

**Domestic Animal Control Work Group  
Meeting Minutes  
September 26 2018  
2:00 PM  
450 Columbus Blvd, Hartford, CT**

**Members Present:** Susan Bransfield, Theresa Geary, Susan Linker, Brenda Bettcher, Ryan Burrell, Michael Berard, Gail Petras and Lynne Denning  
**Members Absent:** Matthew Hoey, Gary MacNamara, and, Bruce Sherman  
**DoAg staff:** Carole Briggs, Nathan Wilson and Jason Bowsza

1. **Welcome** – Jason Bowsza called the meeting to order at 2:03PM and gave a brief overview of a 2019 legislative submission.
2. **Review and approval of Regular Meeting Minutes** – The August 26, 2018 minutes were reviewed and approved by the working group members.
3. **Old Business** – There was no old business.
4. **New Business**
  - a. **Member introductions** - The working group introduced two new members to their first meeting, Dr. Michael Berard and Lynne Denning.
  - b. **Review of working group member idea:**
    - i. Members and staff review dog bite laws from other states and discussion ensued regarding these laws.
  - c. **Working group discussion**
    - i. Discussion ensued by members and staff regarding legislative changes to Connecticut’s dog bite laws. Such discussion involved where an incident takes place, dog bite incident levels, ACO training hours, quarantines, restraint notices and on/off property incidents.
    - ii. Members indicated to DoAg staff some legislative changes they would like to see in the CT dog bite laws. Those changes include;
      1. For quarantines to happen within 24 hours of the issued quarantine notice.
      2. Changing the law so the municipality in which an incident happened is the responsible party, not the municipality where the dog resides.
      3. Moving the 14 day quarantine to only 10 days to match the other 49 states and current veterinarian recommendations.
      4. Establishing dog bite levels making serious incidents become mandatory restraints at a pound and less serious incidents becoming home restraints.
5. **Next Meeting** – October 24, 2018 at 10:00 AM at 450 Columbus Blvd in Hartford, CT

6. **Adjournment** – Members motioned to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 3:50 PM

*Respectfully submitted by Nathan Wilson, Executive Assistant October 1, 2018*