

**AN ORDINANCE OF GRAYSON COUNTY, VIRGINIA, TO  
PERMIT THE KILLING OF COYOTES WITHIN THE  
BOUNDARIES OF GRAYSON COUNTY, VIRGINIA AND  
TO ESTABLISH A BOUNTY FOR SUCH COYOTES**

WHEREAS, Virginia Code §15.2-926.1 authorizes the board of Supervisors of Grayson County, Virginia, by ordinance, to permit the killing of coyotes within its boundaries at any time and to pay, out of any available funds, a bounty for each coyote killed within its boundaries; and

WHEREAS, Grayson County's single largest industry base is that of agriculture, which includes a substantial livestock component; and

WHEREAS, the proliferation of coyotes in the county poses a significant threat to those livestock as well as the county's agricultural economy; and

WHEREAS, coyotes also yield a negative effect to indigenous wildlife such as small game and whitetail deer; and,

WHEREAS, due to the importance of agriculture in the Grayson County economy and the value the community puts on wild game hunting, the Grayson County Board of Supervisors finds it to be in the best interest of its citizens, to permit the killing of coyotes and to establish a bounty.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Supervisors of Grayson County, Virginia, that:

1. The Code of the County of Grayson, Virginia be, and hereby amended by enactment as follows:

[THE FOLLOWING IS ALL NEW LANGUAGE]

**GRAYSON COUNTY COYOTE BOUNTY**

**§ I. Killing of coyotes.**

It shall be lawful for any person to kill coyotes within the boundaries of Grayson County at any time, provided that, as to the property on which any such coyote is killed, (i) such person owns the property, (ii) such person is the lawful tenant in possession of the property, (iii) such person has the permission of the owner or lawful tenant in possession of the property to kill such coyote, or (iv) such property is owned by the Commonwealth of Virginia or the United States of America.

**§ II. Payment of bounty for coyotes.**

A. Upon satisfaction of the criteria set forth in subsection B. below, and subject to the annual limitation specified in subsection D. below, a bounty shall be paid by the county for each coyote killed within the boundaries of Grayson County, in the following amount:

1. \$40.00 bounty, for each carcass presented to the Grayson County Animal Control Officer.

B. In order to qualify for a bounty, any person who kills a coyote shall present to the Animal Control Officer or his/her designee, during regular business hours, and the Grayson County Animal Control Office:

1. the carcass of the coyote
2. evidence of the identity of such person, including photo identification;
3. an application in a form furnished by the Animal Control Officer and executed by such person that:
  - a. states the name, street address and mailing address of such person;
  - b. identifies the date on which such coyote was killed, the property on which such coyote was killed and the approximate distance of such property from the closest agricultural use within the boundaries of Grayson County; and
  - c. as to the property on which such coyote was killed, states whether (i) such person owns the property, (ii) such person is the lawful tenant in possession of the property, (iii) such person has the permission of the owner or lawful tenant in possession of the property to kill such coyotes, in which event the affidavit shall also be executed by the owner or lawful tenant in possession of the property, or (iv) such property is owned by the Commonwealth of Virginia or the United States of America.

C. Upon satisfaction of the criteria set forth in subsection (B.) above, the Animal Control Officer or his/her designee shall receive the carcass no later than seventy two (72) hours from the time of harvest and shall retain possession of the carcass for the purpose of safe and proper disposal. The Animal Control Officer or his/her designee shall then present the claim for payment.

D. The total dollar amount of the bounty shall be remunerated to the person seeking collection for the killing of a coyote. The person shall have the right to deny the bounty. Under this article, the aggregate of all bounties shall not exceed the sum of \$5,000.00 within a fiscal year; provided, however, such limit may be increased in a given year by a duly adopted resolution of the Grayson County Board of Supervisors.

### **§ III. Penalty for false claims.**

It shall be unlawful for any person to present a false claim or to invoke payment of a bounty on a false claim under this article. Violation of this subsection shall constitute a Class 1 misdemeanor.

Adopted by the Grayson County Board of Supervisors, this 13<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2014, in the County of Grayson, Virginia

This ordinance shall become effective March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014

This ordinance shall expire and no longer be in effect on December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015