

SECTION 16 -GENERAL PROVISIONS

16.1 AREA OF JURISDICTION: This Order shall apply to all unincorporated areas of Comal County, Texas.

16.2 SAFETY CLAUSE: Commissioners Court hereby finds, determines and declares that this order is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety.

16.3 REPEALER: All other orders and parts of orders in conflict with this Order are repealed.

16.4 EFFECTIVE DATE: This Order shall become effective upon adoption by the Commissioners Court.

16.5 CONTRACTS: The Commissioners Court or its designee may enter into any contracts or agreements with public or private entities that are necessary to effectuate this order and these Animal Control orders.

16.6 CONSTRUCTION AND INTERPRETATION

- a) **Liberal Construction:** This Order shall be construed liberally to accomplish its purpose.
- b) **Interpretation:** The Commissioners Court or any other court of competent jurisdiction shall resolve any question regarding interpretation of this Order.
- c) **Conflict:** In the event of any conflict between this Order and a State law or rule adopted under a State law, the State law or rule shall prevail.
- d) **Municipal Ordinance to Supersede:** The promulgation and establishment of these regulations by Comal County Commissioners Court shall not prevent a corporate municipality within the county from establishing any rules and regulations to control animals within its corporate limits. Any such ordinance established by said corporate municipalities shall supersede this county order thereby preventing dual enforcement. In such cases, this order will not be enforced within the corporate limits of any municipality.
- e) **Number or Gender:** The masculine, feminine, and neuter genders shall be construed to include the other genders as required. The singular and plural shall be construed to include any other number as required.
- f) **Headings:** The headings at the beginning of the various provisions of this Order have been included only to make it easier to locate the subject matter covered by that section or subsection and are not to be used in construing this Order.

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g) **Severability:** If any provision, section, sentence, clause or phrase of this Order or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is for any reason held to be invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remainder of this Order and the application thereof to other persons and circumstances.