SECTION 5 – QUARANTINE PROCEDURES FOR ANIMALS

5.1 RABIES QUARANTINE:
   a) When Animal Control has probable cause to believe that the owner of an animal that has bitten a human has been identified, the owner, if any, will be required to produce the animal for ten (10) days confinement at the owner’s expense.
   b) Refusal to produce said animal constitutes a violation of this Section.
   c) The ten (10) day observation period begins on the day the animal is produced for quarantine.
   d) The animal must be placed in an animal control facility or a veterinary hospital approved for that purpose by the Texas Department of State Health Services.
   e) However, the owner of the animal may request permission from the Animal Control Officer for home quarantine if the following criteria can be met:
      1) The animal was on the property of its owner at the time of the attack;
      2) A secure facility is available at the residence of the animal’s owner which is approved by the Animal Control Officer;
      3) The animal’s vaccination is current along with a current Comal County license, as registered with the Animal Control Office;
      4) The animal must be observed on at least the first and the last day of the quarantine period by either the Animal Control Officer or, at the owner’s expense, a licensed veterinarian of the owner’s choice; and
      5) If the animal becomes ill during the observation period, the Animal Control Officer must be notified immediately by the owner or a licensed veterinarian having possession of the animal.

5.2 HUMANE DESTRUCTION: If the biting animal cannot be maintained in a secure quarantine or if the owner chooses not to pay for the quarantine, the animal shall be humanely destroyed, and the brain shall be submitted to a Texas Department of State Health Services - certified laboratory for rabies diagnosis, at the owner’s expense.

5.3 WILD ANIMALS: No wild animals will be placed in quarantine. All wild animals involved in biting incidents shall be humanely killed in such a manner that the brain is not mutilated and the brain shall be submitted to a Texas Department of State Health Services - certified laboratory for rabies diagnosis.

5.4 PENALTY FOR VIOLATION:
   a) Any person who violated a provision of this Section may be guilty of a Class C misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars ($500.00).
   b) Each day an animal is not produced for quarantine shall constitute a separate offense.