

Justice of the Peace of said County, who shall appoint three disinterested persons as appraisers to view and appraise the damages by him sustained, and they or a majority of them shall, under oath, state in writing to the County Commissioners the number of fowls or animals so killed, the character and extent of the injury, if any, and the amount of the damages sustained by the owner; and in like manner they shall give a general description of both the destroyed or injured fowls or animals, and both the appraisers and the owner shall make oath that they believe the same to have been destroyed or injured by dogs, and they or either of them shall state under oath the names of the owners of said dogs, and when the report of such proceedings shall have been filed in the office of the County Commissioners, the said Commissioners shall review said report, and if in their judgment the amount of damages stated is unfair they shall award such amount as they may deem fair; provided, that before the Commissioners shall make any award of damages for the killing or injuring of said fowls or animals, the person claiming damages shall be required to prove to the satisfaction of the County Commissioners that he does not know and is unable with reasonable diligence to ascertain the owner of the dog or dogs which did such damage, or if the said owner is known, to prove to the satisfaction of said Commissioners that it is impracticable to collect the amount of damages sustained by suit against the owner of said dog or dogs; and in case any dog shall be known to kill any domestic fowls or animals, it shall be the duty of the County Commissioners to notify such owner or owners to kill said dog or dogs immediately. If such dog or dogs be killed by the owner, after notice as aforesaid, he shall be exempt from all further liability, but in case the said owner or owners should refuse or neglect to kill said dog or dogs upon notice as aforesaid, the said owner or owners shall be liable to the County Commissioners for said damages to the same extent as he would be liable in case of negligence or malicious destruction of property, and the said County Commissioners may in their discretion have the special officer or constable to kill said dog or dogs; and provided further, that said County Commissioners may allow payment for the treatment by the Pasteur or other treatment, of any person who may be bitten by a mad dog, cat, horse or other animal, and is unable to pay for such treatment for himself or herself, out of the "Dog Fund of Prince George's County," if in the judgment of said County Commissioners the circumstances justify said action.