

EXCERPTS from the minutes of the Special Session of the Sangguniang Bayan of Camaligan, Camarines Sur held at its session hall on November 20, 2009

PRESENT:	Nathaniel F. Capucao	- Municipal Vice Mayor/Presiding Officer
	Marissa F. Trinidad	- Municipal Councilor / Member
	Diano SJ. Ibardaloza, Jr.	- Municipal Councilor / Member
	Eduardo C. Loriaga	- Municipal Councilor / Member
	Emmanuel K. Moll	- Municipal Councilor / Member
	Shiela A. Morico	- Municipal Councilor / Member
	Gaudencio A. Rabina	- Municipal Councilor / Member
	Benedicto B. Jacob	- Municipal Councilor / Member
	Arturo P. Almendral	- Municipal Councilor / Member
	James Bob M. Sambo	- SKF President/Ex-Officio Member
ABSENT:	Rodelio L. Punzalan	- LMB President/Ex-Officio Member

ORDINANCE NO. 010-009

Series of 2009

AN ORDINANCE TO CONTROL AND PROPERLY HANDLE RABIES CASES IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CAMALIGAN, PRESCRIBING GUIDELINES FOR QUARANTINE PROCEDURE, APPROPRIATING FUNDS AND IMPOSING PENALTIES THEREOF

WHEREAS, the residents of Camaligan need to be protected or safeguarded from any health risks posed by animals and pets susceptible to the rabies virus;

WHEREAS, an alarmingly high incidence of rabies cases has become a major health concern in the municipality;

WHEREAS, there is an urgent necessity to develop a well-defined program for managing or handling rabies cases in the municipality; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the municipal government of Camaligan to impose regulation and control on the activity and maintenance of dogs in relation to the safeguarding of the welfare of all residents;

NOW THEREFORE, on motion by Councilor Marissa F. Trinidad, duly seconded by all the members present, be it:-

RESOLVED AS IT HEREBY RESOLVES, to enact the hereunder Municipal Ordinance, to wit:-

SECTION 1. Identification and Authority.

This Ordinance shall be known as the “Rabies Control Ordinance of the Municipality of Camaligan”.

This Ordinance is adopted under the authority provided by Republic Act No. 9482 or the Anti-Rabies Act of 2007.

SECTION 2. Purpose. This Ordinance addresses the following:

- (a) Compulsory rabies immunization of mammals capable of being infected with rabies such as dogs, cats, and other animals kept as pets;
- (b) Guides municipal health personnel and others providing services for animal owners and animal bite victims;

- (c) Guides owners of mammals capable of being infected with and exposing people and other mammals to rabies;
- (d) Promotes services for animal control;
- (e) Authorizes administrative fees to support the cost of municipal rabies control services; and
- (f) Establishes penalties for failing to comply with this Ordinance.

SECTION 3. Jurisdiction. This ordinance shall apply within the municipality of Camaligan.

SECTION 4. Definitions. Unless specifically indicated otherwise, the definitions in this Section shall apply to the content of this Ordinance:

- (a) "**Animal owner**" means the person(s) known to own or be responsible for a mammal capable of being infected with rabies;
- (b) "**Animal shelter**" means the facilities for the temporary containment of animals, operated by the Municipal Animal Control and Management Council;
- (c) "**Cat**" means a domesticated feline wholly of the species *Felis Domesticus*, male or female, intact or neutered.
- (d) "**Confined**" or "**Confinement**" means temporarily and humanely enclosing and confining a rabies suspect animal throughout a quarantine period, at a place agreed upon by the animal owner and municipal authorities;
- (e) "**Dog**" means a domesticated canine mammal wholly of the species *Canis Familiaris*, male or female, intact or neutered.
- (f) "**Municipal Health Officer**" means the Doctor-In-Charge of the Municipal Health Office or his authorized representatives;
- (g) "**Impounded**" or "**Impoundment**" means temporarily placing a mammal, capable of being infected with rabies, in an appropriately designed and maintained animal shelter;
- (h) "**Mammal**" means any of a class of warm-blooded higher vertebrates that nourish their young with milk secreted by mammary glands, have the skin usually more or less covered with hair, and include humans;
- (i) "**Municipality**" means a political or local government unit as defined by Republic Act 7160 or the Local Government Code of 1991;
- (j) "**Potentially Dangerous Dog**" means any dog that when unprovoked: (a) inflicts bites on a person, domestic animal, or livestock either on public or private property, or (b) chases or approaches a person upon the streets, side-walks, or any public grounds or private property in a menacing fashion or apparent attitude of attack, or (c) any dog with a known propensity, tendency, or disposition to attack unprovoked or to cause injury or otherwise to threaten the safety of people, domestic animal, or livestock on any public or private property;
- (k) "**Quarantine**" means the detention or isolation of an animal on account of suspected exposure or affliction with rabies; or the restriction of the activities of and access to rabies of suspect animals that have been, or may have been, exposed to this type of communicable disease;
- (l) "**Rabies Suspect Animal**" means a mammal that a) is capable of being infected with rabies and b) has caused an abrasion or puncture of the skin, or otherwise exposed a person or other animal to its mouth parts or saliva;

- (m) **“Unvaccinated animal”** means an animal which has either never been vaccinated against rabies or whose vaccination has expired, and which has been bitten by a known rabid animal;
- (n) **“Vaccination Against Rabies”** means inoculation of a mammal, capable of being infected with rabies such as a dog, cat, farm animal, or other animal kept as a pet, with a rabies vaccine;
- (o) **“Vaccinated animal”** means an animal which has been vaccinated, and which has been bitten by a known rabid animal.

SECTION 5. Municipal Rabies Prevention and Control Program. It is hereby mandated that there shall be a Municipal Rabies Prevention and Control Program to be implemented by the Municipal Animal Control and Management Council through the Municipal Health Office and the Municipal Agriculture Office. The program shall be a multi-sector effort for controlling and eliminating rabies in the municipality. Among its component activities are the following: (1) mass vaccination of dogs; (2) establishment of a central database system for registered and vaccinated dogs; (3) impounding, field control and disposition of unregistered, stray and unvaccinated dogs; (4) conduct of information and education campaign on the prevention and control of rabies; and the (5) encouragement of the practice of responsible pet ownership. Included among the program implementers are the Barangays, Department of Education (DepEd), Business Sector, Transport Sector, Non-Governmental Organizations, and People's Organizations.

SECTION 6. Responsibilities of Pet Owners and Custodians. All pet owners shall be required to:

- (a) Quarantine any dog or cat which he suspects of being infected with the disease of rabies;
- (b) Maintain a record of all vaccinations conducted on their dog, cat or any animal capable of being infected with rabies for accurate record purposes;
- (c) Submit their dogs and other pets for mandatory registration;
- (d) Maintain control over their dog and not allow it to roam the streets or any public place without a leash;
- (e) Provide their dog with proper grooming, adequate food and clean shelter;
- (f) Immediately report any dog biting incident to the MACMC within twenty-four (24) hours, for investigation or for any appropriate action and place such dog under observation by a government veterinarian; and
- (g) Assist the dog or cat bite victim immediately and shoulder the medical expenses incurred and other incidental expenses relative to the victim's injuries.

SECTION 7. Responsibilities of the Local Government thru the Municipal Health Office (MHO). The MHO shall spearhead the performance of the following:

- (a) At times that incidence of rabies is reported in the Municipality of Camaligan, orders the seizure and impoundment of any dog or cat running at large;
- (b) Place in quarantine any dog or cat that has bitten a person or suspected of being infected with rabies;
- (c) Declare that a dog or cat may be infected with rabies if the teeth caused a deep cut in the skin of the bitten person;
- (d) In coordination with the Municipal Animal Control and Management Council, initiate the quarantine process by issuing a notice to the owner or custodian of the dog or cat involved in the biting incident;

- (e) Provide medical care and assistance to animal bite victim.

SECTION 8. Responsibilities of the Local Government thru the Municipal Agriculture Extension Services Office (MAESO). The MAESO shall-:

- (a) Ensure that all dogs are properly immunized, registered and issued a corresponding dog tag for every immunized and registered dog;
- (b) Strictly enforce dog impounding activities and field control to eliminate stray dogs;
- (c) Ensure that dogs are leashed or confined within the premises of the owner's house or owner's fenced surroundings;
- (d) Determine funds to be allocated for the implementation of the Municipal Rabies Prevention and Control Program, particularly on the financing of human and dog vaccines needed for immunization;
- (e) Ensure the enforcement of Republic Act No. 9482 or the "Anti-Rabies Act of 2007" and of Section 6 of Republic Act No. 8485 or "The Animal Welfare Act of 1998";
- (f) Enact additional local ordinances that will support the Municipal Rabies Prevention and Control Program;
- (g) Prohibit the trade of dogs for meat.
- (h) Establish and maintain a Municipal Animal Impounding Facility where impounded dogs shall be kept;
- (i) Strictly implement euthanasia as a procedure for disposing of dogs infected with rabies;
- (j) Employ the services of a veterinarian or enter into agreement with other Local Government Units to share the services of their veterinarians; and
- (k) Require pet owners to attend or undergo seminars or consultations on rabies and responsible pet ownership.

SECTION 9. Quarantine – Notice to Owner. The Municipal Health Officer may initiate the quarantine process by notifying the owner or custodian of such suspected animal, either by:

- (a) Summoning through text message;
- (b) Calling by cellular or landline phone; or
- (c) Hand delivering a written notice of such quarantine which shall prescribe the duration of the quarantine period; Provided, that the period of the quarantine shall not exceed ten days, unless it is determined that the animal is infected with rabies.

The delivery of the notice of quarantine to a responsible person present upon the premises where such animal is kept shall be considered service of a notice upon the owner or custodian. Any such animals so quarantined shall be impounded in the Municipal Animal Impounding Facility. In the discretion of the Municipal Health Officer, the animal may be quarantined upon the premises of the owner or any other person so long as the requirements of the quarantine are strictly fulfilled.

SECTION 10. Quarantine – Obligations of Owner. The owner of a dog, cat or any mammalian pet shall carry out the following obligations during the quarantine process:

- (a) During the quarantine period, the owner or custodian of a quarantined animal shall not allow the animal to come in contact with any other animal or person or permit such animal to run at large outside of the premises where it is quarantined

- or within the premises itself, unless the premises is enclosed by a secure fence from which the animal cannot escape;
- (b) When a fence encloses the access to the premises, the animal must be restricted to leave free access to those persons lawfully entering the premises;
 - (c) The owner or custodian shall not remove or cause the animal to be removed from the premises without the prior consent of the Municipal Health Officer. These restrictions shall continue until the animal is released from quarantine. If any animal is found running at large after the commencement of the quarantine period or is removed from the premises where it is quarantined, it shall be impounded and unless claimed and redeemed by its owner or custodian within three days after the expiration of the quarantine period, may be destroyed on orders by the Municipal Animal Control and Management Council; and
 - (d) Upon redemption of a dog, cat or other animal released from quarantine from the Municipal Animal Impounding Facility the owner or custodian shall pay the same impounding fee and custody fee for any dog, cat or other animal quarantined in the facility.

SECTION 11. Handling of an Animal Bitten by Rabid Animal. When an animal is known to have been bitten by a rabid animal, the following procedures shall be followed:

- (a) *Unvaccinated Animal.* An unvaccinated animal shall be immediately destroyed; provided, that upon the preference of the owner, the animal may be kept in its owner's care, in strict isolation in a secure shelter under competent supervision for a minimum period of six months following the bite.
- (b) *Vaccinated Animal.* A vaccinated animal shall be handled as follows:
 - (b.1) The animal shall be immediately revaccinated with an approved rabies vaccine and confined under the supervision of a competent authority for a period of thirty days following revaccination; or
 - (b.2) If the animal is not immediately revaccinated, it shall be confined in strict isolation in a secure shelter for six months under the supervision of a competent authority; or
 - (b.3) The animal shall be destroyed on orders by the Municipal Animal Control and Management Council if the owner or custodian refuses or does not comply with subsections 1 or 2 above.

SECTION 12. Publication of Notice of Outbreak of Rabies. Upon any outbreak of rabies or when rabies has been diagnosed within the Municipality of Camaligan, and when in the judgment of the Municipal Health Officer there is imminent danger of the spread of the disease, he/she shall issue a memorandum to all barangay chairmen to notify their respective constituents within three (3) days that news of the outbreak has reach his/her office. For a period of six weeks following the memorandum, the owner or custodian of a dog, cat or any animal susceptible to rabies shall keep the animal securely confined at all times by leash or in a tight enclosure from which it cannot escape. During said period any dog, dog, cat or any animal found running at large in the Municipality of Camaligan shall be impounded and unless claimed and redeemed subject to the payment of impoundment and custody fees by its owner within seventy (72) hours following such impounding may be destroyed by the proper authorities. Any person responsible with the enforcement of this Ordinance may destroy any dog, cat or any animal found running at large within the Municipality of Camaligan during the period of reported outbreak after securing an authorization from the Municipal Animal Control and Management Council; provided, that, a reasonable effort has been exerted to locate the owner or custodian of said dog, cat or animal. The Municipal Health Officer shall have authority to extend the

 six-week period for additional six-week periods by notice given in the manner provided above until, in his judgment, the imminent danger of the spread of the disease is no longer present.

SECTION 13. Quarantine Procedures. The Municipal Animal Control and Management Council shall direct the Municipal Health Office to develop a quarantine program for dogs, cats, and other household pets and otherwise to assist in the formulation of procedures for the enforcement of this Ordinance.

SECTION 14. Unlawful Acts and Corresponding Penalties. The following are punishable acts under this Ordinance:

	PROHIBITED ACTS	FINE
1	Refusal of dog or pet owners to have their dog or pet registered;	Php 200.00
2	Refusal of owners to have their dog or pet vaccinated against rabies;	200.00
3	Refusal of dog or pet owners to have their dog or pet put under observation after the dog or pet has bitten a person;	500.00
4	Refusal of owners to shoulder the medical expenses of the person bitten by their dog or pet;	1,000.00
5	Refusal of owners to put leash on their dogs or pets when they are brought outside the confines of their residences, premises, compound or private properties;	100.00
6	Refusal to pay the impounding and handling fee for their impounded dog or pets;	300.00
7	Slaughtering of dogs and selling, trading, & cooking their meat for food;	500.00
8	Neglect to provide adequate care, sustenance or shelter, or maltreat any animal forcing them to scavenge for their food and survival;	500.00

Penalty of imprisonment or both such fine and imprisonment may be imposed at the discretion of the court.

Settlement of fine under this ordinance shall not excuse the pet/animal owner from the liability to the animal bite victim and he/she is still obliged to pay for his/her medical treatment.

SECTION 16. Separability. If any section, sub-section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining provisions of this Ordinance, which shall continue to be in force and in effect.

SECTION 17. Repealing and Amendatory Clause. Ordinances, rules and regulations or parts thereof, which are inconsistent or in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed and/or modified accordingly.

SECTION 18. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon approval.

ENACTED: November 20, 2009



WE HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness and truthfulness of the foregoing.

JOY MARIE I. SAN BUENAVENTURA
Sangguniang Bayan Secretary

MARISSA F. TRINIDAD
Municipal Councilor

DIANO S.J. IBARDALOZA, JR.
Municipal Councilor

EDUARDO C. LORIAGA
Municipal Councilor

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RODELIO L. PUNZALAN
ABC President

JAMES BOB M. SAMBO
SKF President

Attested by:

NATHANIEL F. CAPUCAO
Municipal Vice-Mayor and Presiding Officer

Approved:

ROLANDO C. EDUARDO
Municipal Mayor