

Title 2. Agriculture
Chapter 1 – Agricultural Code
Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act

Section 20.40	Short Title – Purpose	2
Section 20.41	Definitions	2
Section 20.42	Authority of State Board of Agriculture – Rules – Personnel	5
Section 20.44	Licensure of Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations	5
Section 20.45	Forms and Applications for Licenses – Availability – Contents – Renewals and Transfers – Penalties for Violations	7
Section 20.46	Notice and Hearing Requirements – Review of Application for New Operation – Administrative Hearing	9
Section 20.47	Pollution Prevention Plan	12
Section 20.48	Best Management Practices	14
Section 20.50	Wastewater Retention Structures	16
Section 20.51	Irrigation Systems – Antipollution Requirements – Inspections – Responsibilities	17
Section 20.52	Authority of Board – Investigation of Complaints – Promulgation of Standard Precautions	18
Section 20.53	Unlawful to Operate Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation Without License – Jurisdiction of the Department of Environmental Quality	18
Section 20.54	Licenses – Expiration – Renewal – Fees	18
Section 20.55	Evidence of Financial Ability to Run an Animal Feeding Operation with a Liquid Animal Waste Management System	19
Section 20.56	Other Requirements for Animal Feeding Operations – Presumptions Created by Compliance	21
Section 20.57	Distance of Liquid Animal Waste and Animal Feeding Operations from Residences, Drinking Water Wells, Parks, and Other Facilities	21
Section 20.58	Setback Requirements – Applicability to Certain Existing Operations	22
Section 20.59	Applications for Permits for Construction of Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation Within One Mile Upstream of Pensacola Project	22
Section 20.60	Temporary Exception to Animal Unit Capacity Limitation	22
Section 20.61	Licenses – Suspension or Revocation	23

Section 20.62	Violations of Act or Rules – Punishment, Fines, and Other Penalties – Court Actions and Relief	23
Section 20.63	Poultry-Laying Operations – Complaints of Violations – Emergencies	25
Section 20.64	Enactment as Part of Agricultural Code - Codification	26

Section 20.40 – Short Title - Purpose

A. Sections 28 through 50 of this act shall be known and may be cited as the "Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act."

B. The purpose of the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act is to provide for environmentally responsible construction and expansion of animal feeding operations and to protect the safety, welfare and quality of life of persons who live in the vicinity of an animal feeding operation.

Laws 2007, HB 1796, c. 31, § 28, eff. November 1, 2007.

Section 20.41 - Definitions

A. Concentrated animal feeding operations are point sources subject to the license program established pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act.

B. As used in the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act:

1. "Affected property owner" means a surface landowner within one (1) mile of the designated perimeter of an animal feeding operation;

2. "Animal feeding operation" means a lot or facility where the following conditions are met:

- a. animals have been, are, or will be stabled or confined and fed or maintained for a total of ninety (90) consecutive days or more in any twelve-month period, and
- b. crops, vegetation, forage growth or post-harvest residues are not sustained in the normal growing season over any portion of the lot or facility.

The term "animal feeding operation" shall not include a racetrack licensed by the Oklahoma Horse Racing Commission to hold pari-mutuel race meetings pursuant to the Oklahoma Horse Racing Act if the facility discharges to a publicly owned treatment works, or an aquatic animal production facility;

3. "Animal unit" means a unit of measurement for any animal feeding operation calculated by adding the following numbers: The number of slaughter and feeder cattle multiplied by one (1), plus the number of mature dairy cattle multiplied by one and four-tenths (1.4), plus the number of sheep multiplied by one-tenth (0.1), plus the number of horses multiplied by two (2);

4. "Animal waste" means animal excrement, animal carcasses, feed wastes, process wastewaters or any other waste associated with the confinement of animals from an animal feeding operation;

5. "Animal Waste Management Plan" or "Nutrient Management Plan" means a written plan that includes a combination of conservation and management practices designed to protect the natural resources of the state prepared by an owner or operator of an animal feeding operation as required by the Department pursuant to the provisions of Section 20-48 of this title;

6. "Animal waste management system" means a combination of structures and nonstructural practices serving an animal feeding operation that provides for the collection, treatment, disposal, distribution, storage and land application of animal waste;
7. "Artificially constructed" means constructed by humans;
8. "Best Management Practices" means schedules of activities, prohibitions of practices, maintenance procedures, and other management practices to prevent or reduce the pollution of waters of the state as established by the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry pursuant to Section 20-48 of this title;
9. "Board" means the State Board of Agriculture;
10. "Common ownership" includes but is not limited to any corporation, partnership or individual where the same owner has power or authority to manage, direct, restrict, regulate or oversee the operation or has financial control of the facility;
11. "Concentrated animal feeding operation" means:
 - a. an animal feeding operation which meets the following criteria:
 - (1) more than the number of animals specified in any of the following categories are confined:
 - (a) 1,000 slaughter and feeder cattle,
 - (b) 700 mature dairy cattle, whether milk or dry cows,
 - (c) 500 horses,
 - (d) 10,000 sheep or lambs,
 - (e) 55,000 turkeys,
 - (f) 100,000 laying hens or broilers, if the facility has continuous overflow watering,
 - (g) 30,000 laying hens or broilers, if the facility has a liquid manure system,
 - (h) 5,000 ducks, or
 - (i) 1,000 animal units, and
 - (2) pollutants are discharged into waters of the state.
Provided, no animal feeding operation pursuant to this subparagraph shall be construed to be a concentrated animal feeding operation if the animal feeding operation discharges only in the event of a twenty-five-year, twenty-four-hour storm event, or
 - b. an animal feeding operation which meets the following criteria:
 - (1) more than the number of animals specified in any of the following categories are confined:
 - (a) 300 slaughter or feeder cattle,
 - (b) 200 mature dairy cattle, whether milk or dry cows,
 - (c) 150 horses,
 - (d) 3,000 sheep or lambs,
 - (e) 16,500 turkeys,
 - (f) 30,000 laying hens or broilers, if the facility has continuous overflow watering,
 - (g) 9,000 laying hens or broilers, if the facility has a liquid manure system,
 - (h) 1,500 ducks, or
 - (i) 300 animal units, and

(2) either one of the following conditions are met:

(a) pollutants are discharged into waters of the state through an artificially constructed ditch, flushing system or other similar artificially constructed device, or

(b) pollutants are discharged directly into navigable waters which originate outside of and pass over, across or through the facility or otherwise come into direct contact with the animals confined in the operation.

Provided, however, that no animal feeding operation pursuant to this subparagraph is a concentrated animal feeding operation if the animal feeding operation discharges only in the event of a twenty-five-year, twenty-four-hour storm event, or

c. the Board determines that the operation is a significant contributor of pollution to waters of the state pursuant to Section 20-44 of this title;

12. "Department" means the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry;

13. "Designated perimeter" means the perimeter of any structure or combination of structures utilized to control animal waste until it can be disposed of in an authorized manner. The structures shall include but not be limited to pits, burial sites, barns or roof-covered structures housing animals, composters, waste storage sites, or retention structures or appurtenances or additions thereto;

14. "Facility" means any place, site or location or part thereof where animals are kept, handled, housed, or otherwise maintained and processed and includes but is not limited to buildings, lots, pens, and animal waste management systems;

15. "Interested party" means an affected property owner found to meet the burden of proof pursuant to the provisions of Section 20-46 of this title;

16. "Land application" means the spreading on, or incorporation of, animal waste into the soil mantle primarily for beneficial purposes;

17. "Liquid animal waste management system" means any animal waste management system which uses water as the primary carrier of the waste into a primary retention structure;

18. "Nutrient-limited watershed" means a watershed of a water body which is designated as "nutrient-limited" in the most recent Oklahoma Water Quality Standards;

19. "Nutrient-vulnerable groundwater" means groundwater which is designated "nutrient-vulnerable" in the most recent Oklahoma Water Quality Standards;

20. "Occupied residence" means a habitable structure designed and constructed for full-time occupancy in all weather conditions which:

a. is not readily mobile,

b. is connected to a public or permanent source of electricity and a permanent waste disposal system or public waste disposal system, and

c. is occupied as a residence;

21. "Pollution Prevention Plan" means a written plan to control the discharge of pollutants which has been prepared in accordance with industry-acceptable engineering and management practices by the owner or operator of an animal feeding operation as required pursuant to Section 20-47 of this title;

22. "Process wastewater" means any water utilized in the facility that comes into contact with any manure, litter, bedding, raw, intermediate, or final material or product used in or resulting from the production of animals and any products directly or indirectly used in the operation of a facility, such as spillage or overflow from animal watering systems; washing, cleaning, or flushing pens, barns, manure pits, direct contact, swimming, washing or spray cooling of animals; and dust control and any precipitation which comes into contact with animals or animal waste;

23. "Retention structures" includes but is not limited to all collection ditches, conduits and swales for the collection of runoff water and process wastewater, and basins, ponds and lagoons or other structures used to store animal wastes;

24. "Waste facility" means any structure or combination of structures utilized to control animal waste until it can be disposed of in an authorized manner. The structures shall include but not be limited to pits, burial sites, barns or roof-covered structures housing animals, composters, waste storage sites, or retention structures or appurtenances or additions thereto; and

25. "Waters of the state" means all streams, lakes, ponds, marshes, watercourses, waterways, wells, springs, irrigation systems, drainage systems, storm sewers and all other bodies or accumulations of water, surface and underground, natural or artificial, public or private, which are contained within, flow through or border upon this state or any portion thereof, and shall include under all circumstances the waters of the United States which are contained within the boundaries of, flow through or border upon this state or any portion thereof. Provided, waste treatment systems, including treatment ponds and lagoons, designed to meet federal and state requirements other than cooling ponds as defined in the Clean Water Act or rules promulgated pursuant thereto are not waters of the state.

Laws 2007, HB 1796, c. 31, § 29, eff. November 1, 2007; Amended by Laws 2015, HB 1514, c. 126, § 1, eff. November 1, 2015 ([superseded document available](#)).

Section 20.42 – Authority of State Board of Agriculture – Rules - Personnel

The State Board of Agriculture is authorized to promulgate rules for the administration, implementation, and enforcement of the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act. For the performance of its duties and responsibilities, the Board is authorized to employ such personnel and agents as may be required with the funds available.

Laws 2007, HB 1796, c. 31, § 30, eff. November 1, 2007.

Section 30.43 - Repealed

Repealed by Laws 2013, SB 1011, c. 118, § 25, eff. November 1, 2013

Laws 2007, HB 1796, c. 31, § 31, eff. November 1, 2007; Repealed by Laws 2013, SB 1011, c. 118, § 25, eff. November 1, 2013 ([repealed document available](#)).

Section 20.44 – Licensure of Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations

A. 1. Any animal feeding operation meeting the criteria defining a concentrated animal feeding operation shall be required to obtain a license to operate pursuant to the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act and rules promulgated pursuant thereto.

2. No animal feeding operation which voluntarily obtains a license pursuant to the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act shall be considered to be a

concentrated animal feeding operation unless the operation meets the definition of concentrated animal feeding operation.

3. Any animal feeding operation other than a concentrated animal feeding operation, regardless of the number of animals, shall only be required to be licensed pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act and rules promulgated pursuant thereto if the State Board of Agriculture determines the operation to be a significant contributor of pollution to waters of the state pursuant to subsection C of this section.

B. Two or more animal feeding operations under common ownership are considered, for the purposes of licensure, to be a single animal feeding operation if they adjoin each other or if they use a common area or system for the disposal of wastes.

C. 1. The State Board of Agriculture may make a case-by-case designation of concentrated animal feeding operations pursuant to this section. Any animal feeding operation may be designated as a concentrated animal feeding operation if it is determined to be a significant contributor of pollution to the waters of the state. In making this designation, the Board shall consider the following factors:

- a. the size of the animal feeding operation and the amount of wastes reaching waters of the state,
- b. the location of the animal feeding operation relative to waters of the state,
- c. the means of conveyance of animal waste and wastewater into waters of the state,
- d. the method of disposal for animal waste and process wastewater disposal,
- e. the slope, vegetation, rainfall and other factors affecting the likelihood or frequency of discharge of animal wastes and process wastewaters into waters of the state, and
- f. other such factors relative to the significance of the pollution problem sought to be regulated.

2. In no case shall an application for a license be required from an animal feeding operation pursuant to this subsection until there has been an on-site inspection of the operation and a determination by the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry that the operation is a concentrated animal feeding operation. Should the Department determine that the operation is a concentrated animal feeding operation, the Department shall notify the operation of the determination and of an opportunity for the owner or operator of the facility to request an administrative hearing on the issue.

3. Process wastewater in the overflow may be discharged to navigable waters whenever rainfall events, either chronic or catastrophic, cause an overflow of process wastewater from a retention structure properly designed, constructed and operated to contain all process wastewaters plus the runoff from a twenty-five-year, twenty-four-hour rainfall event for the location of the point source. There shall be no effluent limitations on discharges from a waste facility constructed, and properly maintained to contain the twenty-five-year, twenty-four-hour storm event; provided the proper design, construction, and operation of the retention structure shall include, but not be limited to, one (1) foot of free board.

D. No new concentrated animal feeding operation or expansion of a concentrated animal feeding operation requiring a license pursuant to the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act shall be constructed or placed in operation unless final design plans, specifications and a

Pollution Prevention Plan developed pursuant to Section 35 of this act have been approved by the Department.

Laws 2007, HB 1796, c. 31, § 32, eff. November 1, 2007.

Section 20.45 – Forms and Applications for Licenses – Availability – Contents – Renewals and Transfers – Penalties for Violations

A. The State Board of Agriculture shall cause to be prepared and available, for any person desiring or required to apply for a license to operate a new or previously unlicensed animal feeding operation, the necessary forms and applications.

B. The application for a license to operate a new or previously unlicensed animal feeding operation shall contain, as a minimum, the following information:

1. Name and address of the owner and operator of the facility;
2. Name and address of the animal feeding operation;
3. Capacity in animal units, and number and type of animals housed or confined;
4. A diagram or map and legal description showing geographical location of the facility on which the perimeters of the facility are designated, location of waters of the state, including, but not limited to, drainage from the facility, animal waste storage facilities and land application sites owned or leased by the applicant;
5. A copy of the Pollution Prevention Plan containing an Animal Waste Management Plan, Best Management Practices, or such other plan authorized by the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act and approved by the Department;
6. A copy of the written waiver by an adjacent property owner to the facility releasing specified setback requirements as provided by Section 44 of the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act; and
7. Any other information deemed necessary by the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry to administer the provisions of the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act and rules promulgated pursuant thereto.

C.

1. An application for renewal of a license to operate an animal feeding operation shall be considered to be properly filed when the Department has received a completed renewal application and payment of fees from the applicant.
2. If the application for renewal is denied, written notification of the denial and an opportunity for an administrative hearing on the denial shall be given to the applicant by the Department. The notification shall set forth the reasons for the denial, steps necessary to meet the requirements for issuance of the renewal license and the opportunity for the applicant to request an administrative hearing.

D. For transfer of a license to a new owner or operator, the following conditions shall be met:

1. The new owner or operator shall submit to the Department a transfer application, attaching any change of conditions resulting from the transfer of ownership or operation;
2. After receipt of the information required, the Department shall review the information, and within sixty (60) days, issue approval or denial of the transfer. Transfer of a license shall be denied only if:
 - a. the new owner or operator cannot comply with the requirements of transfer,
 - b. the Department finds a material or substantial change in conditions since the issuance of the original license to operate the animal feeding operation,
 - c. failure of the new owner or operator to meet any other conditions or requirements for compliance established by the Department pursuant to the

Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act and rules promulgated pursuant thereto, or

d. the new owner or operator has failed to meet the requirements of Section 48 of the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act; and

3. If a transfer is denied, written notification of the denial and an opportunity for an administrative hearing on the denial shall be given to the applicant for a transfer license by the Department. The notification shall set forth the reasons for the denial, steps necessary to meet the requirements for a transfer license, and the opportunity for the applicant to request an administrative hearing.

E. Any suspension or revocation or nonrenewal of a license issued pursuant to the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act by the Board shall be made in accordance with Section 48 of this act.

F. In addition to other information required for issuance of a new or transfer license, an application for a new or transfer license for a concentrated animal feeding operation shall contain the following information:

1. a. A statement of ownership.

(1) If the applicant is a firm or partnership, the name and address of each member thereof shall be included in the application.

(2) If the applicant is a corporation, the name and address of the corporation and the name and address of each officer and registered agent of the corporation shall be included in the application.

(3) If the applicant is a partnership or other legal entity, the name and address of each partner and stockholder with an ownership interest of ten percent (10%) or more shall be included in the statement.

b. The information contained in the statement of ownership shall be public information and shall be available upon request from the Board;

2. The name and address of the management, if the management is not the applicant and is acting as agent for the applicant;

3. a. An environmental history from the past three (3) years of any concentrated animal or swine feeding operation established and operated by the applicant or any other operation with common ownership in this state or any other state. The environmental history shall include but not be limited to all citations, administrative orders or penalties, civil injunctions or other civil actions, criminal actions, past, current and ongoing, taken by any person, agency or court relating to noncompliance with any environmental law, rule, agency order, or court action relating to the operation of an animal or swine feeding operation.

b. A copy of all records relating to the environmental history required by this paragraph shall accompany the application.

c. Noncompliance with a final agency order or final order or judgment of a court of record which has been set aside by a court on appeal of the final order or judgment shall not be considered a final order or judgment for the purposes of this subsection;

4. Environmental awards or citations received or pollution prevention or voluntary remediation efforts undertaken by the applicant; and

5. Any other information or records required by the Department for purposes of implementing the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act or rules promulgated pursuant thereto.

- G. 1. In addition to other penalties as may be imposed by law, any person who knowingly makes any false statement, representation, or certification in, omits material data from, or tampers with any application for a license, or notice relating to the determination of affected property owners, shall, upon conviction thereof, be guilty of a misdemeanor and may be subject to a fine of not more than Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) for each such violation. In addition, the Department shall deny licensure to the applicant or may require submission of a new application.
2. The responsibility for ensuring that all affected property owners are notified pursuant to the provisions of this section shall be upon the applicant.

Laws 2007, HB 1796, c. 31, § 33, eff. November 1, 2007; Amended by Laws 2016, SB 1446, c. 228, § 5, eff. November 1, 2016 ([superseded document available](#)).

Section 20.46 – Notice and Hearing Requirements – Review of application for New Operation – Administrative Hearing

- A. 1. Any person applying for a license for a new animal feeding operation shall comply with the notice and hearing requirements as specified by this section and rules promulgated by the State Board of Agriculture.
2. Notice requirements shall include notice to affected property owners by certified mail, return receipt requested pursuant to subsection C of this section and public notice pursuant to subsection D of this section.
- B. 1. After submission of a completed application as provided by the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act and rules promulgated pursuant thereto, the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry shall have sixty (60) working days to review the application for a new operation for physical and technical suitability.
2. a. After review of the application, the Department may request additional information from the applicant. Upon receipt of the additional information, the Department shall have an additional thirty (30) working days to review the additional information.
- b. On or before the expiration of the additional thirty (30) working days, the Department shall make a determination as to whether the application is complete and in compliance with all statutory requirements and relevant rules of the Department or request additional information pursuant to subparagraph a of this paragraph.
- C. 1. After the Department has determined that the application is complete, the Department shall require the applicant to notify all affected property owners that a completed application is on file with the Department. Notice shall be sent by certified mail, return receipt requested. The notice shall state that an application for a new animal feeding operation has been submitted to the Department and has been deemed to be complete, the location of the facility, that a hearing may be requested within fifteen (15) working days from the receipt of notice by the affected property owner and that a copy of the completed application is available for public review pursuant to paragraph 3 of subsection D of this section.
2. The State Board of Agriculture shall not act on the application until the expiration of the time period set forth in paragraph 1 of subsection G of this section. If a hearing is

requested pursuant to paragraph 1 of subsection G of this section, the Board shall not take action on the application until the hearing process is complete.

3. Establishment of property usage is the date the animal feeding operation application was made available for public review versus date of initial construction or placement of occupied residence and shall be given consideration when determining a contested matter between an applicant and an affected property owner on issues other than pollution of the waters of the state.

- D.
1. In addition to the individual notice, the Department shall require the applicant to give public notice of the opportunity to comment on the granting of the license.
 2. The public notice for a new operation shall be published as a legal notice prior to the date the application is available for public viewing, in at least one newspaper of general circulation in the county where the proposed facility is to be located.
 3. The notice shall identify locations where the application shall be available for viewing. The locations shall include the office of the Department and a specific public location in the county where the proposed facility is to be located.
 4. The application shall be available for public review during normal business hours. The copies of the application posted for public viewing shall be complete except for proprietary provisions otherwise protected by law and shall remain posted during normal business hours for at least twenty (20) working days after notice is published.
 5. The Department, as necessary, may hold public meetings at a location convenient to the population center nearest the proposed facility to address public comments on the proposed facility.

E. Prior to the issuance of any license for an animal feeding operation, the Department shall require the applicant to submit:

1. Documentation certifying notice has been issued to all affected property owners. A map of all affected property owners and the corresponding mailing list shall be submitted with each application; and
2. Proof of publication notice of a new application for an animal feeding operation license.

F. If no hearing is requested within the time periods set forth in paragraph 1 of subsection G of this section, the application shall be submitted to the State Board of Agriculture for consideration and action.

- G.
1. An affected property owner may request a hearing prior to final approval of the application. All requests for a hearing shall be filed with the Department within fifteen (15) working days after the receipt of the notice by the affected property owner. In requesting a hearing an affected property owner shall state in the request:
 - a. the name and address of the affected property owner and proof of standing by showing a surface ownership interest in the affected property, and
 - b. specific allegations showing that the proposed facility or expanding operation may have a direct, substantial and immediate effect upon a legally protected interest of the affected property owner. The allegations shall address with specificity the information contained within the application for licensure. Furthermore, the allegations shall be limited to demonstrating how the application is deficient, how the deficiencies have a direct effect on a legal interest of the affected property owner, and how the application has failed to show that the

application should be granted. The allegations shall also address the physical and technical suitability of the proposed facility.

2. If any of the affected property owners request an administrative hearing pursuant to paragraph 1 of this subsection and all information listed in subparagraphs a and b of paragraph 1 of this subsection is found to be complete and adequate in the request for a hearing, the Department shall schedule a preliminary hearing at a reasonable time within sixty (60) calendar days. Should the affected property owner fail to provide any of the information required in the request for a hearing, the affected property owner shall have ten (10) working days during which any deficiencies may be cured after receipt of notice from the Department of the failure. All affected property owners shall be considered parties to the preliminary hearing scheduled by the Department.
- H.
1. The preliminary hearing shall be held at the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry before an administrative law judge.
 2. There shall be a rebuttable presumption on the part of the applicant that the application in question is complete and in compliance with all applicable statutes and rules.
 3. It shall be the burden of the affected property owner(s) to present an offer of proof showing by a preponderance of the evidence:
 - a. that the facility has a direct, substantial and immediate effect upon a legally protected interest, and
 - b. that the direct, substantial and immediate effect upon a legally protected interest arises directly from a deficiency in the application or from the physical and technical suitability of the proposed facility.
 4. The administrative law judge, after all evidence is presented by any affected property owner that requested a hearing, shall afford the applicant an opportunity to respond to and rebut the allegations presented and to show how the affected property owner failed to meet the standards set forth in subparagraphs a and b of paragraph 3 of this subsection.
 5. Upon completion of the preliminary hearing, the administrative law judge shall have twenty (20) working days in which to issue an order granting or denying any affected property owner a full administrative hearing. If an affected property owner is denied a full administrative hearing, the administrative law judge shall issue a written recommended order containing specific findings of fact and conclusions of law on which the decision is based.
 6. If the administrative law judge finds an affected property owner that requested a hearing failed to meet the burden of proof set forth in paragraphs 2, 3, and 4 of this subsection, the application shall be sent to the State Board of Agriculture along with a copy of the recommended order of the administrative law judge for consideration and action.
 7. If the administrative law judge finds an affected property owner met the burden of proof set forth in paragraph 3 of this subsection, then a full administrative hearing shall be scheduled in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act.
 8. The administrative law judge may separately grant or deny a full administrative hearing for each affected property owner when more than one is party to the preliminary hearing.
- I.
1. An affected property owner meeting the burden of proof pursuant to subsection H of this section shall be entitled to a full administrative hearing pursuant to the Administrative Procedures Act. Only those affected property owners found meeting the

burden of proof pursuant to subsection H of this section are entitled to a full administrative hearing.

2. The scheduling conference for the hearing shall be held by the Department at a reasonable time within thirty (30) working days after the administrative law judge has issued a written order. All interested parties may be joined as parties to the hearing.

3. An affected property owner may at any time waive his or her rights to a hearing. If an affected property owner waives his or her rights to a hearing, a signed and notarized document shall be filed with the administrative law judge stating the affected property owner waived his or her rights to a hearing, did so without force or coercion, understands he or she is also waiving his or her rights to any further hearing provided for under this section or the Administrative Procedures Act and that the waiver shall be with prejudice. The waiver of right to a hearing shall be admissible as evidence in any court of the State of Oklahoma as evidence the affected property owner waived his or her rights to any additional hearings to which he or she may otherwise have been entitled.

4. At the administrative hearing, the administrative law judge shall hear testimony and accept evidence pertaining to the physical and technical suitability of the proposed facility and deficiencies contained in the original application for the license. Based on these grounds, it shall be the burden of the interested party to show by clear and convincing evidence that the proposed facility will have a direct, substantial and immediate effect upon a legally protected interest of the interested party. Furthermore, there shall be a rebuttable presumption that the application is complete and in compliance with the relevant statutes and rules.

5. Any evidence presented at the administrative hearing shall be directly related to allegations and evidence previously presented by any affected property owner during the preliminary hearing. Evidence not meeting this criteria shall only be admitted by the administrative law judge upon a finding that:

- a. the evidence was unavailable to the interested party prior to the preliminary hearing,
- b. the interested party exercised due diligence to discover and present all relevant evidence at the preliminary hearing,
- c. reasonable efforts to discover the information would not have led to its discovery prior to the preliminary hearing, or
- d. the applicant willfully concealed evidence or information that would likely have assisted the interested party in presenting its case at the preliminary hearing.

6. At the administrative hearing, the interested party shall be afforded a reasonable opportunity to present evidence and argument in support of the allegations identified in the preliminary hearing, and the applicant shall be afforded a reasonable opportunity to present evidence and arguments to controvert those allegations.

7. The administrative hearing held pursuant to the provisions of this subsection shall comply with the Administrative Procedures Act and rules promulgated by the Board.

Laws 2007, HB 1796, c. 31, § 34, eff. November 1, 2007; Amended by Laws 2015, HB 1514, c. 126, § 2, eff. November 1, 2015 ([superseded document available](#)).

Section 20.47 – Pollution Prevention Plan

A. An animal feeding operation licensed pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act shall develop a Pollution Prevention Plan or may substitute equivalent measures contained in a site-specific Animal Waste Management Plan

prepared pursuant to Section 36 of this act. Design and construction criteria developed by the United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service, may be substituted for the documentation of design capacity and construction requirements.

B. 1. The Pollution Prevention Plan shall be signed by the owner or as otherwise authorized by the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry and a copy shall be retained on site.

2. The animal feeding operation shall amend the Pollution Prevention Plan and obtain approval of the Department prior to any change in design, construction, operation or maintenance which has significant effect on the potential for the discharge of pollutants to the waters of the state.

C. If, after reviewing the Pollution Prevention Plan, the Department determines that the Plan does not meet one or more of the minimum requirements, the animal feeding operation shall make and implement appropriate changes to the Plan as required by the Department pursuant to the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act and rules promulgated pursuant thereto.

D. The Pollution Prevention Plan shall provide and require presite approval by Departmental personnel prior to construction. During construction, the Department shall monitor the construction process as deemed necessary by the Department in an attempt to verify the construction of the facility is done according to plans and acceptable engineering standards to reduce or eliminate the potential of pollution.

E. In addition to other requirements specified by this section, the Pollution Prevention Plan shall include but not be limited to:

1. A description of potential sources, activities and materials which may reasonably be expected to or could potentially add pollutants to runoff from the facility;

2. A map, indicating an outline of the drainage area of the facility, and each existing structural control measure designed to reduce pollutants in wastewater and precipitation runoff in all surface waters of the state;

3. A spill contingency plan for potential pollutants;

4. All existing sampling data of groundwater, nitrate and coliform bacteria levels, soil tests from land application sites and animal waste nutrient sampling;

5. A description of management controls appropriate for the facility. The management controls shall include, but not be limited to:

a. the location and a description of existing structural and nonstructural controls,

b. documentation of retention structure capacity and the assumptions and calculations used in determining the appropriate volume capacity, and

c. a description of the design standards for the retention facility embankments;

6. A description of the design standards for any retention facilities;

7. Training requirements for employees;

8. Documentation relating to any hydrologic connection between the contained wastewater and waters of the state which complies with Section 37 of this act; and

9. Requirements that all irrigation systems into which any animal waste will be injected shall be equipped as specified by Section 38 of this act.

F. The following records shall be maintained at the site as long as the facility is in operation:

1. Water level in the retention structure;

2. Daily precipitation records from on-site rain gauge;

3. Incident reports such as spills and other discharges;

4. Inspection and maintenance reports;
5. Findings from annual inspections of the entire facility;
6. Log of preventive maintenance and employee training that was completed;
7. Log of removal of animal waste sold or given to other persons for disposal;
8. Other specific information deemed necessary by the Department to implement the provisions of the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act and rules promulgated pursuant thereto;
9. Copy of general permit issued by the United States Environmental Protection Agency if applicable, a copy of the completed Pollution Prevention Plan, and other specific records deemed necessary by the Department to implement the provisions of the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act and rules promulgated pursuant thereto; and
10. The notarized statement signed by the applicant accepting full responsibility for properly closing all waste retention structures pursuant to subsection H of this section.

G. Any analyses required by the provisions of the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act or rules promulgated pursuant thereto shall be performed by a qualified independent testing laboratory certified by the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality and approved by the Department.

H. The applicant shall sign a notarized statement accepting full responsibility for properly closing all waste retention structures if the facility ceases to function or is ordered to close by action of the Department. When a license is transferred, the new owner or lessee shall submit a signed notarized statement accepting full responsibility for properly closing all waste retention structures if the facility ceases to function or is ordered to close by action of the Department.

Laws 2007, HB 1796, c. 31, § 35, eff. November 1, 2007.

Section 20.48 – Best Management Practices

A. Animal feeding operations licensed pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act shall utilize Best Management Practices, or may substitute for best management practice equivalent measures contained in a site-specific Animal Waste Management Plan meeting the conditions and requirements established by subsection C of this section and by rules promulgated by the Board pursuant to the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act.

B. The criteria for Best Management Practices shall be promulgated by rule by the Board, based upon existing physical and economic conditions, opportunities and constraints and shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. There shall be no discharge of process wastewater to waters of the state except in accordance with the provisions of the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act;
2. Animal waste shall be isolated from outside surface drainage by ditches, dikes, berms, terraces or other such structures except for a twenty-five-year, twenty-four-hour rainfall event;
3. No waters of the state shall come into direct contact with the animals confined on the animal feeding operation;
4. Animal waste handling, treatment, management and removal shall:
 - a. not create an environmental or a public health hazard,
 - b. not result in the contamination of public or private drinking water supplies,
 - c. conform with Oklahoma Water Quality Standards,

- d. not violate any state or federal laws relating to endangered or threatened species of plant, fish or wildlife or to migratory birds,
 - e. conform to such other handling, treatment and management and removal requirements deemed necessary by the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry to implement the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act and rules promulgated pursuant thereto, and
 - f. ensure that watersheds and groundwater are adequately protected;
5. If, for any reason, there is a discharge other than a spill of less than one hundred (100) gallons, the licensee is required to make immediate notification to the Department. The report of the discharge shall include:
- a. a description and cause of the discharge, including a description of the flow path to the receiving water body,
 - b. an estimation of the flow rate and volume discharged,
 - c. the period of discharge, including exact dates and times, and if not already corrected, the anticipated time the discharge is expected to continue,
 - d. steps taken to reduce, eliminate and prevent recurrence of the discharge, and
 - e. test results for fecal coliform bacteria, five-day biochemical oxygen demand (BOD5), total suspended solids (TSS), ammonia nitrogen, total Kjeldahl nitrogen (TKN), any pesticides which the operator has reason to believe could be in the discharge, or other parameters as required by the Department which the Department has reason to believe could be in the discharge;
6. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 5 of this subsection, any spill that leaves the property owned or controlled by the licensee shall be reported to the Department regardless of total number of gallons spilled; and
7. The Department shall maintain records of all discharges and shall separately maintain records of all spills.
- C. The Animal Waste Management Plan shall include at a minimum:
1. Animal waste removal procedures;
 2. Records of inspections of retention structures, including, but not limited to, specific measurement of wastewater level;
 3. All calculations in determining land application rates, acreage and crops for the land application rate of both solid and liquid animal wastes on land owned or controlled by the licensee;
 4. Requirements including that:
 - a. (1) land application of animal waste shall not exceed the nitrogen uptake of the crop coverage or planned crop planting with any land application of wastewater or manure. Where local water quality is threatened by phosphorous, in no case shall the applicant or licensee exceed the application rates in the most current Natural Resources Conservation Service publication titled Waste Utilization Standard, and
(2) timing and rate of applications shall be in response to crop needs, expected precipitation and soil conditions,
 - b. land application practices shall be managed so as to reduce or minimize:
 - (1) the discharge of process water or animal waste to waters of the state,
 - (2) contamination of waters of the state, and
 - (3) odor,

- c. facilities including waste retention structures, waste storage sites, ponds, pipes, ditches, pumps, and diversion and irrigation equipment shall be maintained to ensure ability to fully comply with the terms of the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act, and
 - d. adequate equipment and land application area shall be available for removal of such waste and wastewater as required to maintain the proper operating volume of the retention structure; and
5. Such other information deemed necessary by the Department to administer the provisions of the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act and rules promulgated pursuant thereto.
- D. Records shall be maintained of all animal wastes applied on land owned or controlled by the licensee, and sold or given to other persons for disposal.
- E. Soils in areas in which animal waste is applied shall be analyzed, annually, for phosphates, nitrates and soil pH prior to the first application of the animal waste in the calendar year. A copy of the results of the analysis shall be submitted to the Department upon request by the Department. Such analysis shall be retained by the animal feeding operation as long as the facility is in operation.
- F. Every animal feeding operation licensed pursuant to the provisions of Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act shall develop a plan approved by the Department for the disposal of carcasses associated with normal mortality.
- 1. Dead animals shall be disposed of in accordance with a carcass disposal plan developed by the applicant or licensee and approved by the Department.
 - 2. The plan shall include provisions for the disposal of carcasses associated with normal mortality, with emergency disposal when a major disease outbreak or other emergency results in deaths significantly higher than normal mortality rates and other provisions which will provide for a decrease in the possibility of the spread of disease and prevent the contamination of waters of the state. The plan shall comply with rules promulgated by the Department.

Laws 2007, HB 1796, c. 31, § 36, eff. November 1, 2007.

Section 20.49 – Renumbered as 2 O.S. § 20-23 by Laws 2005, HB 1467, c. 292, § 25, emerg. eff. July 1, 2005

Renumbered as [2 O.S. § 20-23](#) by Laws 2005, HB 1467, c. 292, § 25, emerg. eff. July 1, 2005
Laws 2004, HB 2217, c. 31, § 2, emerg. eff. March 30, 2004; Renumbered as [2 O.S. § 20-23](#) by Laws 2005, HB 1467, c. 292, § 25, emerg. eff. July 1, 2005

Section 20.50 – Wastewater Retention Structures

- A. Any hydrologic connection between wastewater and waters of the state outside that authorized by the provisions of the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act shall constitute a discharge to waters of the state.
- B. Site-specific conditions shall be considered in the design and construction of liners. Liners for retention structures shall be designed and constructed in accordance with the provisions of this section and generally accepted engineering practices established by rules of the Board or as required by the federal Environmental Protection Agency. Liners for lagoons owned or operated by an animal feeding operation with less than one thousand (1,000) animal units may be designed and constructed pursuant to Technical Note 716 of the United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service or its current equivalent so long as the

facility is designed by the United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service.

- C. 1. When a liner is installed to prevent hydrologic connection, the licensee or the owner shall maintain the liner to inhibit infiltration of wastewaters. Documentation of liner maintenance shall be maintained at the facility.
2. An environmental, agricultural, or other approved professional engineer licensed pursuant to Section 475.12 of Title 59 of the Oklahoma Statutes shall conduct a site evaluation every five (5) years on the retention structure of every concentrated animal feeding operation with such a structure to ensure liner integrity. If the owner or operator suspects that a retention structure is leaking, the owner or operator shall report suspected leakage to the Department.

D. All substances entering the retention structures shall be composed entirely of wastewaters from the proper operation and maintenance of an animal feeding operation and the runoff from the animal feeding operation area. The disposal of any materials, other than substances associated with proper operation and maintenance of the facility into the containment structures, including but not limited to human waste, is prohibited.

E. Documentation, sampling data, and any other records required by this section shall be maintained on site for as long as the facility is in operation. Samples collected during the first year of the retention structure may be considered the baseline data and shall be retained on site as long as the facility is in operation. Baseline data for the facility shall be determined based on the best information available.

Laws 2007, HB 1796, c. 31, § 37, eff. November 1, 2007.

Section 20.51 – Irrigation Systems – Antipollution Requirements – Inspections - Responsibilities

A. All irrigation systems into which any animal waste will be injected shall be equipped with one or both of the following systems:

1. An antipollution system, approved by the State Board of Agriculture, capable of preventing the backflow of animal waste into the groundwater. The system shall include a safety check valve with a removable inspection port, anti-syphon vent, and low-pressure escape drain. An interlock device shall be installed on pumps that pump the animal waste so that if a fresh water irrigation pump shuts down, the pump that pumps the animal waste will also immediately shut down, preventing the chance of leakage past the check valve; or
2. A system which provides for a complete and total disconnection between the flow of fresh water and the flow of animal waste. The system shall be capable of a manual disconnection between fresh water and the animal waste.

B. The Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry shall make annual on-site inspections examining the operative status of the check valves and interlock devices.

C. The operator of the irrigation system shall be responsible to ensure:

1. That the valves and interlock devices remain operative between annual inspections by the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry; or
2. Complete disconnection from fresh water when introducing animal waste into the system.

Laws 2007, HB 1796, c. 31, § 38, eff. November 1, 2007.

Section 30.52 – Authority of Board – Investigation of Complaints – Promulgation of Standard Precautions

A. The State Board of Agriculture or its authorized agents are empowered to enter upon the premises of any animal feeding operation for the purpose of investigating complaints as to the operation or to determine whether there are any violations of the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act. The Department shall make at least one unannounced inspection per year of every animal feeding operation licensed pursuant to the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act.

- B.
1. The Board shall promulgate standard precautions for the prevention of the transmission of communicable diseases to humans and animals to be used by employees of the Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry when inspecting animal feeding operations pursuant to their official duties specified by the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act and rules promulgated pursuant thereto.
 2. Except for emergency situations or when enforcement of the provisions of the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act requires the use of the standard precautions as promulgated by the Board pursuant to paragraph 1 of this subsection, Department employees shall observe the health standards and sanitary requirements of the facility.

C. The Board shall maintain necessary records and undertake such studies, investigations and surveys for the proper administration of the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act.

Laws 2007, HB 1796, c. 31, § 39, eff. November 1, 2007.

Section 20.53 – Unlawful to Operate Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation Without License – Jurisdiction of the Department of Environmental Quality

- A.
1. It shall be unlawful for any person to operate a concentrated animal feeding operation without first obtaining a license from the State Board of Agriculture.
 2. The owner or operator of an animal feeding operation not classified as a concentrated animal feeding operation may apply for a license if the owner or operator elects to come under the provisions of the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act and the rules of the State Board of Agriculture.

- B.
1. The Department of Environmental Quality shall have environmental jurisdiction over:
 - a. commercial manufacturers of fertilizers, grain and feed products, and chemicals, and over manufacturing of food and kindred products, tobacco, paper, lumber, wood, textile mill and other agricultural products,
 - b. slaughterhouses, but not including feedlots at these facilities, and
 - c. aquaculture and fish hatcheries, including, but not limited to, discharges of pollutants and storm water to waters of the state, surface impoundments and land application of wastes and sludge, and other pollution originating at these facilities.
 2. Facilities storing grain, feed, seed, fertilizer, and agricultural chemicals that are required by federal National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System regulations to obtain a permit for storm water discharges shall only be subject to the jurisdiction of the Department of Environmental Quality with respect to storm water discharges.

Laws 2007, HB 1796, c. 31, § 40, eff. November 1, 2007.

Section 20.54 – Licenses – Expiration – Renewal - Fees

- A. Licenses shall expire on June 30 of each year and may be renewed upon payment of the

license fee set forth in this section and continued compliance with the provisions of the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act and the rules of the Board.

B. The fees for an animal feeding operations license and annual renewal shall be:

1. Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00) for facilities with a capacity of less than two hundred fifty (250) animal units;
2. Thirty-seven Dollars and fifty cents (\$37.50) for facilities with a capacity of two hundred fifty (250) to five hundred (500) animal units;
3. Seventy-five Dollars (\$75.00) for facilities with a capacity of five hundred one (501) to three thousand (3,000) animal units;
4. One Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$150.00) for facilities with a capacity of three thousand one (3,001) to ten thousand (10,000) animal units; or
5. Two Hundred Twenty-five Dollars (\$225.00) for facilities with a capacity of more than ten thousand (10,000) animal units.

C. All fees received by the Board for licensure of animal feeding operations pursuant to this section shall be deposited in the State Department of Agriculture Revolving Fund.

Laws 2007, HB 1796, c. 31, § 41, eff. November 1, 2007.

Section 20.55 – Evidence of Financial Ability to Run an Animal Feeding Operation with a Liquid Animal Waste Management System

A. Any person who is licensed to operate an animal feeding operation with a liquid animal waste management system within this state shall furnish to the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry evidence of financial ability to comply with the requirements for closure of retention structures and other waste facilities as established pursuant to the provisions of this section and rules promulgated by the State Board of Agriculture.

B. 1. To establish evidence of financial ability the Department shall require:

a. Category A surety which shall include a financial statement listing assets and liabilities and including a general release that the information may be verified with banks and other financial institutions. The financial statement shall be confidential and shall not be opened to public inspection. The statement shall prove a net worth of not less than:

(1) Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) for any animal feeding operation licensed pursuant to the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act having a capacity of more than three hundred (300) animal units but having one thousand (1,000) animal units or less,

(2) Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) for any animal feeding operation licensed pursuant to the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act having a capacity of more than one thousand (1,000) animal units but less than two thousand (2,000) animal units, or

(3) Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) for any animal feeding operation licensed pursuant to the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act having a capacity of more than two thousand (2,000) animal units, or

b. Category B surety which shall include an irrevocable commercial letter of credit, cash, a cashier's check, a Certificate of Deposit, Bank Joint Custody Receipt, other negotiable instrument or a blanket surety bond. Except as provided in paragraph 2 of this subsection, amount of such letter of credit, cash, check, certificate, bond, receipt or other negotiable instrument shall be in the amount of

Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00). The Department is authorized to determine the amount of Category B surety based upon the past performance of the owner or operator regarding compliance with the laws of this state, and any rules promulgated pursuant thereto. Any instrument shall constitute an unconditional promise to pay and be in a form negotiable by the Department.

2. The Department upon certification by any animal feeding operation subject to Category B surety that its liability statewide is less than the twenty-five-thousand-dollar standard specified in this section may allow the owner or operator to provide Category B type surety in an amount less than the required Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00), but at least sufficient to cover the estimated cost of all closure and removal operations currently the responsibility of that owner or operator.
- C.
1. Any animal feeding operation licensed pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act which does not have any outstanding contempt citations or fines may post Category A surety.
 2. Any animal feeding operation licensed pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act which does have outstanding fines or contempt citations shall be required to post Category B surety. Animal feeding operations which have posted Category B surety and have operated under this type surety and have no outstanding fines at the end of three (3) years may post Category A surety.
- D. For good cause shown concerning pollution by the animal feeding operations posting either Category A or B surety, the Department, after notice and hearing, may require the filing of additional Category B surety in an amount greater than Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) but not to exceed Five Dollars (\$5.00) times the number of animal units for the facility being licensed.
- E.
1. If the Department, after notice and an opportunity for hearing, determines that the animal feeding operation licensed pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act has neglected, failed, or refused to close any surface impoundment, or remove or cause to be removed any equipment, or has abandoned the facility, then the animal feeding operation shall be deemed to have forfeited the letter of credit or negotiable instrument required by this section or shall pay to this state, for deposit in the State Treasury, a sum equal to the cost of closure of any surface impoundment or removal of equipment.
 2. The Department may cause the remedial work to be done, issuing a warrant in payment of the cost thereof drawn against the monies accruing in the State Treasury from the forfeiture or payment.
 3. The Department shall also recover any costs arising from litigation to enforce this provision. Provided, before an animal feeding operation is required to forfeit or pay any monies to the state pursuant to this section, the Department shall notify the animal feeding operation at the last-known address of the determination of neglect, failure or refusal to close any surface impoundment or remove equipment and the animal feeding operation shall have ten (10) days from the date of notification within which to commence remedial operations. Failure to commence remedial operations shall result in forfeiture or payment as provided in this subsection.
- F. If title to an animal feeding operation is transferred, the transferee shall furnish the evidence of financial ability to close surface impoundments required by the provisions of this section prior to the transfer.

Laws 2007, HB 1796, c. 31, § 42, eff. November 1, 2007.

Section 20.56 – Other Requirements for Animal Feeding Operations – Presumptions Created by Compliance

A. In addition to any other requirement of the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act, animal feeding operations owners and operators who are granted an animal feeding operations license shall:

1. Provide adequate veterinarian services for detection, control, and elimination of livestock diseases;
2. Have available for use at all necessary times mechanical means of scraping, cleaning, and grading feed yards premises; and
3. Provide weather resistant aprons adjacent to all permanently affixed feed bunks, water tanks, and feeding devices.

B. 1. Any animal feeding operation licensed pursuant to the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act, operated in compliance with those standards, and in compliance with the rules promulgated by the Board, shall be deemed to be prima facie evidence that a nuisance does not exist; provided, no animal feeding operation shall be located or operated in violation of any zoning regulations.

2. Any animal feeding operation licensed pursuant to the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act, operated in compliance with those standards, and in compliance with rules promulgated by the Board, that is located on land more than three (3) miles outside the incorporated limits of any municipality and which is not located within one (1) mile of ten or more occupied residences shall not be deemed a nuisance unless it is shown by a preponderance of the evidence that the operation endangers the health or safety of others.

Laws 2007, HB 1796, c. 31, § 43, eff. November 1, 2007.

Section 20.57 – Distance of Liquid Animal Waste and Animal Feeding Operations from Residences, Drinking Water Wells, Parks, and Other Facilities and Areas

A. Except as authorized by this subsection, no liquid animal waste shall be land applied within five hundred (500) feet of the nearest corner of an occupied residence not owned or leased by the owner of the animal feeding operation.

B. Except as provided by [Section 20-58](#) of this title, no concentrated animal feeding operation shall be established after September 1, 1997, which is within one (1) mile of ten or more residences that are occupied residences at the time of the establishment of the concentrated animal feeding operation.

C. The proscription contained in subsections A and B of this section shall not apply if the applicable property owner executes a written waiver with the owner or operator of the animal feeding operation, under the terms and conditions that the parties negotiate. The written waiver becomes effective upon recording of the waiver in the offices of the recorder of deeds in the county where the property is located. The filed waiver shall preclude enforcement of the setback requirements contained in subsections A and B of this section. A change in ownership of the applicable property or change in the ownership of the property on which the animal feeding operation is located shall not affect the validity of the waiver.

D. No liquid animal waste shall be land applied within three hundred (300) feet of an existing public or private drinking water well.

E. Except as provided by [Section 20-58](#) of this title, no concentrated animal feeding operation shall be established after September 1, 1997, which is located:

1. Within three (3) miles of a state park or resort;
2. On land within three (3) miles of the incorporated limits of any municipality, unless the municipality's governing body executes a written waiver of the setback for the particular animal feeding operation. A change in ownership of the property on which the animal feeding operation is located shall not affect the validity of the waiver;
3. Within three (3) miles of the high water mark of a surface public water supply if the concentrated animal feeding operation is located within the drainage basin for the public water supply.

F. All distances between occupied residences and animal feeding operations shall be measured from the closest corner of the walls of the occupied residence to the closest point of the nearest waste facility, as determined by the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry. The property boundary line of the real property is not used unless it coincides with the closest point of the waste facility or occupied residence.

Laws 2007, HB 1796, c. 31, § 44, eff. November 1, 2007; Amended by Laws 2017, SB 147, c. 215, § 1, eff. November 1, 2017 ([superseded document available](#)).

Section 20.58 – Setback Requirements – Applicability to Certain Existing Operations

Animal feeding operations, other than a concentrated animal feeding operation, not licensed pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Feed Yards Act in operation on the effective date of this act shall not be subject to any setback requirements not in effect on the date of past construction.

Laws 2007, HB 1796, c. 31, § 45, eff. November 1, 2007.

Section 20.59 – Applications for Permits for Construction of Concentrated animal Feeding Operation Within One Mile Upstream of Pensacola Project Boundary

The Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry shall not accept or approve any pending applications requesting permits for construction of any concentrated animal feeding operation to be located within one (1) mile upstream of the Pensacola Project boundary as described in the records of the Grand River Dam Authority and the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Any operation authorized or permitted prior to April 17, 2002, shall not be affected by the provisions of this section.

Laws 2007, HB 1796, c. 31, § 46, eff. November 1, 2007.

Section 20.60 – Temporary Exception to Animal Unit Capacity Limitation

A. A concentrated animal feeding operation may exceed its animal unit capacity if:

1. A diseased or potentially diseased animal exists at the operation; or
2. A diseased or potentially diseased animal is in the next destination for the production line for the operation; and
3. The owner of the concentrated animal feeding operation has reasonable cause to believe an animal has or may have any disease causing:
 - a. a public health emergency,
 - b. a substantial and imminent economic hardship to the owner, or
 - c. a substantial and imminent threat to the animal population of the state, or
4. The State Board of Agriculture issues an order establishing temporary restrictions, a quarantine, or a quarantine zone restricting the movement of persons, livestock, machinery, and personal property out of a concentrated animal feeding operation.

B. In no case shall an animal unit capacity be exceeded for more than five (5) days following a confirmatory test indicating that either the animal is diseased or is not diseased. A confirmatory test shall be performed within twenty (20) days of discovery that a diseased or potentially diseased animal exists at the operation.

C. The owner of a concentrated animal feeding operation shall provide written notification to the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry upon discovery of a diseased or potentially diseased animal pursuant to subsection A of this section that may result in the animal unit capacity being exceeded.

D. The notice shall:

1. Identify the concentrated animal feeding operation that may exceed its animal unit capacity; and
2. Include an estimate of the number of animals exceeding the animal unit capacity at the concentrated animal feeding operation.

Laws 2007, HB 1796, c. 31, § 47, eff. November 1, 2007.

Section 20.61 – Licenses – Suspension or Revocation

A. 1. The State Board of Agriculture shall have the power to suspend, revoke or not renew the license of any animal feeding operation after a hearing, and after an administrative determination that the animal feeding operation has violated or has failed to comply with any of the provisions of the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act, or any rule promulgated pursuant thereto.

2. The Board shall have the power and duty to reinstate any such suspended or revoked licenses, or renew the licenses, upon a satisfactory and acceptable showing and assurance that the animal feeding operation conducted animal feeding operations in conformity with, and in compliance with, the provisions of the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act and rules promulgated pursuant thereto, and that such conformity and compliance will be continuous.

B. In order to protect the public health and safety and the environment of this state, the Board, pursuant to the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act, may deny issuance of a license or transfer of a license to establish and operate an animal feeding operation to any person or other legal entity which:

1. Is not in substantial compliance with a final agency order or any final order or judgment of a court of record secured by any state or federal agency relating to animal feeding operations; or
2. Has evidenced a reckless disregard for the protection of the public and the environment as demonstrated by a history of noncompliance with environmental laws and rules resulting in endangerment of human health or the environment.

C. Any action taken in regard to the denial, suspension or revocation of a license shall be in conformity with the rules of the Board governing Administrative Procedures and the Administrative Procedures Act.

Laws 2007, HB 1796, c. 31, § 48, eff. November 1, 2007; Amended by Laws 2024, HB 3756, c. 52, § 2, eff. November 1, 2024 ([superseded document available](#)).

Section 20.62 – Violations of Act or Rules – Punishment, Fines, and Other Penalties – Court Actions and Relief

A. Any person violating the provisions of the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act or any rule of the Board promulgated pursuant thereto shall, upon conviction, be

deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof may be punished by a fine not exceeding Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00).

B. Any owner or operator who fails to take such action as may be reasonable and necessary to avoid pollution of any stream, lake, river or creek, except as otherwise provided by law, or who violates any rule of the Board adopted to prevent water pollution from animal feeding operations pursuant to this act shall, upon conviction, be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof may be punished by a fine of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) to Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) for each violation, by imprisonment in the county jail for not more than six (6) months for each violation, or by the assessment of a civil penalty up to Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) for each violation or by any of such fine, imprisonment, and civil penalty.

- C. 1. In addition to the criminal and civil penalties specified by this section, the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry may:
- a. assess an administrative penalty of not more than Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) per day of noncompliance, or
 - b. bring an action for injunctive relief granted by a district court.
2. A district court may grant injunctive relief to prevent a violation of, or to compel compliance with, any of the provisions of the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act or any rule promulgated thereunder or order, license or permit issued pursuant to the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act.
3. Nothing in this section shall preclude the Department from seeking penalties in district court in the maximum amount allowed by law. The assessment of penalties in an administrative enforcement proceeding shall not prevent the subsequent assessment by a court of the maximum civil or criminal penalties for violations of the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act.

D. Any person assessed an administrative or civil penalty may be required to pay, in addition to such penalty amount and interest thereon, attorney fees and costs associated with the collection of such penalties.

E. The Attorney General or the district attorney of the appropriate district court of Oklahoma may bring an action in a court of competent jurisdiction for the prosecution of a violation by any person of a provision of the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act or any rule promulgated thereunder, or order, license or permit issued pursuant thereto.

- F. 1. Any action for injunctive relief to redress or restrain a violation by any person of the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act or for any rule promulgated thereunder, or order, license, or permit issued pursuant thereto or recovery of any administrative or civil penalty assessed pursuant to the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act may be brought by:
- a. the district attorney of the appropriate district court of the State of Oklahoma,
 - b. the Attorney General on behalf of the State of Oklahoma, or
 - c. the Department on behalf of the State of Oklahoma.
2. The court shall have jurisdiction to determine said action, and to grant the necessary or appropriate relief, including but not limited to mandatory or prohibitive injunctive relief, interim equitable relief, and punitive damages.
3. It shall be the duty of the Attorney General and district attorney, if requested by the Commissioner of Agriculture, to bring such actions.

G. Except as otherwise provided by law, administrative and civil penalties shall be paid into the Department of Agriculture Revolving Fund.

H. In determining the amount of a civil penalty or administrative penalty, the court or the Department, as the case may be, shall consider such factors as the nature, circumstances and gravity of the violation or violations, the economic benefit, if any, resulting to the defendant from the violation, the history of such violations, any good-faith efforts to comply with the applicable requirements, the economic impact of the penalty on the defendant, the defendant's degree of culpability, and such other matters as justice may require.

I. For the purposes of this section, each day upon which a violation is committed or is permitted to continue shall be deemed a separate offense.

J. In addition to other penalties as may be imposed by law, any person who knowingly makes any false statement, representation or certification in any water pollution form, notice or report, or who knowingly renders inaccurate any monitoring device or method required to be maintained by any water pollution rules promulgated by the Board shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a misdemeanor and may be subject to a fine of not more than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) for each violation.

Laws 2007, HB 1796, c. 31, § 49, eff. November 1, 2007.

Section 20.63 – Poultry-Laying Operations – Complaints of Violations - Emergencies

A. Due to the inherently unique nature of poultry-laying operations, and the increased propensity for vector propagation at such facilities, poultry-laying operations licensed pursuant to the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act, shall be conducted only in a manner as prescribed by the State Department of Agriculture by rule promulgated pursuant to this section and the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act.

B. If three valid complaints are received by the Department against a poultry-laying operation, licensed pursuant to the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act, within a period of sixty (60) days, the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry, upon inspection and verification of the complaint, shall declare that an emergency exists.

C. Whenever the Department finds that an emergency exists requiring immediate action to protect the public health or welfare or the environment pursuant to this subsection, the Department may without notice or hearing issue an order, effective upon issuance, reciting the existence of such an emergency and requiring that such action be taken as deemed necessary to meet the emergency. Any person to whom such an order is directed shall comply therewith immediately but may request an administrative enforcement hearing thereon within fifteen (15) days after the order is served. The hearing shall be held by the Department within ten (10) days after receipt of the request. On the basis of the hearing record, the Department shall sustain or modify such order.

D. If, at the hearing, it is determined that the operator is in violation of the provisions of this section and rules promulgated pursuant thereto, in addition to other administrative penalties authorized by law, the Department may order that the operator be prohibited from land applying waste for one hundred sixty (160) days after determination that the facility is in violation.

E. Any party aggrieved by a final order may petition the Department for rehearing, reopening or reconsideration within ten (10) days from the date of the entry of the final order. Any party aggrieved by a final order, including the Attorney General on behalf of the state, may, pursuant to the Administrative Procedures Act, petition for a judicial review thereof.

F. The provisions of this section may be enforced pursuant to the provisions of Section 49 of this act.

Laws 1998, SB 1175, c. 404, § 18, emerg. eff. August 1, 1998; Amended by Laws 1999, SB 240, c. 231, § 2, emerg. eff. May 26, 1999 ([superseded document available](#)); Renumbered from [2 O.S. § 9-212.1](#) by Laws 2005, HB 1467, c. 292, § 25, emerg. eff. July 1, 2005; Amended by Laws 2007, HB 1796, c. 31, § 26, eff. November 1, 2007 ([superseded document available](#)); Renumbered from [2 O.S. § 20-27](#) by Laws 2007, HB 1796, c. 31, § 51, eff. November 1, 2007.

Section 20.64 – Enactment as Part of Agricultural Code - Codification

The Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act shall be enacted as a part of the Agricultural Code and shall be codified accordingly.

Laws 2007, HB 1796, c. 31, § 50, eff. November 1, 2007.