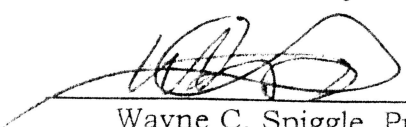


MINERAL COUNTY COMMISSION  
POLICY CONCERNING  
HUMANE CONTROL OF FERAL CATS


Background: WV State Code does not prescribe how county government should protect the public interest regarding free ranging cats. The problem of uncontrolled numbers of cats roaming through unincorporated towns and neighborhoods is a recurring concern and an acknowledged public health issue. For that reason, the County has purchased humane traps for public use with a 100% refund of a deposit for their use and has established certain hours for the public to bring captured cats to the animal control facility. The following is a refinement of policy for this service.

- (1) The county will maintain for public use, humane traps appropriate to the capture of cats that may compromise the health, safety and wellbeing of a Mineral County resident. The number of traps to be inventoried, length of time for the rental and amount of deposit will be set and reviewed from time to time by the County Commission.
- (2) The animal control facility will receive trapped animals during regularly published hours. In the event that regular hours are inconvenient to the resident, the animal control office will make every effort to arrange a mutually acceptable time to receive the animal.
- (3) If a resident finds it difficult to deliver a trapped animal to the control facility, the resident may request that it be picked up and an appointment will be made for this service. It is required that the resident be present at the time of pick up.
- (4) A \$25 dollar fee for the pick up is due at the time of service. The County Commission will review and set this fee from time to time. Retrieval of the trap, if it is necessary to transport the animal in it, will be the responsibility of the resident.
- (5) If, in the opinion of the animal control officer, a trapped cat may not be feral, based on its behavior, presence of a collar or other information, the animal in question will be held for three (3) days prior to any disposition of the animal. During that time a resident may claim the animal at the facility upon presentation of proof of required rabies vaccination and the payment of a \$25 fee.

This policy shall become effective upon adoption on this the 13<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2010.

  
Wayne C. Spiggle, President

Attest:

  
Lauren T. P. Ellifritz, Clerk