

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS*

**KERN COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT
ANIMAL SERVICES COMMISSION**

Kern County Administrative Building
1115 Truxtun Ave., Bakersfield, CA 93301
3rd Floor, Multipurpose Room

June 21st 2017 – 6:00p.m.

A. ROLL CALL: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.
Commissioners Present: Ms. Anderson –Chairperson/Commissioner
Mr. Blackburn – Vice Chairperson/Commissioner
Ms. Taggart – Commissioner
Ms. Madigan - Commissioner

Commissioners Excused:
Ms. Geary – Commissioner
Ms. Perez – Commissioner (*non-voting member*)

Staff Present:
Nick Cullen – Director, Kern County Animal Services
Jerri S. Bradley – Deputy County Counsel
Blake Smith – Business Manager, Kern County Animal Services
Amber Chrissakis –Volunteer OSS, Kern County Animal Services

[When names appear in parenthesis, the motion initiating action on the agenda item was made by the first Commissioner named and seconded by the second Commissioner named.]

B. APPROVAL OF SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS:

1. May 17th, 2017 Regular Meeting.

Motion to Receive and File (*Taggart/Madigan*) – All in favor

C. CONSENT AGENDA:

1. CORRESPONDENCE FILED WITH THE COMMISSION - Receive and File

NONE

D. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:

This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons to address the Commission on any matter not on this agenda but under the jurisdiction of the Commission. Commissioners may respond briefly to statements made or questions posed. They may ask a question for clarification; make a referral to staff for factual information or request staff to report back to the Commission at a later meeting. Also, the Commission may act to direct the staff to place a matter of business on a future agenda. Please state your name and address for the record before making your presentation. **SPEAKERS ARE LIMITED TO TWO MINUTES.**

E. STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS OR REPORTS:

1. DIRECTOR'S MONTHLY REPORT – Receive and file

Heard from Director Cullen who reports that on June 10th the shelter had an event in which they sold spay/neuter vouchers at half price. He reports that the City of Bakersfield and Kern Humane were also in attendance. He also reports that on June 11th was the annual Just One Day event in which shelters can pledge to spend the day focusing on live outcomes as opposed to non live outcomes. Director Cullen then reports on the statistics covered in the Director's report. Director Cullen states that in the current heat the shelter has had a difficult time keeping the animals and staff cool. There was a post put out on Facebook about the shelter needing fans and the community rallied and donated coolers and fans to help out.

Commissioner Blackburn commented on the low amount of cats that were adopted out in May at Petco. The shelter didn't have cats to bring out to Petco during that month. Commissioner Blackburn also asked Director Cullen to explain what a "disposal" means on the report to which Director Cullen explains that it is a deceased animal that is brought into the shelter. Commissioner Blackburn asked what the current number of volunteers is. Director Cullen states that approximately 3 weeks ago when he last checked there were 147 active volunteers.

Heard from Liz Keogh who asked Director Cullen if there is a charge to bring in a deceased animal. He responds that if the animal belongs to the person bringing it in there is a \$10.00 charge however if it is not the person's animal there is no charge.

2. VOLUNTEER UPDATE - Receive and File

NONE

3. SPAY/NEUTER FUNDS UPDATE - Receive and File

Heard from Blake Smith who reports on the data on the Spay/Neuter report. Blake informs the group that the CAO's office has changed procedure in regards to how they give the department money in their budget. Blake also states that he applied for a grant through the state Food and Agriculture Department for \$15,000 which has been awarded to the department for spay/neutering that will be focused on the Kern River Valley area. He reports that Sally Breyer has also applied for a grant for \$5,000 for spay/neuter of feral cats in Kern River Valley. They do not know the outcome of the second grant yet.

Commissioner Madigan asked about a grant she saw online from Petsmart and if it was awarded to the department. Blake does not know anything about that.

Liz Keogh asks Blake if he is in contact with Barbara Andrade from Friends up in the Kern River Valley that deals with the Snip and Tip program. Director Cullen responds that the department is in contact with her.

Commissioner Blackburn asked if the department is outsourcing any surgeries to vets or if the department is still utilizing the onsite surgery suite. Director Cullen informs the Commission of the resignation of Dr. Arnold and Blake states that because of that there has been outsourcing recently. Blake also states that a recruitment has been opened to fill the vacant Veterinarian position and they hope to get through the process quickly.

Motion to receive and file - *(Madigan/Taggart)* – All in favor

F. COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS OR REPORTS:

On their own initiative, Commissioners may make an announcement or a report on their own activities. They may ask a question for clarification, make a referral to staff, or take action to have staff place a matter of business on a future agenda (Government Code Section 54954.2(a)).

NONE

G. OLD BUSINESS:

1. STAFF REFERRALS

NONE

2. EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS SUB-COMMITTEE

NONE

3. FRIENDS OF THE KERN COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTERS UPDATE

There was no one present from Friends but Director Cullen did report that Friends purchased fans for the shelter.

4. CITIZEN'S PATROL SUB COMMITTEE

NONE

H. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Check presentation by Petco Foundation

It was decided that this check presentation would come before the presentation by Commissioner Madigan and Ms. Keogh.

Heard from Aaron Malloy and Heather Diaz who are representatives of Petco. Aaron talks about the Petco Foundation, when and why it was created and what they have accomplished since it's inception.

Heather spoke briefly about how Animal Services initially came in contact with the Petco Foundation before she presents Director Cullen with a check for \$50,000 on behalf of the Petco Foundation.

Heard from Director Cullen who gives his perspective on how the relationship with Petco began, evolved and how the department was awarded this grant.

2. Presentation by Commissioner Madigan and Liz Keogh on the feasibility of a JPA

Heard from Commissioner Madigan who explained why they wanted to speak about a possible JPA.

Heard from Liz Keogh who gave the three different definitions of the acronym JPA. Jerri Bradly clarifies what a Joint Powers Authority means and what service it provides. Jerri suggests that deciding what the objective is because any of the JPAs may not be necessary and a MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) may be sufficient. Commissioner Madigan states that it is unclear of which direction this discussion is going and that opening up this discussion will help give some direction.

Heard from Liz Keogh and Commissioner Madigan who share the frustration with how the city/county jurisdictions are broken up and how it affects services. She also shares how finding a solution through JPA or otherwise would be beneficial.

Heard from Liz Keogh who speaks about other agencies that have used JPAs and have been successful.

Heard from Commissioner Madigan who talks about the history between the City of Bakersfield and Kern County Animal services when the division of the agencies occurred. She reports that there were beginning discussions into a JPA and at some point discussions were ceased and the agencies have operated separately ever since.

Heard from Liz Keogh on the subject of what would happen to each agency if there was a JPA in place. She reports that it would depend on the structure of the JPA or MOU and she gives examples.

Commissioner Madigan talks about where do we go from here. It is proposed that the discussion continues next month after people have had a chance to digest all the information and there is more information to share. She also suggests that this idea be taken to the Board of Supervisors to keep them informed of what the Commission is considering. She also proposes that the Commission sponsor workshops to get people involved and get input from the community. She would also like to encourage people to speak with their representatives and let them know they support whatever actions may possibly be taken. Liz encourages people to go out and lobby in favor for changes.

Jerri Bradley advises against the Commission taking this matter to the Board of Supervisors at this time because there is no complete recommendation. Ms. Bradley also advises that a workshop cannot be organized by the Commission it would have to be done through Animal Services for various reasons, which she explains.

Commissioner Anderson states that she believes that all of this is all too premature. Ms. Bradley advises that the best plan at this point would to leave it agenzized for future Commission meetings. Liz asks Commissioner Anderson why she believes this is premature to which she responds there is just not a game plan. Director Cullen recommends that this forum, the Commission meetings be the workshop that Ms. Keogh and Commissioner Madigan are requesting. It is suggested that the Commission meetings could be better publicized. Ms. Bradley asks if anyone has even spoken with the City of Bakersfield in regards to this subject because without a second agency any type of agreement or JPA is not possible. Ms. Bradley recommends that someone speak with City of Bakersfield before moving forward and that it be left on the agenda for updates at future meetings. Commissioner Anderson shares her concerns with getting City of Bakersfield on the same page.

Motion to continue this item under old business on next month's agenda (*Madigan/Blackburn*) – All in favor.

Motion to receive and file document (*Madigan/Taggart*) – All in favor.

I. ADJOURNMENT:


Motion to adjourn (*Taggart/Madigan*) – All in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

The next Animal Services Commission meeting is scheduled for:

July 19th 2017
6:00 p.m.

Attest:



Janice Anderson
Chairman

**A full recording of the proceedings can be heard at http://www.co.kern.ca.us/acd/AAC_AS.aspx*