>. In the delivery of its services to the public, does not discriminate for or against any person on the basis of ethnicity, nationality, place of origin, religion, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, familial status, economic status, age, or mental or physical disability.