

Jan. 10, 2007

Letters to the Editor

Open meeting law violated

I am an exotic animal owner in Pahrump and I and other animal owners attended the first ad hoc animal workshop mentioned in your (Dec. 13) article. Without any explanation, we were informed all other advisory workshops are closed to us, animal owners, other than three chosen advisory members of the animal-owning public.

We, the rest of the animal community, are being kept in the dark. After looking at NRS about open meeting laws, it appears it might be against the rules to keep the meeting closed.

After thorough review of NRS and OML it seems to me (correct me if I am wrong) that even though this is an ad hoc advisory board, it is still subject to NRS open meeting laws because it eventually advises/assists on government issues on which public decisions will be made and that affects the public of Nye County.

I personally don't believe we need any of these new animal ordinances and the NRS animal section covers most animal welfare and animal abuse issues.

Even Clark County with two million people doesn't have an exotic animal ordinance. They have a final draft that has been sitting there for years, not implemented, partly due to them properly conducting business impact and realizing they would need two extra employees, which would en up being very expensive.

If Clark County, with two million people doesn't need exotic animal ordinance, why is Nye County, with 40,000 people, wasting even one minute thinking about it?

Also reading the news it seems like currently, animal control has problems enforcing the current ordinances as it is. Why give them more ordinances they can't keep up with anyway?

I myself moved here from a more urbanized area looking for freedom and open spaces. I am sick and tired of the people who, like me, move here from urbanized areas, but then, unlike me, try to change it to be like the old "home."

I have advice for these folks: If you are against freedom, guns, exotic animals, prostitution and gambling, do not move here. Leave and go home. Please, leave us alone so we can enjoy one of the few islands of freedom and peace in an otherwise overregulated world.

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