ORDINANCE NO. 2015-005

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST BERNARD, TEXAS, RELATING TO THE CONTROL OF DOGS AND OTHER ANIMALS; PROVIDING DEFINITIONS; PROVIDING MINIMUM DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF PET OWNERS; PROVIDING CONDITIONS FOR IMPOUNDMENT AND RELEASE OF ANIMALS; PROHIBITING THE KEEPING OF WILD ANIMALS; PROVIDING FOR ENFORCEMENT; PROVIDING A PENALTY OF AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$500 FOR EACH DAY OF VIOLATION OF ANY PROVISION HEREOF; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES INCONSISTENT OR IN CONFLICT HEREWITH.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF EAST BERNARD, TEXAS:

Section 1. Definitions.

For purposes of this Ordinance, the following terms, phrases, words, and their derivations shall have the meanings given herein unless the context indicates a different meaning. The word "shall" is always mandatory and not merely directory.

- (a) "Animal" shall mean any mammal, domesticated or wild.
- (b) "Animal Control Officer" shall mean any person(s) duly appointed by the Board of Aldermen of the City to represent and act on behalf of the City in the impounding of animals, controlling of animals running at-large, issuing citations, serving summons, testifying in court, and as otherwise required to enforce the provisions of this Ordinance and all other regulations relating to animals as authorized by state law.
- (c) "Animal Shelter" shall mean any facility designated and /or operated by the City for the purpose of impounding and caring for animals held under authority of this Ordinance.
- (d) "At Large" shall mean and include the circumstance where a dog is neither "under restraint" nor under "physical or yocal control" of its owner or keeper.
- (e) "Dangerous Dog" shall means a dog that (i) has made an unprovoked attack on a person that causes bodily injury and occurs in a place other than an enclosure in which the dog was being kept and that was reasonably certain to prevent the dog from leaving the enclosure on its own; or (ii) commits unprovoked acts in a place other than an enclosure in which the dog was being kept and that was reasonably certain to prevent the dog from leaving the enclosure on its

own and those acts cause a person to reasonably believe that the dog will attack and cause bodily injury to that person.

- (f) "Dangerous Wild Animal" shall mean and include any mammal, amphibian, reptile, or fowl of a species that is wild by nature, and which, due to size, vicious nature or other characteristic, is dangerous to human beings. Wild animals shall include, but not be limited to, lions, tigers, ocelot, cougar, cheetah, jaguar, bobcat, serval, cavacal, hyena, bear, coyote, leopards, panthers, lynx, wolves, raccoons, skunks (whether deodorized or not), chimpanzee, orangutans, apes, gorillas, monkeys of a species where average adult weight is twenty (20) pounds or more, foxes, elephants, rhinoceroses, alligators, crocodiles, and all forms of poisonous reptiles, and any other animal that is not indigenous to the City or any hybrid of any the animals herein named. The term "wild animal" shall not include gerbils, hamsters, guinea pigs, mice, or rabbits.
 - (g) "Dog" shall mean a domesticated animal that is a member of the canine family.
- (h) "Domestic Pet" shall mean any dog, any domestic/barn/stray cat and/or domestic ferret, any animal whose physiology has been determined or manipulated through selective breeding and does not occur naturally in the wild, any animal that can be vaccinated against rabies with an approved rabies vaccine, or any animal for which a rabies quarantine observation period has been approved by a recognized medical or veterinary society or institution.
- (i) "Heat" shall mean a time during a female mammal's reproductive cycle when she is fertile and ready to mate.
- (j) "Harbor" or "Harboring" shall mean the act by any person of keeping and caring for an animal, or providing a place to which an animal returns for food, shelter or care by such person for period of ten (10) days or longer.
- (k) "Nuisance" shall mean the conduct of the owner of a dog to allow a dog owned or harbored by such person to:
 - 1. Damage private property other than private property owned by the owner of such dog, or to damage public property;
 - 2. Defecate on private property other than private property owned or occupied by the owner of such dog, or on public property, unless such waste is immediately removed and properly disposed of by the owner;
 - 3. Cause a disturbance by excessive barking or other noise sufficient to annoy persons of ordinary sensibilities located in the vicinity;
 - 4. Produce odors or unclean conditions sufficient to annoy persons of ordinary sensibilities located in the vicinity; or

- 5. Chase vehicles, or molest, attack or interfere with other animals or persons on public property or private property other than private property owned or occupied by the owner of such animal.
- (I) "Owner" shall mean any person who harbors, owns or has custody or control of the dog.
- (m)"Quarantine" shall mean a period of ten (10) days or some other prescribed period as may be specified or required, used for observation of a an animal.
 - (n) "Person" shall mean any individual, partnership, association, firm, or corporation.
- (o) "Physical or Vocal Control" shall mean, when not on the property of its owner, a dog's movement is controlled by a physical restraining device such as a leash or harness or an enclosure such as a vehicle or travel cage, or is under the immediate supervised verbal command of its owner, or is lawfully engaged in hunting with its owner.
 - (p) "Secure Enclosure" shall mean a domesticated area or structure that is:
 - 1. Locked;
 - 2. Capable of preventing the entry of the general public;
 - 3. Capable of preventing the escape or release of a dog;
 - 4. Clearly marked as containing a dangerous dog; and
 - 5. In conformance with the requirements for enclosures established by the Animal Control Officer.
- (q) "Serious Bodily Injury" shall mean an injury characterized by severe bite wounds or severe ripping and tearing of muscle that would cause a reasonably prudent person to seek treatment from a medical professional and would require hospitalization without regard to whether the person actually sought medical treatment.
- (r) "Under Restraint" shall mean: (1) on a leash not longer than eight (8) feet, (2) within a vehicle or travel cage, (3) on the property of its owner, or, (4) lawfully hunting with its owner.

Section 2. Responsibilities of Owners.

- 2.01 Licensing. It shall be unlawful for any person to own or keep a dog or cat more than six (6) months of age within the City of East Bernard without having first registered such dog or cat for licensing pursuant to this Ordinance. The City Secretary shall issue licenses on an annual basis. Before a City license is issued, the owner must present a certificate from a licensed veterinarian showing that such cat or dog has been vaccinated for rabies within the preceding twelve (12) months. The owner shall affix a license tag, provided by the City, to a collar that the owner shall cause the dog or cat to wear. Tags shall not be transferable from one animal to another.
- **2.02 Vaccination**. It shall be unlawful for any person to own or keep any dog or cat over three (3) months of age within the City of East Bernard that has not been inoculated against rabies, by a licensed veterinarian, with a vaccine approved by the Texas Department of Health.

All such dogs or cats shall be revaccinated at regularly prescribed intervals thereafter. Any person establishing residence within the City shall comply with this section within ten (10) days of establishing such residency. Upon vaccination, the veterinarian shall provide the owner with a certificate showing the name, address, and telephone number of the owner, the date of vaccination, the type of rabies vaccine used, the year and number of the rabies tag, and the breed, age, color, and sex of the vaccinated animal. The veterinarian shall also provide the owner with a metal tag, serially numbered to correspond with the vaccination certificate number and bearing the year of issuance. The metal tag shall be affixed to the collar of the animal and worn at all times.

- 2.03 Dogs at Large. It shall be unlawful for the owner of any dog to cause or permit such dog to be at large on or within any street, road, or park, whether publicly or privately owned, public property, or on privately owned property without permission of the owner or occupant thereof.
- **2.04** Creation or Maintenance of Nuisance. It shall be unlawful for the owner of any dog to cause, permit or maintain a nuisance as herein defined.
- 2.05 Un-Spayed Female Dogs or Cats in Heat. It shall be unlawful for the owner of any un-spayed female dog or cat to fail to confine such dog or cat within a building or other secure enclosure while such dog or cat is in heat so that such dog or cat is prevented from physical contact with other dogs or cats except for intentional breeding.
- **2.06 Dangerous Wild animals.** It shall be unlawful for any person to own, keep or a dangerous wild animal within the City.

Section 3. At Large Dogs; Duties of the Animal Control Officer.

- 3.01 Capture. An Animal Control Officer(s) may capture any dog running at large, and shall attempt to contact the owner of any captured dog, and shall transport such dog to the animal shelter in accordance with this Ordinance.
- 3.02 Information Gathering. Immediately after capturing an at large dog, the Animal Control Officer(s) shall check the animal for proper identification. The capture should be recorded on the dog identification form. The time, place, description of the dog, and a brief explanation of the circumstances should be logged regarding the capture.
- 3.03 Owner Notification and Costs. After transport to the shelter, the Animal Control Officer(s) shall make every reasonable attempt to identify such dog impounded, and to notify the owner of the capture and of procedures for retrieving such animal. All costs incurred by the City or assessed by the owner of the Animal Shelter in the capture and impoundment of an at large dog shall be the responsibility of the dog's owner.
- 3.04 Complaint Procedures. The Animal Control Officer(s), or his or her designee, shall be responsible for the enforcement of this Ordinance, and shall be authorized to witness

complaints and testify in applicable court proceedings for enforcement of the penal provisions hereof. The Animal Control Officer(s) shall notify the City Secretary of all violations of this Ordinance.

Section. 4. Impoundment and Conditions of Release.

- 4.01 Claim of Impounded Dogs. If the owner of an impounded dog does not claim such dog within three (3) days following notice of impoundment, such dog shall be subject to disposition as hereinafter provided. Unless expressly authorized otherwise by City Council for an approved adoption program or other purpose serving the general public, an impounded dog may be given to any person who remits costs incurred on behalf of the dog, including any costs for penalties, rabies shots, licensing fees, impoundment, or veterinary fees, or such dog may be humanely euthanized.
- **4.02 Disposition of Impounded Dogs**. The impoundment shelter shall keep a record of every dog disposed of by sale or otherwise. Such records shall include a detailed description of the dog, the manner in which the dog was disposed, and, if the dog was transferred to another person, the name and address of the transferee. Each transferee shall sign a statement giving his or her name, address, and date of delivery or receipt of dog.
- 4.03 Release of Impounded Dogs. No dog shall be released from the impoundment shelter until it is properly licensed and all impoundment charges and fees, and all levied fines and penalties, have been paid as required under this Ordinance. The shelter shall require a receipt from the City Secretary verifying the issuance of any required licenses for unlicensed dogs.

Section 5. <u>Dangerous Dogs.</u>

5.01 Declaration of a dangerous dog.

- (a) By Animal Control. The Animal Control Officer may find and declare a dog to be a dangerous dog as defined herein.
- (b) By Others. Alternatively, if a person reports an incident that falls within the definition of dangerous dog, the Animal Control Officer may investigate the incident. If, after receiving the sworn statements of any witnesses or after making his own determination the Animal Control Officer determines the dog is a dangerous dog, it shall notify the owner of that fact.
- 5.02 Owner Appeal Declaration. An owner, not later than the 15th day after the date the owner is notified that a dog owned by the owner is a dangerous dog, may appeal the determination of the Animal Control Officer to court. An owner may appeal the decision of the court in the same manner as appeal for other cases from such court.

5.03 Hearing.

- (a) The court on receiving an appeal of a determination that a dog is dangerous or on receipt of an application relating to an owner not meeting the dangerous dog requirement herein, shall set a time for a hearing to determine whether the dog is a dangerous dog or whether the owner of the dog has complied with the requirements for owning a dangerous dog. The hearing must be held not later than the 10th day after the date on which the dog is seized or delivered.
 - (b) The court shall give written notice of the time and place of the hearing to:
 - 1. The owner of the dog or the person from whom the dog was seized; and
 - 2. The person who made the complaint.
- (c) Any interested party, including the county or City attorney, is entitled to present evidence at the hearing.
- (d) An owner or person filing the action may appeal the decision of the court in the manner provided for the appeal of other cases.
- 5.04 Defense to declaration of dangerous animal. It shall be a defense to the determination that a dog is dangerous or to any disposition of a dangerous dog, and to the prosecution of the owner of a dog declared to be dangerous, if:
- (a) The dog was being used for the protection of a person or person's property, the attack, bite, or mauling occurred in an enclosure in which the dog was kept, and
 - 1. The enclosure was reasonably certain to prevent the dog from leaving the enclosure on its own and provide notice of the presence of a dog; and
 - 2. The injured person was at least eight years of age, and was trespassing the enclosure when the attack, bite, or mauling occurred;
- (b) The dog was not being used for the protection of a person or person's property, the attack, bite, or mauling occurred in an enclosure in which the dog was being kept, and the injured person was at least eight years of age and was trespassing in the enclosure when the attack, bite, or mauling occurred;
- (c) The attack, bite, or mauling occurred during an arrest or other action of a peace officer while the peace officer was using the dog for law enforcement purposes;
- (d) The dog was defending a person from an assault or person's property from damage or theft by the injured person; or
- (e) The injured person was younger than eight years of age, the attack, bite, or mauling occurred in an enclosure in which the dog was being kept, and the enclosure was reasonably certain to keep a person younger than eight years of age from entering.

5.05 Requirements of dangerous dog owners.

- (a) Not later than the 30th day after a person learns that the person is the owner of a dangerous dog, the person shall do the following:
 - 1. Registration. Register the dangerous dog annually with the Animal Control Officer as set forth herein. The Animal Control Officer shall annually register a dangerous dog located in the City if the owner presents proof of
 - i. Liability insurance or financial responsibility, as required in this ordinance;
 - ii. Current rabies vaccination of the dangerous dog; and
 - iii. The secure enclosure in which the dangerous dog will be kept; and
 - iv. The owner must pay an annual registration fee of \$50.

The owner must place the tag provided by the Animal Control Officer on the collar of the dog showing registration as a dangerous dog.

- 2. Restrain. Restrain the dangerous dog at all times on a leash in the immediate control of a person or in a secure enclosure;
- 3. Insurance. Obtain liability insurance coverage or show financial responsibility in an amount of at least \$100,000 to cover damages resulting from an attack by the dangerous dog causing bodily injury to a person and provide proof of the required liability insurance coverage or financial responsibility to the Animal Control Officer. The insurance shall be for a 12-month period, shall not be cancelled unless the dog is no longer kept by the owner, and shall provide for not less than 30 days prior written notice to the City of any cancellation thereof; and
- 4. Notification. Notify the Animal Control Officer, as soon as reasonably possible, upon discovery that a dangerous dog is loose, has been stolen, is unconfined in an approved enclosure, has attacked another animal or a person, or has died.
- 5. Muzzle and leash. Securely muzzle such dangerous dog when taken outside the secure enclosure, in a manner that will not cause injury to such dog or interfere with its vision or respiration, but shall prevent it from biting any person or animal. The dangerous dog shall be restrained by a substantial chain or cable leash having a minimum tensile strength of 1,000 pounds and shall not exceed six (6) feet in length;
- 6. Post sign. Within ten (10) days following such determination, post a sign(s) on the premises warning that there is a dangerous dog on the property. Such sign shall be visible and capable of being read from any public street or highway adjacent to the property where the dangerous dog is located, and from any adjacent private property;
- 7. Post symbol. Within thirty (30) days following such determination, display immediately below each sign described in the subparagraph above, a symbol warning of the presence of the dangerous dog, which shall be of such size, color, and representation so as to

be reasonably understandable by children. The City shall approve the size and design of such symbol;

- 8. Neutered. Within thirty (30) days following such determination, cause the dangerous dog to be spayed or neutered;
- 9. Florescent collar. Within thirty (30) days following such determination, cause the dog to wear, at all times, a fluorescent orange collar or harness of such size and color intensity so as to be visible at a distance of not less than fifty (50) feet, by a person of ordinary vision; and
- 10. Moving and notification. If an owner of a registered dangerous dog sells or moves the dog to a new address located in the City, the owner, not later than the 14th day after the date of the sale or move, shall notify the Animal Control Officer. On presentation by the current owner of the dangerous dog's prior registration tag and payment of a fee of \$25, the Animal Control Officer shall issue a new registration tag to be placed on the dangerous dog's collar. A new owner of a dangerous dog located in the City shall sign a statement that he/she will comply with all the City's requirement for owners of dangerous dog and shall comply with said requirements within 30 days of such acquisition; and
- 11. Notification of attacks. An owner of a dangerous dog as determined pursuant to this ordinance and pursuant to state and other applicable law, shall notify the City of any attacks the dangerous dog makes on people if required to be registered pursuant to this ordinance.
- (b) The owner of a dangerous dog who does not comply with Subsection (a) shall deliver the dog to the Animal Control Officer not later than the 30th day after the owner learns that the dog is a dangerous dog.

5.05 Not Meeting Requirements for Dangerous Dogs.

- (a) If, on application of any person, the municipal court finds, after notice and hearing as provided by 5.03, that the owner of a dangerous dog has failed to comply with Section 5.05, the court shall order the Animal Control Officer to seize the dog and shall issue a warrant authorizing the seizure. The Animal Control Officer shall seize the dog or order its seizure and shall provide for the impoundment of the dog in secure and humane conditions.
- (b) The owner shall pay any cost or fee assessed related to the seizure, acceptance, impoundment, or destruction of the dog.
- (c) The court shall order the Animal Control Officer to humanely destroy the dog if the owner has not complied with Section 5.05 before the 11th day after the date on which the dog is seized or delivered to the Animal Control Officer. The court shall order the Animal Control Officer to return the dog to the owner if the owner complies with Section 5.05 before the 11th day after the date on which the dog is seized or delivered to the Animal Control Officer.

- (d) The court may order the humane destruction of a dog if the owner of the dog has not been located before the 15th day after the seizure and impoundment of the dog.
- (e) For purposes of this section, a person learns that the person is the owner of a dangerous dog when:
 - 1. The owner knows of an attack;
 - 2. The owner receives notice that a court has found that the dog is a dangerous dog; or
 - 3. The owner is informed by the Animal Control Officer that the dog is a dangerous dog.

5.07 Maintaining Dangerous Dog.

- (a) At large. Any dangerous dog found at-large, after the owner thereof has been issued notice that such dog is dangerous, may be destroyed if the owner is found guilty.
- (b) Unprovoked Attack. A person commits an offense if the person is the owner of a dangerous dog and the dog makes an unprovoked attack on another person outside the dogs enclosure and causes bodily injury to the other person. If found guilty, the court may order the dangerous dog destroyed.
- 5.08 Registration Revocation of Dangerous Dog. The Animal Control Officer may, after providing the opportunity for and holding the requested hearing, revoke the registration for any dog whose owner has been notified that the dog has been conclusively presumed to be dangerous, if:
- (a) The owner has not complied with all the requirements of dangerous dog owners set forth in 5.05 above;
- (b) If the dog bites or attempts to bite any person or animal, or chases or otherwise attempts to catch a person or animal in violation of this Ordinance and applicable state law; or
- (c) The dog is owned by a person who has been convicted of violation of any federal, state, or local law, article, or rule pertaining to said dog.
- 5.9 Exemptions. The provisions of this Section shall not apply to any law enforcement agency when a dog is being used for law enforcement purposes.

Section 6. Sequence of Dog causing death or serious bodily injury.

6.01 Municipal Court/Seizure Order.

The City or municipal court shall order the Animal Control Officer to seize a dog and shall issue a warrant authorizing the seizure:

- (a) On the sworn complaint of any person, including the county attorney, the City attorney, or a peace officer, that the dog has caused the death of or serious bodily injury to a person by attacking, biting, or mauling the person; and
- (b) On a showing of probable cause to believe that the dog caused the death of or serious bodily injury to the person as stated in the complaint.

The Animal Control Officer shall seize the dog or order its seizure and shall provide for the impoundment of the dog in secure and humane conditions until the court orders the disposition of the dog.

6.02 Hearing for Dog Causing Death or Serious Bodily Injury.

- (a) The court shall set a time for a hearing to determine whether the dog caused the death of or serious bodily injury to a person by attacking, biting, or mauling the person. The hearing must be held not later than the 10th day after the date on which the warrant is issued.
 - (b) The court shall give written notice of the time and place of the hearing to:
 - 1. the owner of the dog or the person from whom the dog was seized;
 - 2. the person who made the complaint; and
 - 3. any witnesses.
 - (c) Any interested party, including city attorney, is entitled to present evidence at the hearing.

6.03 Disposition of Dog following Hearing.

- (a) The court shall order the dog destroyed if the court finds that the dog caused the death of a person by attacking, biting, or mauling the person. If that finding is not made, the court shall order the dog released to:
 - 1. its owner;
 - 2. the person from whom the dog was seized; or
 - 3. any other person authorized to take possession of the dog.
- (b) The court may order the dog destroyed if the court finds that the dog caused serious bodily injury to a person by attacking, biting, or mauling the person. If that finding is not made, the court shall order the dog released to:
 - 1. its owner;
 - 2. the person from whom the dog was seized; or
 - 3. any other person authorized to take possession of the dog.
- (c) The court may not order the dog destroyed if the court finds that the dog caused the serious bodily injury to a person by attacking, biting, or mauling the person and:
 - 1. the dog was being used for the protection of a person or person's property, the attack, bite, or mauling occurred in an enclosure in which the dog was being kept, and:
 - i. the enclosure was reasonably certain to prevent the dog from leaving the enclosure on its own and provided notice of the presence of a dog; and

- ii. the injured person was at least eight years of age, and was trespassing in the enclosure when the attack, bite, or mauling occurred;
- 2. the dog was not being used for the protection of a person or person's property, the attack, bite, or mauling occurred in an enclosure in which the dog was being kept, and the injured person was at least eight years of age and was trespassing in the enclosure when the attack, bite, or mauling occurred;
- 3. the attack, bite, or mauling occurred during an arrest or other action of a peace officer while the peace officer was using the dog for law enforcement purposes;
- 4. the dog was defending a person from an assault or person's property from damage or theft by the injured person; or
- 5. the injured person was younger than eight years of age, the attack, bite, or mauling occurred in an enclosure in which the dog was being kept, and the enclosure was reasonably certain to keep a person younger than eight years of age from entering.
- **6.04 Authority to Destroy**. Nothing in this Ordinance prohibits an animal control authority or a peace officer, in the interest of public safety, from destroying any animal when such animal is found attacking, biting, or mauling any person or domestic pet.

Section 7. Animal bites; Care; Other Prohibited Conduct.

- 7.01 Reporting bites and scratches. Every physician or other medical practitioner who treats a person or persons for any animal bite/scratch or any person having knowledge of an animal bite/scratch shall, as soon as is reasonably practicable, but in no event longer than twelve (12) hours of the occurrence, report such treatment to the Animal Control Officer, giving the name, age, sex and precise location of the bitten/scratched person or persons, and such other information as the officer or agency may require.
- **7.02** Reporting suspected rabies. Any veterinarian who clinically diagnoses rabies or any person who suspects rabies in a dog, cat or other domestic or wild animal, shall immediately report the incident to the Animal Control Officer, stating precisely where such animal may be found. If a known suspected rabid animal bites or scratches a domestic animal, such incident shall also be reported as required above.

7.03 Quarantine/Disposition of Suspected Animals.

- (a) Any domestic pet that has bitten or scratched a person shall be observed for a period of ten (10) days from the date of the bite. The investigating officer or responsible agency, in compliance with State law, shall designate the procedure and place of observation.
- (b) Any wild, exotic or dangerous animal, as defined herein and classified as high risk by State law or agency rule, which has bitten or scratched a person may be caught and humanely

killed and the brain submitted for rabies examination. Animals classified as low risk may be handled differently as allowed by applicable law.

- 7.04 Tampering with Traps and Equipment. It shall be unlawful for any person to remove, alter, damage or otherwise tamper with a trap or equipment belonging to/set out by the Animal Control Officer.
- 7.05 Authority to Destroy Injured/Diseased Animal. The Animal Control Officer is authorized to destroy any injured or diseased animal, whether such animal is on public or private property, and the recovery from such injuries or disease is in serious doubt, and after a reasonable effort has been made to locate the owner of such animal.
- <u>Section 8</u>. <u>Notice</u>. Unless expressly provided for otherwise, any notice required hereunder to be given to the owner of any animal may be given in person, by telephone, or by written notice left at or mailed to the owner's last known address. The owner shall be deemed notified upon the mailing or leaving of said written notice, whether the owner receives the notice or not.
- <u>Section 9</u>. <u>Penalty</u>. Any person who shall violate any provision of this Ordinance shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined in an amount not to exceed \$500.00. Each day of violation of any provision hereof shall constitute a separate offense.
- <u>Section 10</u>. <u>Repealer.</u> All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent or in conflict herewith, are, to the extent of such inconsistency or conflict, hereby repealed.
- Section 11. Severability. In the event any clause, phrase, provision, sentence, or part of this Ordinance or the application of the same to any person or circumstance shall for any reason be adjudged invalid or held unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, it shall not affect, impair, or invalidate this Ordinance as a whole or any part or provision hereof other than the part declared to be invalid or unconstitutional; and the Board of Aldermen of the City of East Bernard, Texas, declares that it would have passed each and every part of the same notwithstanding the omission of any such part thus declared to be invalid or unconstitutional, whether there be one or more parts.
- <u>Section 12</u>. <u>Effective Date</u>. Notwithstanding anything contained herein to the contrary, no person shall be deemed in violation of any provision hereof that requires the obtaining of any license, permit, or other approval until the expiration of 120 days following the date of adoption hereof.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 2015.

Marvin Holub

Mayor

ATTEST:

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On.