

## **Fee for Animal Euthanasia Course Offered to Non-GCHD Staff**

***On October 31, 2007, the Board approved a fee of \$40.00 per person for the conducting and teaching of state certified euthanasia training to non GCHD animal control officers, law enforcement officers, wildlife rehabilitators and others.***

To be in compliance with Texas Health and Safety Code, Treatment and Disposition of Animals, Section 821.055, a person (except for a veterinarian licensed to practice in Texas) may not euthanize an animal in the custody of an animal shelter unless he/she has successfully completed a training course in the proper methods and techniques for euthanizing animals. Additionally, the person has until the 120<sup>th</sup> day following the date of initial employment to complete training. During this interim period, nothing in Section 821.055 prohibits the person from euthanizing an animal. Training must be completed not more than three years prior to the date the person euthanizes an animal. The training requirement is effective as of January 1, 2005.

- Over the past three years the Galveston County Health District (GCHD) has conducted 6 Animal Euthanasia classes to Galveston county and surrounding county Animal Control Officers (ACO's), law enforcement and wildlife rehabilitators at no cost.
- Class sizes average between 15-20 people.
- Other state and national agencies approved to conduct and teach the course charges a fee: Texas Animal Control Association/National Animal Control Association (\$125 per person), Southwest Texas Animal Care and Control Association (\$75 per person), Texas Academy of Animal Control (\$250 per person).
- Department of State Health Services has approved Dr. Dana Beckham, Chief Epidemiology/Veterinary Consultant to conduct and teach the Texas Animal Euthanasia Training Course.