

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-02

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF CALDWELL CODE OF ORDINANCES CHAPTER 2 ANIMAL CONTROL ARTICLE 2.02, ADDING SECTION 2.02.003 ADVISORY COMMITTEE; PROVIDING A REPEALING SECTION; PROVIDING FOR ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTIES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Caldwell (City) has previously adopted an ordinance to provide for the confinement of all animals seized, impounded, or surrendered; and,

WHEREAS, said ordinance was originally adopted in 2025 and best practices necessitate the regular review and update of animal control rules and regulations to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public; and,

WHEREAS, the City has determined that it is in the best interest of the City to partner with Haven Animal Rescue of Texas (HART) to operate an animal shelter; and,

WHEREAS, the Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 832 Section 823.005 requires a governing body of a county or municipality in which an animal shelter is located to appoint an advisory committee to assist in complying with the requirements of this chapter;

NOW THEREFORE: BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CALDWELL, TEXAS:

SECTION 1. That Chapter 2 Animal Control, Article 2 Animal Shelter/Animal Control Officer of the City of Caldwell Code of Ordinances is hereby amended as set forth in the attached Exhibit A by adding Section 2.02.003 Advisory Committee.

SECTION 2. This ordinance shall not be construed to require or allow any act which is prohibited by any other ordinance and the foregoing recitals are hereby found to be true and correct and are incorporated herein.

SECTION 3. This ordinance shall take effect immediately from and after its passage and publication as may be required by governing law.

SECTION 4. The repeal or amendment of any ordinance or part of ordinances effectuated by the enactment of this ordinance shall not be construed as abandoning any action now pending under or by virtue of such ordinance or as discontinuing, abating, modifying, or altering any penalty accruing or to accrue or as affecting any rights of the City of Caldwell under any section or provisions of any ordinances in effect at the time of passage of this ordinance.

SECTION 5. The provisions of this ordinance shall be cumulative of all ordinances not repealed by this ordinance and ordinances governing or regulating the same subject matter as that covered herein. This ordinance shall not be construed to require or allow any act which is prohibited by any other ordinance.


SECTION 6. It is hereby declared to be the intention of the City Council that the phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs, and sections of this ordinance be severable, and, if any phrase, clause, sentence,

paragraph, or section of this ordinance shall be declared invalid by judgment or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity shall not affect any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs, or sections of this ordinance and the remainder of this ordinance shall be enforced as written.

SECTION 7. It is hereby officially found and determined that the meeting at which this Ordinance was passed was open to the public and that public notice of the time, place, and purpose of said meeting was given as required by the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code. Notice was also provided as required by Chapter 52 of the Texas Local Government Code.

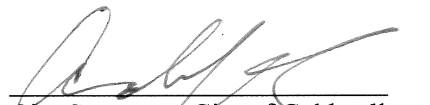
SECTION 8. By publication and adoption of this ordinance, all persons shall be deemed to have knowledge of its contents.

PASSED AND APPROVED, this, the 21st day of April, 2026.



Mayor, City of Caldwell

ATTEST:



City Secretary, City of Caldwell

EXHIBIT A

CHAPTER 2 ANIMAL CONTROL ARTICLE 2.02 ANIMAL SHELTER/ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER SECTION 2.02.003 ADVISORY COMMITTEE is hereby adopted in its entirety as set forth below.

Section 2.02.003 Advisory Committee

- a) **ESTABLISHED** The City of Caldwell hereby establishes an advisory committee for the purpose of oversight of the animal shelter and rescue program operated within the municipality.
- b) **COMPOSITION & TERMS** The advisory committee must be composed of at least one licensed veterinarian, one county or municipal official, one person whose duties include the daily operation of an animal shelter, and one representative from an animal welfare organization. There are no term limits and members must be approved by the City Council. Additional members can be appointed by the City Council if desired.
- c) **MEETINGS** The advisory committee shall meet at least three times a year and operate in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act.
- d) **RESPONSIBILITIES** The advisory committee will be responsible for ensuring compliance with state laws and advising the City regarding animal shelter operations.
 - 1) Review shelter practices, data, and reports.
 - 2) Advise city/county leadership on improvements or policy changes.
 - 3) Act as a bridge between the public, government, and shelter staff.
 - 4) Monitor shelter compliance with state-mandated standards (sanitation, disease prevention, euthanasia protocols, record keeping).
 - 5) Recommend policies that improve shelter operations and animal welfare.
 - 6) Provide a public forum for concerns, transparency, and collaboration.
 - 7) Ensure community input and expert guidance are part of decision-making.