§ 69-15-1. Repealed.

Mississippi Statutes

Title 69. AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE, AND ANIMALS

Chapter 15. BOARD OF ANIMAL HEALTH; LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL DISEASES

Article 1. MISSISSIPPI BOARD OF ANIMAL HEALTH

Current through 3/27/2018

§ 69-15-1. Repealed

Cite as Miss. Code § 69-15-1

History. Repealed by Laws of 1998, ch. 570, §8, eff. 7/1/1998.

Prior History: (Codes, Hemingway's 1917, §§ 5490, 5491; 1930, §§ 5412, 5413; 1942, § 4835; Laws, 1908, ch. 106; Laws, 1919, ch. 227; Laws, 1926, ch. 264; Laws, 1944, ch. 246, §§ 1-3; Laws, 1948, ch. 198, §§ 1, 2 (subd. 1, 2); Laws, 1950, ch. 191 (subd. 2); Laws, 1956, ch. 137 (subd. 2); Laws, 1958, ch. 158; Laws, 1962, ch. 163; Laws, 1966, ch. 230; Laws, 1966, ch. 445, § 9; Laws, 1968, ch. 242, § 1; Laws, 1990, ch. 519, § 1.)

§ 69-15-2. Membership of board; appointments; terms; vacancies; advisory council.

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Title 69. AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE, AND ANIMALS

Chapter 15. BOARD OF ANIMAL HEALTH; LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL DISEASES

Article 1. MISSISSIPPI BOARD OF ANIMAL HEALTH

Current through 3/27/2018

§ 69-15-2. Membership of board; appointments; terms; vacancies; advisory council

(1) The Mississippi Board of Animal Health is to be composed of the Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce, the Dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine and the heads of the Animal and Dairy Science and Poultry Science Departments at Mississippi State University of Agriculture and Applied Science and one (1) person appointed by the President of Alcorn State University from its land grant staff as five (5) ex officio members with full voting rights, and ten (10) other members of the board to be appointed by the

- Governor as hereinafter provided. The board shall select annually a chairman and vice chairman from any members of the board.
- (2) The Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall appoint eleven (11) other members from the following groups or associations from a written list of recommendations from such groups or associations:
 - One (1) licensed and practicing veterinarian who holds a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine Degree, from a written list of three (3) recommendations submitted by the Mississippi State Veterinary Medical Association;
 - One (1) general farmer from a written list of three (3) recommendations submitted by the Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation;
 - One (1) poultry breeder and producer from a written list of three (3) recommendations submitted by the Mississippi Poultry Association;
 - One (1) small ruminant breeder and producer from a written list of three (3) recommendations, one (1) recommendation submitted by each of the following: the Mississippi Sheep Producers' Association, the Mississippi Club Goat Association, and the Mississippi Goat Association. If an association fails to timely submit its recommendation, the Governor may appoint the member from the list of recommendations submitted by the other associations;
 - One (1) beef cattle breeder and producer from a written list of three (3) recommendations submitted by the Mississippi Cattlemen's Association;
 - One (1) swine breeder and producer from a written list of three (3) recommendations submitted by the Mississippi Pork Producers' Association;
 - One (1) dairy breeder and producer from a written list of three (3) recommendations submitted by the American Dairy Association of Mississippi;
 - One (1) horse breeder and producer from a written list of four (4) recommendations, one (1) recommendation submitted by each of the following: the Mississippi Quarter Horse Association, Tennessee Walking Horse Association, Mississippi Cutting Horse Association and Mississippi State Equine Association. If an association fails to timely submit its recommendation, the Governor may appoint the member from the list of recommendations submitted by the other associations;
 - One (1) catfish breeder and producer from a written list of three (3) recommendations submitted by the Mississippi Catfish Association;
 - One (1) member of the Mississippi Livestock Auction Association from a written list of

three (3) recommendations submitted by the Mississippi Livestock Auction Association.

All members shall take and subscribe to the general oath of office as provided in Section 268, Mississippi Constitution of 1890, and file the same with the Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce.

(3) Effective August 1, 1968, the dairy producer member shall be appointed for a one-year term; the Livestock Auction Association member shall be appointed for a two-year term; and the meat packer member shall be appointed for a three-year term; the catfish producer member shall be appointed for a four-year term; and the horse producer member shall be appointed for a five-year term.
Effective August 1, 1969, the poultry producer member shall be appointed for a two-year term; on August 1, 1970, the sheep producer member shall be appointed for a three-year term; on August 1, 1971, the swine producing member shall be appointed for a four-year term; on August 1, 1972, the general farmer member shall be appointed for a five-year

term; on August 1, 1970, the sheep producer member shall be appointed for a three-year term; on August 1, 1971, the swine producing member shall be appointed for a four-year term; on August 1, 1972, the general farmer member shall be appointed for a five-year term; on August 1, 1973, the veterinarian member shall be appointed for a six-year term; and on August 1, 1974, the beef cattle producer member shall be appointed for a seven-year term.

All subsequent appointments shall be for four-year terms, except for appointments to fill vacancies which shall be for the unexpired term only.

- (4) (a) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce.
 - (b) "Department" means the Department of Agriculture and Commerce.
- (5) On or before July 1, 1998, the board shall appoint, from a written list of not less than three (3) licensed veterinarians submitted by the commissioner, the State Veterinarian.
- (6) There is created an advisory council to advise the Board of Animal Health on matters concerning the board. The council shall be composed of the Chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee, the Chairman of the House Agriculture Committee, and one (1) appointee of the Lieutenant Governor and one (1) appointee of the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The members of the advisory council shall serve in an advisory capacity only. For attending meetings of the council, such legislators shall receive per diem and expenses which shall be paid from the contingent expense funds of their respective houses in the same amounts provided for committee meetings when the Legislature is not in session; however, no per diem or expenses for attending meetings of the council shall be paid while the Legislature is in session. No per diem and expenses shall be paid except for attending meetings of the council without prior approval of the proper committee in their respective houses.

Source: Laws, 1998, ch. 570, 1; reenacted without change, Laws, 1999, ch. 509 1; reenacted without change, Laws, 2003, ch. 352, 1; Laws, 2008, ch. 529, 1, eff. 5/9/2008.

History. Amended by Laws, 2017, ch. 305, SB 2647, 1, eff. 3/6/2017.

§ 69-15-3. Office space; adoption of rules and regulations.

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§ 69-15-3. Office space; adoption of rules and regulations

The Department of Finance and Administration shall provide office space at the seat of the government, as it deems necessary and requisite for the Board of Animal Health. The board shall adopt rules and regulations as it deems proper to carry out its statutory powers and duties. The rules and regulations shall also prescribe the dates and hours of meetings to be held once a quarter and provide that special meetings shall be called by the chairman at the request of the Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce, on three (3) days' written notice or by a majority vote of the entire board on three (3) days' written notice.

Cite as Miss. Code § 69-15-3

Source: Codes, Hemingway's 1917, §§ 5490, 5491; 1930, §§ 5412, 5413; 1942, § 4835; Laws, 1908, ch. 106; Laws, 1919, ch. 227; Laws, 1926, ch. 264; Laws, 1944, ch. 246, §§ 1-3; Laws, 1948, ch. 198, §§ 1, 2 (subd. 1, 2); Laws, 1950, ch. 191 (subd. 2); Laws, 1956, ch. 137 (subd. 2); Laws, 1958, ch. 158; Laws, 1962, ch. 163; Laws, 1966, ch. 230; Laws, 1966, ch. 445, § 9; Laws, 1968, ch. 242, § 1; Laws, 1998, ch. 570, §2, eff. 7/1/1998; reenacted and amended, Laws, 1999, ch. 509, §2; reenacted and amended, Laws, 2003, ch. 352, §2, eff. 7/1/2003.

History. Amended by Laws, 2017, ch. 305, SB 2647, 2, eff. 3/6/2017.

§ 69-15-5. Compensation of members of board.

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§ 69-15-5. Compensation of members of board

The members of the Board of Animal Health who are not full-time public officers or public employees shall be entitled to a per diem as is provided by Section 25-3-69, Mississippi Code of 1972, not to exceed twenty (20) days in any fiscal year. All members shall be entitled to mileage and actual and necessary expenses in attending such regular or special meetings, as provided by Section 25-3-41.

Cite as Miss. Code § 69-15-5

Source: Codes, Hemingway's 1917, §§ 5490, 5491; 1930, §§ 5412, 5413; 1942, § 4835; Laws, 1908, ch. 106; Laws, 1919, ch. 227; Laws, 1926, ch. 264; Laws, 1944, ch. 246, §§ 1-3; Laws, 1948, ch. 198, §§ 1, 2 (subd. 1, 2); Laws, 1950, ch. 191 (subd. 2); Laws, 1956, ch. 137 (subd. 2); Laws, 1958, ch. 158; Laws, 1962, ch. 163; Laws, 1966, ch. 230; Laws, 1966, ch. 445, § 9; Laws, 1968, ch. 242, § 1; Laws, 1981, ch. 401, § 1; reenacted without change, Laws, 2003, ch. 352, §3, eff. 7/1/2003.

§ 69-15-7. Employees; authority to employ professional, technical and clerical personnel; appointment of state veterinarian; bond; use of attorney.

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§ 69-15-7. Employees; authority to employ professional, technical and clerical personnel; appointment of state veterinarian; bond; use of attorney

The State Veterinarian is authorized and empowered to employ the necessary professional, technical and clerical personnel as he deems necessary to carry out the powers and duties of the board, and to fix their compensation. The board shall appoint from a written list of not less than three (3) licensed veterinarians submitted by the Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce, a duly licensed and practicing veterinarian as the State Veterinarian, who shall hold a Degree of Veterinary Medicine from a recognized college or university and shall have been engaged in the practice of veterinary science for not less than ten (10) years prior to his appointment. The State Veterinarian shall serve at the will and pleasure of the board and shall enter into a surety bond for the faithful performance of his duties, and the premium therefor shall be paid by the board. The board shall also be authorized to employ an attorney as authorized in Section 69-1-14, Mississippi Code of 1972.

Cite as Miss. Code § 69-15-7

Source: Codes, Hemingway's 1917, §§ 5490, 5491; 1930, §§ 5412, 5413; 1942, § 4835; Laws, 1908, ch. 106; Laws, 1919, ch. 227; Laws, 1926, ch. 264; Laws, 1944, ch. 246, §§ 1-3; Laws, 1948, ch. 198, §§ 1, 2 (subd. 1, 2); Laws, 1950, ch. 191 (subd. 2); Laws, 1956, ch. 137 (subd. 2); Laws, 1958, ch. 158; Laws, 1962, ch. 163; Laws, 1966, ch. 230; Laws, 1966, ch. 445, § 9; Laws, 1968, ch. 242, § 1; Laws, 1983, ch. 365, § 5; Laws, 1990, ch. 519, § 2; Laws, 1998, ch. 570, §3, eff. 7/1/1998; reenacted without change, Laws, 1999, ch. 509, §3; reenacted without change, Laws, 2003, ch. 352, §4, eff. 7/1/2003.

§ 69-15-9. Powers of Board, State Veterinarian, officers and agents; entry upon premises to inspect and disinfect; liability; control, prevention, eradication, inspection and monitoring of chronic wasting disease and other contagious diseases of exotic cervids or livestock.

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§ 69-15-9. Powers of Board, State Veterinarian, officers and agents; entry upon premises to inspect and disinfect; liability; control, prevention, eradication, inspection and monitoring of chronic wasting disease and other contagious diseases of exotic cervids or livestock

(1) (a) The Board of Animal Health shall have plenary power to deal with all contagious and infectious diseases of animals as in the opinion of the board may be

prevented, controlled or eradicated, and with full power to make, promulgate and enforce such rules and regulations as in the judgment of the board may be necessary to control, eradicate and prevent the introduction and spread of anthrax, tuberculosis, hog cholera, Texas and splenic fever and the fever-carrying tick (margaropus annulatus), cattle brucellosis, anaplasmosis, infectious bovine rhinotracheitis, muscosal disease, cattle viral diarrhea, cattle scabies, sheep scabies, hog cholera, swine erysipelas, swine brucellosis, equine encephalomyelitis, rabies, vesicular diseases, salmonella group, newcastle disease, infectious laryngotracheitis, ornithosis-psittacosis, mycoplasma group, chronic wasting disease and any suspected new and/or foreign diseases of livestock and poultry and all other diseases of animals in this state, and the board is hereby vested with full authority to establish and maintain quarantine lines and to quarantine by county, supervisors district, parcel of land or herd. The State Veterinarian shall appoint as many inspectors and range riders as may be deemed necessary, and the funds at his disposal will permit, and shall delegate authority to said inspectors and range riders, to enter premises to inspect and disinfect livestock and premises, and enforce quarantine including counties, farms, pens, stables and other premises.

- (b) No veterinarian may provide veterinary services for the control, eradication or prevention of diseases in animals at a stockyard, livestock auction, equine sale or other place or event of livestock trading unless he has first been approved by the board for this purpose. The board shall have the authority to adopt rules and regulations as may be necessary or desirable to carry out the purposes of this paragraph.
- (2) No officer or agent of the State Veterinarian may enter the actual enclosures of any person except with the consent of the person lawfully in possession thereof or in the absence of such consent, with a proper writ obtained as in other cases of searches and seizures under constitutional law. When such officers and agents are lawfully on the premises, either by permission or writ, they shall be authorized to inspect the premises and the livestock and animals found thereon by entering the enclosures and buildings and they are authorized to check livestock and poultry found therein for any contagious diseases and take proper action to control or eradicate any such diseases that may be found. While such officers and agents are performing their duties hereunder, they shall not be personally liable except for gross negligence. The refusal without lawful reason of any person to give the consent aforesaid shall be deemed a misdemeanor and shall be punishable as for violations of Article 5 of this chapter as provided for in Section 69-15-115.

The Board of Animal Health shall administer the special fund created in Section 69-15-19.

(3) (a) The Board of Animal Health shall have plenary power to control, prevent,

- eradicate, inspect and monitor chronic wasting disease or other contagious disease of exotic cervids or other exotic livestock. It shall be the duty of the board to develop an inspection, testing and monitoring program for such diseases.
- (b) An officer or agent of the State Veterinarian is authorized to enter any facility containing cervids or other exotic livestock to inspect the premises and the cervids or exotic livestock. Such officer or agent may inspect, monitor or test any cervid or exotic livestock for disease and may take proper action to control or eradicate any diseases found. While such officers or agents are performing their duties, they shall not be personally liable, except for gross negligence.
- (c) As a condition of maintaining a permit for a cervid or other exotic livestock facility, it shall be the duty of the permittee to allow the agents of the State Veterinarian to enter the facility and to conduct inspections and tests.
- (4) As a condition of maintaining a permit for a cervid or other exotic livestock facility, the permittee shall immediately notify the State Veterinarian upon discovery of the escape of a cervid or exotic livestock. Any such animal shall be treated as an escaped wild animal and may be disposed of accordingly.

Cite as Miss. Code § 69-15-9

Source: Codes, Hemingway's 1917, § 5492; 1930, § 5414; 1942, § 4837; Laws, 1908, ch. 106; Laws, 1926, ch. 264; Laws, 1928, ch. 61; Laws, 1962, ch. 166, § 1; Laws, 1998, ch. 570, §4; reenacted without change, Laws, 1999, ch. 509, § 4; Laws, 2000, ch. 536, §7; Laws, 2003, ch. 352, §5; Laws, 2003, ch. 516, §3; Laws, 2011, ch. 384, §1, eff. 3/14/2011.

§ 69-15-11. Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory; services of laboratory; fees for services; qualifications of director and staff; advisory council; meetings; funds and property transfer to College of Veterinary Medicine.

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§ 69-15-11. Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory; services of laboratory; fees for services; qualifications of director and staff; advisory council; meetings; funds and property transfer to College of Veterinary Medicine

- (1) The College of Veterinary Medicine at Mississippi State University of Agriculture and Applied Science shall maintain a complete and adequate veterinary diagnostic laboratory in the Jackson vicinity and any person licensed to practice veterinary medicine, veterinary surgery, veterinary dentistry, or any vocational-agriculture teacher, bona fide farmer or county agent in the State of Mississippi or agent of the State Veterinarian shall have made available to him services of the laboratory. The laboratory shall examine and conduct laboratory tests on specimens submitted by any licensed veterinarian, or vocational-agriculture teacher, bona fide farmer or county agent of this state or agent of the State Veterinarian and issue appropriate reports. The College of Veterinary Medicine shall be required to set reasonable fees for such examinations, tests, reports or other diagnostic service.
- (2) The College of Veterinary Medicine shall select a director of the laboratory who holds a degree of veterinary medicine from a recognized college or university; is board certified in one (1) of the following basic diagnostic disciplines; toxicology, pathology, microbiology, virology or clinical pathology and has engaged in the practice of veterinary clinical diagnosis for at least ten (10) years, five (5) years of which were in a supervisory capacity. The director shall select and recommend for employment such veterinarians, bacteriologists, pathologists, technicians, clerical assistants, and other personnel necessary to carry out the objective of this section. The salaries, compensation and expenses of such employees shall be sufficient to insure the employment of competent persons and shall be paid from funds at the disposal of the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory. The director shall be responsible to the College of Veterinary Medicine for the daily operations of the laboratory.
- (3) There is created an advisory council to advise the College of Veterinary Medicine on matters concerning the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory. The council shall be composed of the Chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee, or his designee; the Chairman of the House Agriculture Committee, or his designee; the Chairman of the Board of Animal Health; the Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce; a person appointed by the President of Alcorn State University from its land grant staff who is not a member of the Board of Animal Health; a licensed and practicing veterinarian appointed by the President of the Mississippi State Veterinary Medical Association who is not a member of the Board of Animal Health; the State Veterinarian; the State Chemist; and the Dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine. This advisory council shall meet at least twice a year, upon written notification at least fourteen (14) days in advance, to be called by the Dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine. A meeting may also be called by the Commissioner of Agriculture or by a majority of the advisory council with fourteen (14) days' written notice.

 The members of the advisory council shall serve in an advisory capacity only. For

attending meetings of the council, legislators shall receive per diem and expenses which shall be paid from the contingent expense funds of their respective houses in the same amounts provided for committee meetings when the Legislature is not in session; however, no per diem or expenses for attending meetings of the council shall be paid while the Legislature is in session. No per diem and expenses shall be paid except for attending meetings of the council without prior approval of the proper committee in their respective houses.

- (4) All funds, property and other assets and all current positions of the diagnostic laboratory shall be transferred to the College of Veterinary Medicine on July 1, 2002. The budget of the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory shall be funded as a separate line item within the general appropriation bill for the College of Veterinary Medicine.
- (5) Information and records pertaining to all animal diseases within the state will be kept confidential except for those reports concerning diseases that are specifically regulated for mandatory control and eradication, or when release of such information is deemed necessary by the State Veterinarian to protect the public health, other livestock or wildlife.

Cite as Miss. Code § 69-15-11

Source: Codes, 1942, § 4836; Laws, 1944, ch. 246, § 4; Laws, 1950, ch. 194; Laws, 1964, ch. 212; Laws, 1986, ch. 500, § 53; Laws, 1990, ch. 519, § 3; Laws, 1998, ch. 570, §5; Laws, 2002, ch. 523, §1; reenacted without change, Laws, 2003, ch. 352, §6, eff. 7/1/2003.

§ 69-15-13. Appointment of federal personnel as inspectors; acceptance of federal assistance.

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§ 69-15-13. Appointment of federal personnel as inspectors; acceptance of federal assistance

The State Veterinarian is vested with authority to appoint and commission, without salary from the state, as its inspectors, representatives of the United States Department of Agriculture, and to

accept from the United States government such assistance, financial and otherwise, for carrying out the purpose of this statute, as may be available from time to time.

Cite as Miss. Code § 69-15-13

Source: Codes, 1930, § 5415; 1942, § 4838; Laws, 1926, ch. 264; Laws, 1998, ch. 570, §6, eff. 7/1/1998; reenacted without change, Laws, 1999, ch. 509, §6; reenacted without change, Laws, 2003, ch. 352, §7, eff. 7/1/2003.

§ 69-15-15. Quarantine for anthrax.

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§ 69-15-15. Quarantine for anthrax

- (1) The Board of Animal Health shall have the power and duty to quarantine all herds of cattle where a diagnosis of anthrax is made.
- (2) Such quarantine shall remain in effect until the State Veterinarian receives a certificate which is signed by a Mississippi licensed and accredited veterinarian, and which states that such herd has been properly treated and vaccinated and that the medical waste and any dead animals from such herd have been properly disposed. The proper disposal of such dead animals shall be by burning the animal at the spot of death or by burying the animal six (6) feet deep and covering the animal with quick lime.
- (3) The Board of Animal Health shall have the power and duty to quarantine all herds of cattle on lands immediately adjacent to any infected herd. Such quarantine shall remain in effect until the State Veterinarian receives a certificate as specified in subsection (2) of this section.
- (4) Any person, firm or corporation failing to comply with any of the provisions of this section, or interfering with the State Veterinarian or any duly appointed officer of the State Veterinarian in the discharge of his duty or for having discharged his duties, shall be deemed in violation of the provisions of this section and shall be subject to the penalties provided in Section 69-15-65, Mississippi Code of 1972.

Cite as Miss. Code § 69-15-15

Source: Laws, 1992, ch. 345 § 1; Laws, 1998, ch. 570, §7, eff. 7/1/1998; reenacted without change, Laws, 1999, ch. 509, §7; reenacted without change, Laws, 2003, ch. 352, §8, eff. 7/1/2003.

§ 69-15-17. Repealed.

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§ 69-15-17. Repealed

Cite as Miss. Code § 69-15-17

History. Repealed by Laws of 2006, ch. 373, §1 eff. 3/13/2006.

Prior History: (Laws, 1998, ch. 570, §9(1)(1); Laws, 2003, ch. 352, §9, eff. 7/1/2003.)

§ 69-15-19. Animal Care Fund.

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§ 69-15-19. Animal Care Fund

(1) As used in this section, the term "qualified nonprofit organization" means an IRS taxexempt 501(c)(3) or similar nonprofit organization that has been approved by the Mississippi Board of Animal Health.

- (2) There is created in the State Treasury a special fund to be known and designated as the "Animal Care Fund." There shall be deposited in the fund:
 - (a) The additional fees collected from the issuance of distinctive license tags under Section 27-19-56.18;
 - (b) Any gifts, grants, donations or matching money from federal, state or local governmental bodies and private persons, associations, groups or corporations making contributions to the fund; and
 - (c) Any other monies as the Legislature may appropriate or authorize to be deposited therein.
- (3) The special fund created under subsection (1) of this section shall be administered by the Mississippi Board of Animal Health. Monies in the special fund shall be allocated and distributed by the Mississippi Board of Animal Health to and among the boards of supervisors of each of the counties, the governing authorities of municipalities in the state and qualified nonprofit organizations. Monies allocated, distributed and received by the boards of supervisors, governing authorities and qualified nonprofit organizations may:
 - (a) Be expended for the operation and support of county or municipal agencies, boards or departments that provide food, shelter and care, and/or spaying and neutering of lost, abandoned or unwanted pets;
 - (b) Be expended for the creation, development or expansion of such agencies, boards or departments; or
 - (c) Be donated by the boards of supervisors and governing authorities to nonprofit groups, organizations and associations that operate similar programs. However, priority for expenditure of such monies shall be given to spaying and neutering programs. None of such monies may be expended for euthanasia. The Mississippi Board of Animal Health is authorized to use a portion of the fund, in an amount not to exceed Two Thousand Dollars (\$ 2,000.00) a year, to fund administrative expenses.
- (4) The Mississippi Board of Animal Health shall adopt rules and regulations governing the proper administration of the Animal Care Fund, and establishing guidelines and criteria for the distribution and allocation of monies in the fund, including qualifications for those groups, organizations and associations qualified to accept monies or to which boards of supervisors and governing authorities may make donations.

Source: Laws, 2000, ch. 536, §6; Laws, 2007, ch. 358, §1, eff. 7/1/2007.