



**AGENDA**  
**ANIMAL CONTROL ADVISORY BOARD**  
**JOSHUA POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**OCTOBER 09, 2023**  
**6:30 PM**

The Joshua Animal Control Advisory Board will hold a Special Meeting on October 09, 2023, at 6:30 pm in the training room in Joshua Police Department, located at 102 S. Main, Joshua, Texas. This meeting is open to the public and subject to the Open Meeting Laws of the State of Texas.

**A. CALL TO ORDER AND ANNOUNCE A QUORUM PRESENT**

**B. REGULAR AGENDA**

1. Discuss, consider, and possible changes to Rabies and Home Quarantine Ordinances.

**C. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/REQUESTS BY BOARD MEMBERS TO BE PLACED ON THE NEXT AGENDA**

Board members shall not make routine inquiries about operations or project status on an item that is not posted. However, any board member may state an issue and request that this issue be placed on a future agenda.

**D. ADJOURN**

Pursuant to Section 551.127, Texas Government Code, one or more Board Members may attend this meeting remotely using videoconferencing technology. The video and audio feed of the videoconferencing equipment can be viewed and heard by the public at the address posted above as the location of the meeting.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Joshua will provide reasonable accommodations for disabled persons attending this meeting. Requests should be received at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled meeting by contacting the City Secretary's office at 817/556-0603.

**CERTIFICATE:**

I hereby certify that the above agenda was posted on the 3rd day of October 2023, at 5:00 pm on the official bulletin board at Joshua City Hall, 101 S. Main Street, Joshua, Texas.

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Alice Holloway, City Secretary



**Animal Advisory Agenda  
October 9, 2023**

**Minutes Resolution**

**Discussion Item**

**Agenda Description:**

Discuss, consider, and possible changes to Rabies and Home Quarantine ordinances.

**Background Information:**

Current Rabies ordinance doesn't define procedure for quarantine.

**Financial Information:**

Addition of a fee for home quarantine.

**City Contact and Recommendations:**

Kelley Gelsthorpe, staff recommends suggested changes to ordinances.

**Attachments:**

- Ordinance 2.03.002 Rabies vaccination, Ordinance 2.03.003 Report of Rabies, Ordinance 2.03.004 Quarantine
- Current Home Quarantine Contract

## City of Joshua current:

### 2.03.002 Rabies vaccination.

#### (a)

Vaccinations required:

**(1)** A person who owns, keeps, harbors or has custody of a dog, cat, or ferret over four (4) months of age must have said animal immunized against rabies by injection of anti-rabies vaccine by a veterinarian validly licensed in the state or in another jurisdiction.

**(2)** The same animal must receive a booster within the 12-month interval following the animal's initial vaccination, or such interval as provided by state law; and the same animal must be revaccinated against rabies at a minimum of at least once each year with a rabies vaccine licensed by the department of agriculture, or at such interval as provided by state law.

**(3)** A person commits an offense if the person owns, keeps, harbors, or has custody of a dog, cat, or ferret that has not been immunized against rabies as required by this section.

**(b)** Every owner of a dog, cat, or ferret immunized against rabies shall procure a rabies vaccination certificate from the veterinarian administering the vaccine. **The certificate of vaccination shall contain the following information:**

**(1)** The name, address and telephone number of the owner of the vaccinated animal;

**(2)** The date of vaccination;

**(3)** The year and number of the rabies tag; and

**(4)** The breed, age, color and sex of the vaccinated animal;

**(5)** The name and address of the issuing veterinarian.

#### Rabies tags.

**(1)** Concurrent with the issuance and delivery of the certificate of vaccination referred to in subsection **(b)** above, the owner of the animal shall:

**a.** Outfit the animal with a collar or harness, and

**b.** Affix a metal tag, serially numbered to correspond with the vaccination certificate number, bearing the year of issuance and the name and address of the issuing veterinarian to the collar or harness, and

**c.** Require the animal to wear the collar or harness with the attached metal tag at all times.

**(2)**

Duplicate tags. In the event of loss or destruction of the original tag provided in subsection **(c)**, the owner of the animal shall obtain a duplicate tag from the veterinarian who administered the vaccination. Vaccination certificates and tags shall be valid only for the animal for which they were originally issued.

## **§ 6-2 Rabies control.**

(Ord. No. B-749-06, § 1(3-2), 4-13-2006)

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**(c)** The provisions restricting the use and sale of rabies vaccine for animals as set forth in the state statute enacting the “Rabies Control Act of 1981” are hereby adopted by reference, as contained in chapter 826 of the Health and Safety Code, V.T.C.S., a copy of which is on file in the office of the city secretary, and as amended from time to time.

**(d)** It shall be unlawful for a person to administer, sell, or distribute rabies vaccine for animals in a manner not authorized by subsection **(c)**, above.

(Ordinance 822-2021 adopted 9/16/21)

## **§ 2.03.003 Reports of rabies. Reports of animal bites to humans**

**(a)** A person, including a veterinarian, who knows of an animal bite or scratch to an individual that the person could reasonably foresee as capable of transmitting rabies, or who knows of an animal that the person suspects is rabid, shall report the incident or animal to the local rabies control authority of the county or municipality in which the person lives, in which the animal is located, or in which the exposure occurs. **The report should be made no more than 24 hours after the time of the incident.**

**(b)** The report must include:

**(1)** the name and address of the victim and of the animal's owner, if known; and

**(2)** Any other information that may help in locating the victim or animal.

3) Police report if police officers responded to the bite incident.

4) Report from the hospital notifying animal services of a bite incident.

0) Owner responsibility- if the biting animal is owned, the owner shall place that animal in quarantine, as prescribed in the section below, under the supervision of the animal control authority or a licensed veterinarian.

**(c)** The animal control department shall investigate a report filed under this section.

(Ordinance 822-2021 adopted 9/16/21)

### **§ 6-3 Animal bites to humans.**

(Ord. No. B-749-06, § 1(3-3), 4-13-2006)

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#### **2.03.004 Quarantine.**

A person commits an offense if the person fails to submit for quarantine or testing an animal that the animal control department has probable cause to believe is rabid, may have been exposed to rabies, or may have exposed a person to rabies. The animal control officer shall be authorized to obtain an administrative search warrant if there is reason to believe any requirements of this section are violated.

(Ordinance 822-2021 adopted 9/16/21)

Procedures for animal quarantine:

#### **(a) Disposition of biting animals.**

The owner of an animal subject to quarantine pursuant to this chapter is required to quarantine the animal for a period of not less than ten days confinement from the date of the bite, at the owner's expense. The quarantine may be accomplished by:

**(1)** Quarantine in the animal shelter, supervised by the local animal control authority;

**(2)** Quarantine at a veterinary clinic, supervised by a licensed veterinarian; or

**(3)** Home quarantine. The owner of the animal may request permission from the animal control authority for home quarantine, which may be granted if the animal control authority determines that:

**a.**

Secure facilities are available at the home of the animal's owner and the animal control authority has approved them;

**b.** The animal is currently vaccinated against rabies as required by state law;

**c.** The nature of the bite is not severe;

**d.** A quarantine fee as specified in the fee schedule is paid to the city;

**e.** The animal has not been running at large at the time the bite occurred;

**f.** The animal has not been quarantined for a previous bite incident; and

**g.** The bite victim agrees to the home quarantine.

**(b)** Observation of the animal.

The animal control authority or a licensed veterinarian must observe the animal at least on the first and last days of the quarantine period. If the animal becomes ill during the observation period, the person having possession of the animal shall notify the animal control authority as soon as the animal presents with symptoms of any illness.

**(c)** Destruction of animal.

If the biting animal cannot be maintained in secure quarantine, it shall be humanely destroyed and the brain submitted to a Texas Department of State Health Services certified laboratory for rabies diagnosis. The owner of the animal may be requested to reimburse the expense of shipping the brain of the animal.

**(d)** Interruption.

A person commits an offense if the person interrupts the observation period by removing an animal from the quarantine facility approved by the animal control authority. Any interruption of the quarantine by any person shall be just cause

for seizure and impoundment of the quarantined animal by the animal control authority.

**(e) Release.**

**(1)** An animal that has been quarantined may be released by the local rabies control authority under the following conditions:

**a.** At the end of the observation period, if the owner can provide proof that the animal is currently vaccinated,

**b.** When all applicable fees have been paid; and

**c.** If the animal is not being impounded for legal proceedings.

**(2)** If, by the end of the observation period, the owner cannot provide proof that the animal is currently vaccinated, the animal control authority will conditionally release the animal with a voucher for rabies vaccination paid for by the animal's owner. The owner commits an offense if (s)he does not provide proof of vaccination to the animal control authority within one business day of the animal's release from quarantine.

**(f) Dangerous wild animals.**

No dangerous wild animal will be placed in quarantine. Any dangerous wild animal involved in a biting incident will be humanely euthanized and the brain shall be submitted to a Texas Department of State Health Services certified laboratory for rabies diagnosis.

**(g) Disposition of unclaimed, quarantined animal.**

If the owner of a quarantined animal does not take possession of the animal, it may be disposed of in accordance with section **6-11**, and Texas Code § 826.043(d).

**§ 6-4 Procedures for animal quarantine.**

(Ord. No. B-749-06, § 1(3-4), 4-13-2006)

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### Home Quarantine/Isolation Agreement

10-Day Quarantine       45-Day isolation       90-Day Isolation

*Please initial each requirement. Quarantines are required for bites. Isolations are required for rabies exposure.*

Owner/Caretaker Name: _____		Phone #: _____	
Quarantine Address: _____			
Animal Name: _____	Breed: _____	Male/Female	Color: _____
Weight: _____	Age: _____		

***The following criteria shall be required during any quarantine/isolation period.***

___	1. During the entire quarantine/isolation period the animal must be confined in an anti-escape enclosure to prevent escape and contact with other animals and humans.
___	2. If the animal becomes ill, dies (do not dispose of the body) escapes while on <u>rabies</u> quarantine, immediately contact Joshua Animal Services (817)774-9450. If after hours, you shall contact the Johnson County Sheriff's Non-Emergency Number (817)556-6060.
___	3. Under no circumstances is the animal to be moved from the approved address.
___	4. While on rabies quarantine, the animal may not receive an anti-rabies vaccination.
___	5. An animal control officer must observe the animal at least on the first day and on the last day of quarantine/isolation.
___	6. Release from quarantine/isolation must be made by a Joshua Animal Control Officer.
___	7. The animal must be current on rabies vaccination and must not be running at large at the time of the bite.

<b><i>10-Day Quarantine</i></b>	
First Day of Quarantine: _____	Start Time: _____
Last Day of Quarantine: _____	End Time: _____



**Instructions and requirements of home confinement:**

- Your pet may not leave your property except to go to the veterinarian.
- Contact Joshua Animal Services if you notice any changes in the health and/or behavior of your pet.
- Your pet must be maintained on the property indoors and kept away from all other pets and humans with the exception of the caregiver.
- Animal Control or a vet must observe the pet on at least the first and last day of confinement.

<b><i>45-Day Confinement</i></b>		
First Day of Quarantine: _____		Start Time: _____
Last Day of Quarantine: _____		End Time: _____
<b>Rabies Boosters</b>		
Booster #1: _____	Booster #2: _____	Booster #3: _____

<b><i>90-Day Confinement</i></b>		
First Day of Quarantine: _____		Start Time: _____
Last Day of Quarantine: _____		End Time: _____
<b>Rabies Boosters</b>		
Booster #1: _____	Booster #2: _____	Booster #3: _____
<b><i>*Proof of rabies booster must be provided to Joshua Animal Services with each booster.</i></b>		

Any violation of the home quarantine/isolation agreement shall result in the immediate revocation of the home quarantine/isolation approval. I have read, understand, and agree to the requirements of this agreement.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Owner/Caretaker

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Officer Requesting Home Quarantine

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Approved for home quarantine/isolation: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes or No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Releasing Animal Control Officer: _____	Officer Signature: _____  Date Released: _____