RESOLUTION 2018-11

RESOLUTION REGARDING VACCINATION OF CERTAIN DOMESTIC ANIMALS AND RESCINDING RESOLUTION 2013-26, SAME, ADOPTED DECEMBER 30, 2013

WHEREAS, rabies is a deadly disease caused by a virus; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Barton County, Kansas, acting tandemly as the Board of Health, has deemed that it is in the best interest of the public health and safety of the citizens of Barton County, Kansas, that certain domestic animals shall be vaccinated for rabies; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to reduce the fatalities and/or illnesses due to rabies, incidents of human exposures, potential human exposures and/or animal exposures shall be reported to the Barton County Health Department who shall then investigate each reported case and provide rabies control according to the Kansas State Statutes and the Disease Investigation Guidelines provided by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE); and

WHEREAS, the Barton County Health Department shall take appropriate actions to assist physicians in determining whether prophylaxis for humans is warranted and to assist veterinarians in the management of animals exposed or potentially exposed to rabies; and

WHEREAS, to facilitate these efforts, domestic animals (defined as dogs, cats, ferrets and horses for the purposes of this Resolution) shall be current on rabies vaccinations

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Barton County, Kansas, that:

1. Every owner or harborer of a dog, cat, ferret or horse which has attained the age of 4 months and is being housed and maintained outside the boundaries of any incorporated city within Barton County, Kansas, shall cause said animal to be current on rabies vaccine according to the provisions of this Resolution. For the purpose of this Resolution, the word “harborer” will be defined to be any person who feeds, waters, and/or houses, for more than three consecutive days, any animal covered by the terms of this Resolution. It shall be unlawful for any owner or harborer of any such animal to fail, refuse or neglect to cause such animal to be current on rabies vaccine.

2. An animal is current on rabies vaccination when the Certificate of Rabies Vaccination indicates that the initial vaccination was with a United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)-licensed vaccine approved for that species administered at least 28 days previously and booster vaccinations administered in accordance with the most current Compendium of Animal Rabies Prevention and Control. Rabies vaccine shall be administered by a licensed veterinarian. The licensed veterinarian shall document vaccination of said animal by providing a Certificate of Rabies Vaccination. The certificate shall include the following information: (1) Owner/harborer’s name, address and telephone number, (2) Description of the animal e.g. species, breed, sex, markings, age, name, microchip number (if applicable), etc., (3) Date of vaccination, (4) Date of vaccination expiration, (5) Rabies vaccination tag number, (6) Vaccine producer and product name, (7) Manufacturer’s serial or lot number of vaccine, (8) Veterinarian’s signature, (9) Veterinarian’s address and license number. The veterinarian shall issue to the owner or harborer of said animal a rabies tag bearing the number assigned to that animal for the vaccine administered. The tag shall be immediately fastened to the collar or harness of the animal as appropriate. It shall be the duty and responsibility of the owner or harborer of the animal to ensure that the tag is worn at all times. Horses shall be exempt from wearing the tags although the owner or harborer must be able to produce such tag as proof of rabies vaccination. The original certificate of rabies vaccination shall be provided to the owner or harborer. The veterinarian who administers the vaccination shall retain one copy and shall make a copy available to the Barton County Health Department, the Golden Belt Humane Society and/or Animal Control, law enforcement, etc. as needed for investigation purposes. All certifications shall be retained until at least one year following the expiration of the vaccination.
3. Any animal found within the limits of Barton County, Kansas, and outside the city boundaries of any incorporated city within the County, which is in violation of the provisions of this Resolution shall be impounded when deemed necessary by the Barton County Sheriff's Office or its official designee. The official designee for the purpose of this Resolution shall be defined as personnel of the Golden Belt Humane Society or a local Animal Control Officer. A reasonable attempt(s) will be made to contact the animal's owner or harborer. Such reasonable attempt to contact the animal's owner or harborer shall not exclude that owner or harborer, if located, from the provisions of this Resolution. Impounded animals shall be delivered to the Golden Belt Humane Society shelter or to a licensed veterinary facility.

4. When investigating a potential rabies exposure of a human or other mammal, the management of the animal causing the exposure varies, with rabies vaccination status playing a vital role.

(All) investigating and control of potential rabies exposures will be conducted by the Barton County Health Department in partnership with KDHE and Animal control.

5. All costs incurred to uphold the provisions set forth in this Resolution are the responsibility of the owner or harborer of said animal.

6. Violations of this Resolution by any person shall be punishable as a Class B Misdemeanor with penalties for each separate offense by a term of confinement in the Barton County Detention Facility for a period not to exceed six months and / or a fine in an amount not to exceed One Thousand Dollars ($1,000.00). Any person who aids, assists or abets another in violating the provisions of this Resolution will be deemed to have committed a violation of the Resolution.

FURTHER, that Resolution 2013-26, same, adopted December 30, 2013, is hereby rescinded; and

FURTHER, that this Resolution shall be published one time in the official County newspaper.

ADOPTED this 14th day of May, 2018.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF BARTON COUNTY, KANSAS

Jennifer Schartz, Chairman

Don Davis, Member

ABSENT
Homer Kruckenberg, Member

Kenneth Schremmer, Member

Alicia Straub, Member

ATTEST:
Donna Zimmerman, County Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
Carey Hipp, County Counselor