

ANIMAL CONTROL POLICY 19-07-23-001

**A POLICY REGARDING ABANDONED OR  
NEGLECTED ANIMALS AND INJURED ANIMALS**

**SECTION 1: PURPOSE.**

The purpose of this Policy is to provide guidance regarding animal control in Kosciusko County, Indiana, and to ensure the humane treatment of animals and the courteous treatment of their owners. This Policy is written to comply with IC § 35-46-3-0.1 *et seq.*, as amended and effective on July 1, 2019.

**SECTION 2: ABANDONED OR NEGLECTED DOMESTIC ANIMALS.**

In the event that a domestic animal is determined by a Kosciusko Animal Control officer to be abandoned or neglected, the animal control officer may take that animal into custody; however, the animal control officer may not enter upon private property unless he or she is given permission to do so or unless he or she has first obtained a warrant specifically authorizing such action. If an animal is in immediate danger of death or severe injury, the animal control officer may enter upon private property without permission or a warrant, but only for the limited purpose of attempting to prevent immediate harm to the animal.

In the event that an animal control officer takes a neglected or abandoned domestic animal into his or her custody, the animal control officer shall make reasonable efforts to contact the owner of the animal before taking further action. After the owner has been contacted or after reasonable efforts to do so have been made, the animal control officer may do one of the following: (1) return the animal to the owner; (2) release the animal to the animal shelter; or (3) if the animal is suffering from illness or injury, ~~proceed in accordance with Section 3.~~

*then it should be taken  
to one of the listed  
veterinarians.*

**SECTION 3: INJURED ANIMALS.**

In the event that a domestic animal is found to be suffering from injury, the animal control officer shall respond as follows: (1) If in the opinion of the animal control officer and a law enforcement officer, the domestic animal needs to be euthanized quickly to prevent prolonged, severe suffering, then a reasonable attempt should first be made to contact the owner, and the animal may then be euthanized on the spot using such means as the animal control officer may determine to be appropriate given the circumstances. (2) If the domestic animal is in a serious condition, but it is not clear that it needs to be euthanized immediately, it should be taken to a veterinarian; and to this end, the animal control officer shall create a rotating list of willing veterinarians and shall establish a pay schedule, subject to the approval of the Board of Commissioners. (3) If the domestic animal's condition does not appear to be life threatening, the animal shall be returned to its owner or taken to the animal shelter.


**SECTION 4: EFFECTIVE DATE; RESCISSION OF INCONSISTENT PROVISIONS.**

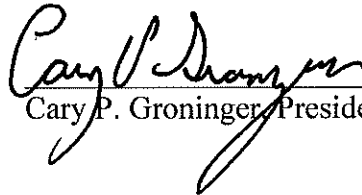
This Policy shall be effective immediately upon passage. Any previously enacted policy containing provisions materially conflicting or inconsistent with the terms of this Policy are hereby rescinded and repealed to the extent of any such conflict or inconsistency.

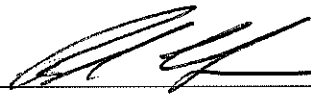
DULY ADOPTED this 23rd day of July, 2019.

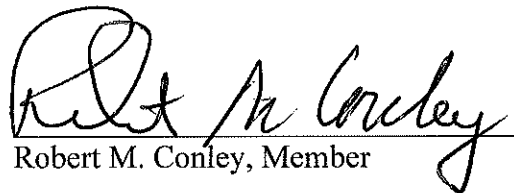
ATTEST:

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS,  
Kosciusko County, Indiana

  
Michelle Puckett, Auditor

  
Cary P. Groninger, President

  
Bradford L. Jackson, Member

  
Robert M. Conley, Member

I affirm, under the penalties for perjury,  
that I have taken reasonable care to redact  
each Social Security number in this  
document, unless required by law.

  
Leena Pence