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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# Commissioners Schedule Special Meeting on “All Creatures Great and Small”

## NC Dept. of Agriculture Requests County Animal Services Take Ownership of Animals Housed at Facility Required To Close Jan 31

**January 22, 2008 – Henderson County, NC:** The Henderson County Board of Commissioners has scheduled a Special Meeting at **4 p.m. Thursday, January 24 in the Commissioners’ Meeting Room, 100 N. King Street, Hendersonville**, to consider a request made by the North Carolina Department of Agriculture to take legal ownership of all the animals housed at “All Creatures Great and Small” and to provide law enforcement security while state personnel are at the facility.

According to Mary Ann T. McBride, Assistant State Veterinarian, the state is requiring “All Creatures Great and Small” on Seventh Avenue in Hendersonville to release at least 350 animals to state designated facilities as rapidly as possible. The state is working to gain control of all animals on the property. The state is requesting Henderson County Animal Services serve as the official receiver of these animals while the state works to make arrangements to locate suitable temporary housing for the animals. Commissioners are meeting to consider this request.

Henderson County does not have the capacity to accommodate the animals in the county Animal Services Center animal shelter.

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