



*Office of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan*

EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 82<sup>nd</sup> REGULAR SESSION OF THE 10<sup>th</sup> SANGGUNANG  
PANLALAWIGAN OF ISABELA HELD AT PROVINCIAL CAPITOL, ILAGAN CITY, ISABELA  
ON JUNE 08, 2021.

**PRESENT:**

FAUSTINO G. DY III	Vice Governor & Presiding Officer
DELFINITO EMMANUEL L. ALBANO	Member (1 <sup>st</sup> District) & Floor Leader
EMMANUEL JOSELITO B. AÑES	Member (1 <sup>st</sup> District)
ED CHRISTIAN S. GO	Member (2 <sup>nd</sup> District)
EDGAR R. CAPUCHINO	Member (2 <sup>nd</sup> District)
RAMON JUAN N. REYES, JR.	Member (3 <sup>rd</sup> District)
RANDOLPH JOSEPH P. ARREOLA	Member (3 <sup>rd</sup> District)
CLIFFORD R. RASPADO	Member (4 <sup>th</sup> District)
ABEGAIL V. SABLE	Member (4 <sup>th</sup> District)
FAUSTINO U. DY IV	Member (5 <sup>th</sup> District)
EDWARD S. ISIDRO	Member (5 <sup>th</sup> District)
ALFREDO V. ALILI	Member (6 <sup>th</sup> District)
MARCO PAOLO A. MERIS	Member (6 <sup>th</sup> District)
ANTONIO S. HUI	Member, PCL Federation President
DANTE G. HALAMAN	Member, LnB Federation President
DAX PAOLO C. BINAG	Member, SK Federation President
ADRIAN PHILIP S. BAYSAC	Member, Agricultural /Industrial Workers Labor Sector Representative
VENUS T. BAUTISTA	Member, Women's Sectoral Representative
GRETCHEN F. VALDEZ	Member, Indigenous Cultural Communities Sector Representative

**ORDINANCE NO. 2021-22-01**

Series of 2021

**AN ORDINANCE IMPLEMENTING THE "BANTAY ASF SA BARANGAY PROGRAM" IN THE  
PROVINCE OF ISABELA, ESTABLISHING MECHANISMS FOR ITS IMPLEMENTATION,  
CREATING THE PROVINCIAL ASF TASK FORCE, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR  
OTHER PURPOSES**

**Sponsor: HON. ADRIAN PHILIP S. BAYSAC**  
Chairperson, Committee on Agriculture

**Co-Sponsor: HON. ALFREDO V. ALILI**  
Chairperson, Committee on Disaster Preparedness

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

**WHEREAS**, the African Swine Fever, or ASF, is a highly contagious hemorrhagic viral disease of domestic pigs with case-fatality rate approaching 100% which has caused serious economic and production losses in various parts of East and South East Asia, including the Philippines;

***Nagkaisa para sa Isabela***

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**WHEREAS**, with no known vaccine and cure to date, early detection and reporting of ASF cases remains as the primary weapon for the effective control and eradication of the ASF virus;

**WHEREAS**, close cooperation between the National Government and Local Government Units must be established in order to effectively implement anti-ASF policies, rules, and regulations, especially at the farm and community levels;

**WHEREAS**, the Provincial Government of Isabela recognizes the crucial role of local government units in extending timely, appropriate, and vital responses to prevent the further spread of ASF. Accordingly, the Provincial Government of Isabela aspires to empower its City and Municipal Local Government Units in the enforcement of this Ordinance and in the implementation of ASF biosecurity protocols established by relevant government agencies through strong coordination and collaborative engagement;

**WHEREFORE**, the immediate passage of this Ordinance is earnestly sought.

**Section 1. Objectives.** It is the objective of this Ordinance to:

- a) Establish an effective ASF monitoring, surveillance, and reporting system;
- b) Strengthen biosecurity measures at the farm level and border control;
- c) Intensify awareness campaigns and other capacity-building activities;
- d) Engage and strengthen barangay, municipal, and city government units for ASF prevention and control;
- e) Assist in the recovery and repopulation of previously affected areas; and
- f) Generate and mobilize appropriate resources for the effective implementation of this Ordinance.

**Section 2. Scope.** This Ordinance shall apply to all hog growers, pork and pork-based product traders, live pigs, pork and pork-based products in the Province of Isabela. Concerning the administrative matters of this Ordinance, it shall cover all local government units, including barangay governments, and their concerned officials.

**Section 3. Definition of Terms.** For the purpose of the implementation of the provisions of this Ordinance, the following terms shall apply:

- a) **Animal Disease Diagnostic Reference Laboratory (ADRRL)** is the national reference laboratory under the Bureau of Animal Industry that provides services in support to animal health and production, regulatory, research, and surveillance in the whole country.
- b) **African Swine Fever (ASF)** is a severe viral disease that affects all breeds of domestic and wild pigs in the country and has already caused grave production and economic losses in Luzon and some parts of Visayas and Mindanao.

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- c) **Barangay Biosecurity Officers (BBOs)** are Community/Village-Based Animal Technicians (CBAT), Barangay Animal Health Workers (BAHW), para-veterinary workers, Barangay Livestock Aide (BALA), volunteer veterinarians who are not residents or consulting veterinarian of any farm, or any person assigned by the city/municipality at the Barangay shall also be known as BBO who will be appointed, designated, and registered as frontliners of the BANTAY ASF SA BARANGAY PROGRAM and shall have specific responsibilities as indicated in this Ordinance.
- d) **Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI)** is the primary agency mandated to control animal diseases in the country.
- e) **Commercial Farm** is a farm category for any farm with a swine population that exceeds the definition of small-hold farm. In high density areas, commercial farms are further classified into:
- i. **Semi-commercial Farm** which refers to at least one of the following:
    - Between 10 to 50 sow level
    - Between 41 to 500 fatteners
  - ii. **Commercial Farm** which refers to at least one of the following:
    - 51 sow level and above
    - 501 fatteners and above
- f) **Community** is hereby defined in this Ordinance as a barangay or a cluster of barangays
- g) **Hog Trader**, as used in this Ordinance, shall refer to any person, firm, or corporation engaged in the business of buying or selling carcasses, parts of carcasses, meat, or meat food products derived from pigs, or otherwise negotiating purchases or sales of such articles other than for his own account or as an employee of another person, firm, or corporation.
- h) **Paiwi/Paalaga** pertains to the system of rearing animals in some areas in the Philippines whereby the care and management of few animals are delegated to individuals in a community.
- i) **Regional Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (RADDL)** is a government laboratory under the DA Regional Office that provides services in support to animal health and production, regulatory, research and surveillance in the region.
- j) **Selective (Targeted) Depopulation** the rapid and deliberate killing of ASF infected, potentially infected, or contact animals with a defined coverage targeting identified, infected, and exposed animals in a specific animal facility or locality.

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- k) **Small-hold Farm** is most commonly known as backyard farm, which refers to at least one of the following:
- i. Less than 21 heads and adult and zero head of young (1 to 20 heads adult and zero young and below)
  - ii. Less than 41 heads of young animals (1 to 40 heads young and below)
  - iii. Less than 10 heads of adult and 22 heads of young (1 to 9 heads adult and 1 to 21 heads young and below).
- l) **Test and Destroy** refers to the testing swine population and when found positive for ASF are subject for rapid, deliberate humane killing and proper disposal.
- m) **Veterinary Biosecurity Officer (VetBO)** is a personnel of a Local Government Unit having regular employment status, preferably a duly-licensed Veterinarian, duly designated to perform acts, duties, and responsibilities stated in this Ordinance.

**Section 4. Strengthening and Institutionalization of LGU Engagement.** To strengthen and institutionalize the adoption and implementation of this Ordinance, the City/Municipal Sanggunians shall enact an Ordinance that must include the following provisions:

- i. Create an ASF Task Force in line with the directives of Department of Agriculture No. 43, series of 2020.
- ii. Designate its City/Municipal Veterinarian as VetBo. In case that the LGU has no City/Municipal Veterinarian, it may designate its City/Municipal Agriculturist. If there is still none, it may designate any of its personnel having regular status subject to the approval of the Provincial Veterinarian.
- iii. Designate Barangay Captains as BBOs in areas where there are no Community/Village-Based Animal Technicians.
- iv. Allocate counterpart funds for the effective implementation of this Ordinance in their territorial jurisdiction.

The City/Municipal Sanggunian shall furnish the Sangguniang Panlalawigan with a copy of such Ordinance not later than three days after its approval. The Sangguniang Panlalawigan shall prioritize the review of such Ordinance.

**Section 5. Intensified ASF Risk Assessment, Surveillance and Monitoring.** The following procedures shall be observed in the implementation of this Ordinance:

- a) **Disease Monitoring.** The Biosecurity Officers (VetBO and BBO) shall conduct ASF negative monitoring on a weekly basis. Veterinary Biosecurity Officers must submit weekly monitoring reports for commercial farms/paiwi to the Provincial Veterinarian's Office (PVO). In some cases, trained Barangay Biosecurity Officers (BBO) can conduct the monitoring and reporting for semi-commercial farms up to 50 Sow level and paiwi/farms up to 500 heads with the concurrence and approval by the City/Municipal VETBo.

Biosecurity Officers must conduct and submit the Farm Biosecurity Evaluation Form for the farm to the PVO which also serves as basis for concurrence of weekly disease monitoring for ASF.

- b) **Disease Investigation.** A disease investigation is prompted when there is a report of a suspect case of ASF in a particular area. The City/Municipal ASF Task Force in coordination with the Provincial ASF Task Force (PATF) and Regional ASF Task Force (RATF) shall act quickly on the reported case by conducting thorough disease investigation and sample collection.

Blood organ samples to be collected for disease investigation shall come from 30 randomly selected animals preferably exhibiting clinical signs consistent with that of ASF, if the population is greater than 30. If the population is less than 30, samples shall be collected from all pigs in the farm.

The following are the ASF case definitions as defined in the ASF Contingency Plan of the BAI:

- i. **Suspect Case.** A case characterized by combination of the following signs:
  - High fever (40.5-42°C) and death in 2 to 10 days on average
  - Reddening of the skin/purplish discoloration (white pigs) – tips of ears, tails, distal extremities, ventral aspects of chest and abdomen
  - Vomiting, diarrhea (sometimes bloody) and eye discharges may exist
  - Severe bleeding from nose and rectum
  - Nervous signs
  - Up to 100% mortality among all stages in production as the disease progresses
  - Sudden death without any clinical symptoms
- ii. **Probable Case.** Elements in the suspect case plus history of pig introduction, practice of swill feeding, or pig access to garbage or rubbish dumps.
- iii. **Confirmed Case.** A detection of viral nucleic acid using Real Time Polymerase Chain Reaction (q-PCR), and/or virus isolation which includes Conventional PCR and gene sequencing from:
  - Animals with clinical signs and epidemiological evidence
  - Confiscated or surrendered meat, meat products and by-products.

c) **Surveillance.** For the purpose of this Ordinance, surveillance is classified into:

- i. Surveillance after an ASF case is confirmed, and
- ii. Surveillance for local movement of animals.

**c.1. Surveillance after an ASF case is confirmed by the ADRRL/RADDLs**

This is conducted by the CVO/MVO with the assistance of the PVO within the 1km quarantine area from the infected premise.

**c.2. Surveillance for local movement of animals as part of early Warning System.**

As part of the Early Warning System, surveillance must be regularly conducted for Red Zone (Infected) and Pink Zones (Buffer) until the zoning category is upgraded, unless otherwise stated in applicable memoranda or orders. This is also a requirement for the issuance of Certificate of Free Status on ASF (CFS-ASF). Samples to be collected are:

- **Commercial Farms** – 30 randomly selected samples conducted by Biosecurity Officers; 15 adults and 15 young (3-6 months old) as per Department of Agriculture Administrative Circular No. 12, series of 2019. Endorsement of PVO/CVO/MVO to the laboratory is mandatory.

Samples can also come from the following as recommended by BAI Accredited Laboratories: 5 samples each from Sows with parity 1-4, Sows with parity 5 up, 8 weeks old, 12 weeks old, 16 weeks old, and 20 weeks old.

- **Small-hold Farms** – Community sampling, the mechanism of which as determined by the PATF, shall apply.

d) **Test and Destroy Protocol.** The PVO, in coordination with the DA RFO II, shall apply selective depopulation using the Test and Destroy Protocol, the mechanism of which shall be determined by the PATF.

**Section 6. Strengthening Biosecurity Implementation.**

**a) Registration and Deputization of VetBOs and BBOs.**

All duly-designated VetBOs and BBOs shall register at the PVO. VetBOs shall apply directly to the PVO, while BBOs shall be assigned/endorsed by the CVO/MVO. VetBOs and BBOs shall undergo a one-day orientation and training as regard to their duties and responsibilities including the conduct of farm and area biosecurity evaluation and assessment, sample collection and weekly ASF negative monitoring report.

Biosecurity Officers must have their Biosecurity Office Code to be issued by the PVO. VetBOs shall register to the PVO, while for BBO the CVO/MVO will endorse the list of registered BBO to be issued a Biosecurity Officer Code by the PVO.

To expedite the implementation of this activity, all existing networks of Animal Health Workers such as Barangay Animal Livestock Aide (BALA), Barangay Animal Health Workers (BAHW), and other similar barangay officials assigned to assist in the implementation of different animal health programs shall be readily designated for this purpose.

- b) **Issuance of Hog Transport Pass.** No hog trader and livestock transport carrier shall be allowed to transact business within the Province of Isabela without a Hog Transport Pass (HTP) which shall be a requirement before the issuance of a Veterinary Health Certificate (VHC).

All livestock carriers are required to conduct periodical cleaning and disinfection of their premises, machines, and any other apparatus.

The PVO shall regularly update its list of hog traders in the Province of Isabela.

**Section 7. Capability Building and Awareness Campaign.** The Provincial Veterinarian's Office is hereby tasked to coordinate with and engage relevant government agencies to ensure all aspects relevant to the implementation of this Ordinance is cascaded and disseminated to local hog growers, hog traders, and other stakeholders.

**Section 8. Creation of the Provincial ASF Task Force.** There is hereby created a Provincial ASF Task Force composed of:

- i. The Provincial Governor;
- ii. Agricultural Sector Representative to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan;
- iii. Sangguniang Panlalawigan Chairperson of the Committee on Commerce, Trade and Industry;
- iv. The Provincial Veterinarian;
- v. The Provincial Planning and Development Coordinator;
- vi. The Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Officer;
- vii. Representative from the Department of Agriculture;
- viii. Representative from the Department of Trade and Industry;
- ix. Representative from the Philippine National Police;
- x. Representative from the People's Council; and
- xi. Representative of the Local Hog Growers Sector.

The Provincial Governor and the Agricultural Sector Representative to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan shall be the Chairperson and the Vice Chairperson, respectively, of the PATF.

The PATF is empowered to formulate policies and prescribe guidelines for the effective implementation of this Ordinance. It shall submit a Development Plan detailing the plan of action and strategy of the PATF for the succeeding year to be submitted to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan not later than November 15 of each year until such time that the ASF crisis has ceased as determined by the National Government.

The Provincial Veterinarian shall be the lead coordinator with the local government units, the DA RFO II, other concerned government agencies, and other stakeholders for the effective implementation of this Ordinance.

**Section 9. Recovery and Repopulation.** The recovery and repopulation shall be a part of a progressive control pathway wherein stages will be set to progressively ensure a particular area previously affected is already clear from any circulating virus, and ready for repopulation.

- a) Restocking. Restocking to full capacity will be allowed when the Red (Infected) Zone Category of an area is upgrade to Pink (Buffer) Zone provided all the provisions below are complied.
  - i. The farm must register with the City/Municipal LGU, acquire necessary permits and licenses, before proceeding with swine raising.
    - Facilities must conform with minimum biosecurity standards and housing facility standards for swine farm as established by the PATF.
    - Acceptable animal waste disposal system.
    - The farm must be repopulated with at least 50% of the farm capacity only for locally declared ASF-free barangay in a Red Zone City/Municipality.
    - Full capacity of the farm repopulation for City/Municipal LGUs can be granted if LGU can be reclassified from Red (Infected) to Pink (Buffer) Zone (locally declared ASF-free cities/municipalities).
    - Include negative result in screening test for new raisers.
    - Necessary local Business Permits and other necessary documentary requirements depending on the LGU guidelines.
  - ii. The farm must agree to regular farm visitation for animal health monitoring, surveillance and biosecurity evaluation.
    - Train farm owner and staff in Biosecurity.
    - Biosecurity Officers (BBO and VetBO) will monitor the farms and submit weekly monitoring reports.
    - Biosecurity evaluation will be done every six (6) months.
  - iii. The farm/barangay will undergo semi-annual testing (random) upon upgrading of zone category from Red (Infected) to Pink (Buffer).
    - The farm/barangay shall be required to secure Certificate of Free Status on ASF (CSF-ASF) six months upon lifting from Red to Pink Zone, and every six months (semi-annual) thereafter.



**Section 10. Declaration of ASF Free Status.** Upon attainment of PATF-established conditions, the PATF may declare a City or a Municipality previously infected with ASF to be ASF Free. For this purpose, the CVO/MVO, through their City/Municipal Mayor, shall submit to the PATF a Letter of Intent to Declare the LGU to be ASF Free, along with other pertinent records and documents as may be required by the PATF.

**Section 11. Prohibited Acts.** Any person or entity found to have committed any of the following acts shall be deemed in violation of this Ordinance:

- a. Tampering and falsification of documents such as but not limited to:
  - i. Veterinary Health Certificate
  - ii. Certificate of Free Status on ASF
  - iii. Laboratory Test Results for ASF
  - iv. Weekly Negative Disease Monitoring Report
  - v. Biosecurity Evaluation Form
- b. Removal of Animals from a Quarantine Area.
- c. Movement and/or sale of pigs, their meat, or other pig-derived products without the necessary permits/documents.
- d. Non-reporting or delay in the reporting of ASF-related cases to proper authorities.
- e. Interference and/or Disobedience to Persons in Authority implementing this Ordinance.
- f. Refusal to farm inspection and conduct of farm/animal surveillance.

**Section 12. Penalties.** Any person found to have committed any act stated in the previous Section shall be penalized with Php5,000 pesos and/or imprisonment for a duration of six months, at the discretion of the Court.

Owners of farms or any hog facilities found to have violated any act stated in the previous Section shall be penalized with Php5,000 pesos and/or imprisonment for a duration of six months, at the discretion of the Court, and the revocation of his/her Business Permit at the discretion of the LGU.

Any government personnel found to have violated or abetted any person to violate Section 9 of this Ordinance shall, including the penalties established above, be charged with appropriate administrative cases.

**Section 13. Funding Requirement.** The PGI shall incorporate in its Annual Appropriations such amount as may be necessary for the effective implementation of this Ordinance.

**Section 14. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** The PATF shall promulgate within thirty (30) days the Implementing Rules and Regulations that shall be necessary for the effective implementation of this Ordinance.

**Section 15. Repealing Clause.** All local ordinances and legislations, local executive orders and similar official pronouncements inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

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**Section 16. Separability Clause.** If any of the provisions of this Ordinance is declared invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.


**Section 17. Effectivity Clause.** This Ordinance shall take effect immediately following its approval and publication in a newspaper of local general circulation.


**Approved and Enacted, June 08, 2021.**

I hereby certify that the foregoing ordinance was duly enacted by the Sangguninang Panlalawigan of Isabela during its 82<sup>nd</sup> Regular Session on June 08, 2021.

  
**ATTY. FRANCIS JAMES E. MEER**  
Secretary, Sangguniang Panlalawigan

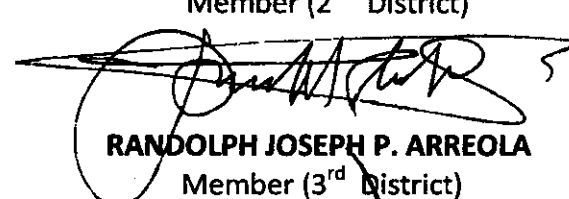
**ATTESTED:**

  
**DELFINITO EMMANUEL L. ALBANO**  
Member (1<sup>st</sup> District)  
& Presiding Officer Protempore

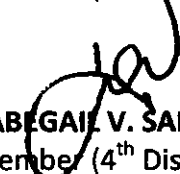
  
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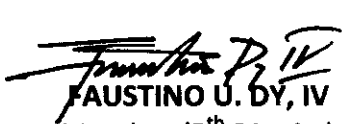
  
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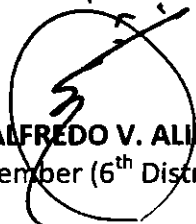
  
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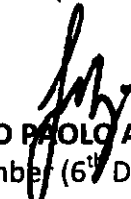
  
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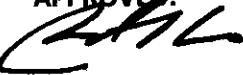
Member, Indigenous Cultural Communities  
Sector Representative



**FAUSTINO S. DY III**

Provincial Vice Governor

APPROVED:



**RODOLFO T. ALBANO III**

Provincial Governor