

EXCERPT FROM

RGC CODE BOOK

Chapter 4

Animals and Fowl

Ordinance No. 1995-10 Rabies Control

Ordinance No. 2006-4 Registration of
Dogs/Cats

Ordinance No. 2010-4 Vicious Animals



ORDINANCE NO. 2006-4

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF RIO GRANDE CITY, TEXAS CHAPTER 4, ANIMALS AND FOWL, PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND ORDAINING OTHER PROVISIONS RELATED TO THE SUBJECT MATTER THEREOF

WHEREAS, Chapter 51 of the Local Government Code grants powers to municipalities necessary to carry out purposes granted by law for the good of the people and of the government; and

WHEREAS, because of the ever-present threat of rabies in Rio Grande City, steps must be taken to insure that all animals are vaccinated and are restrained in a manner consistent with living in an incorporated city;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RIO GRANDE CITY, TEXAS, THAT

I.

Section 4-108 Registration and Licensing: It shall be unlawful for any owner or person to own, possess, or harbor a dog or cat, within any incorporated area of Rio Grande City without having been registered with the Rio Grande City Animal Control Officer, unless such dog or cat is already registered in another Texas City or County. Any person moving into the City must register their dog or cat with the Rio Grande City Animal Control Officer within ten (10) days after such move.

Section 4-109 Vaccinations: No dog or cat may be registered without first being vaccinated in accordance with this paragraph. The owner or each dog or cat within an incorporated area of Rio Grande City shall have such animal vaccinated against rabies by the time said dog or cat is four months of age and at regular intervals prescribed by the Texas Board of Health, which is one year.

Section 4-110 Restraint of Animals: Any dog or cat within any incorporated area of Rio Grande City must be restrained by its owner at all times so as to prevent such animal from running at large or attacking people or other animals (including but not limited to dogs or cats) or destroying the property of another. It shall be unlawful for any owner to allow any dog or cat owned or kept by him/her or under his/her control to run at large within any incorporated area of the City of Rio Grande City.

Section 4-111 Public Nuisance: (a) Any stray or unrestrained dog or cat in an incorporated area of Rio Grande City, Texas is hereby declared to be a public nuisance. The health authority is hereby authorized to impound any dog or cat found within such area, where such dog or cat is running at large. Such animal

may be confined until the owner thereof shall furnish proof of registration or shall cause the animal to be registered. Confinement may be in a humane society or county animal shelter and the owner of such animal shall be responsible for any cost associated with the transport or confinement of said animal. If the owner does not claim such animal or otherwise prove registration or provide for such registration, then the animal shall be humanely disposed of in accordance with the procedures of the health authority. **(b) Keeping Nuisance Animals:** The keeping of any animal in such manner, or such conditions, as to cause a hazard or danger to public health, or which produces noxious odors or disturbing noises, or discomfort or annoyance, to persons of ordinary sensibilities in the immediate vicinity thereof, is hereby declared to be a nuisance and is hereby prohibited.

Criminal Penalties: *As stated in Sections 4-108 & 4-09, a person commits an offense if he/she (4-108) fails or refuses to register or present for registration any dog or cat of which he/she is the owner and such animal is required to be registered under this Ordinance within any incorporated area of Rio Grande City: (4-109) fails or refuses to have a dog or cat of which he/she is the owner vaccinated against rabies and such animal is required to be vaccinated under this Ordinance being that such dog or cat is within an incorporated area of Rio Grande City. An offense under this paragraph is a Class C misdemeanor, punishable by a fine not to exceed \$ 200.00.*

II.

Definitions

Officer: Any City official deputized with authority to carry out and perform the various acts provided to be performed by city officers under this chapter.

Animal Restraint: Within a property, an adequate sized fence sufficient so as not to allow a dog or cat to run at large. Outside a property, a leash not longer than 10 feet in length.

Keeper: Any person owning, claiming, keeping, having in possession, harboring or permitting to be harbored or kept, having the care of, or permitting any animal to remain on or about his/her premises.

Run-at-Large: To be free of restraint beyond the boundaries of the premises or control of the keeper.

III.

This Ordinance is effective upon being published one (1) time in the official paper.

IV.

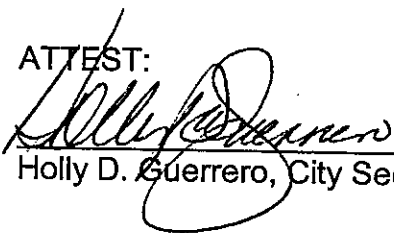
If any section, or part of any section, paragraph or clause of this Ordinance is declared invalid or unconstitutional for any reason, such declaration shall not be held to invalidate or impair the validity, force or effect of any other section, part of any section, paragraph or clause of this Ordinance.

SIGNED AND ENTERED THIS 10 day of August, 2006.



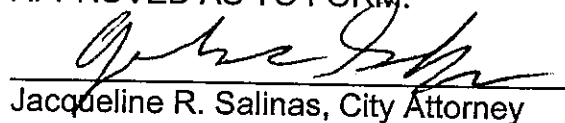
Kevin D. Hiles, Mayor
City of Rio Grande City, Texas

ATTEST:



Holly D. Guerrero, City Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Jacqueline R. Salinas, City Attorney