

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

July 19th, 2017 – 6:00p.m.

A. ROLL CALL: The meeting was called to order at 6:12 p.m.
Commissioners Present: Ms. Anderson –Chairperson/Commissioner
Ms. Geary – Commissioner
Ms. Taggart – Commissioner
Ms. Madigan - Commissioner

Commissioners Excused:
Mr. Blackburn – Vice Chairperson/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
Dr Wilson – Veterinarian, Kern County Animal Services
Lisa Richardson – Shelter Supervisor, 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. June 21st, 2017 Regular Meeting.

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

C. CONSENT AGENDA:

1. CORRESPONDENCE FILED WITH THE COMMISSION - Receive and File
 - a) Email dated June 19th, from Rebecca Countryman in regards to dogs killing her goat and rooster.

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

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.**

NONE

E. STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS OR REPORTS:

1. DIRECTOR'S MONTHLY REPORT – Receive and file

Heard from Director Cullen who begins by introducing Dr. Wilson who is the new Veterinarian at Animal Services. He also announces that a meeting was held with Marley's Mutts and Best Friends Animal Society in which there was discussion on how Best Friends can help KCAS organize a coalition starting with Marley's Mutts with the objective of reaching a no kill status. The meeting went so well that Best Friends gave KCAS a scholarship to send 2 staff members to an annual conference in New Jersey. Lisa Richardson and Sally Breyer attended the conference and came back with some amazing information and ideas. Director Cullen reports on the status of the Petco grant funds that was awarded to the department. He also goes over the statistics in the Director's report.

An unidentified member of the public asked Director Cullen if rescues other than Marley's Mutts would be invited to join the No Kill Coalition. He responded by saying anyone trying to support a no kill Kern is welcome to be a part of the coalition. Also heard from Teri Kahn who suggests Director Cullen proceed with caution when working with Marley's Mutts and other "retail rescues". Heard from Commissioner Madigan who asks Teri to explain to her what "retail rescue" means. Teri states that it means making money off of rescue. Commissioner Geary asks Director Cullen if the billboards she has seen around the county were in conjunction with Marley's Mutts to

which Director Cullen responds that KCAS paid for 6 of their own billboards and Marley's Mutts paid for 6 of their own billboards.

Heard from Liz Keogh who expresses her concern in regards to what happens to dogs after they leave the shelter. Director Cullen clarifies that the well being of the animals leaving the shelter is his priority, not whether or not rescues who are pulling the animals are making a profit off of animals they pull from the shelter.

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.

Motion to receive and file - (*Madigan/Geary*) – 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)).

Heard from Commissioner Madigan who shares that there is a free microchip registry online and encourages people to register and microchip their animals. She also shares a program that the city has implemented for returning dogs to owners. Owners have the option of paying all the fees in place and having their dogs returned to them intact or they can pay \$50 and purchase a license and the shelter Veterinarian will alter the dog and return it to the owners without having to pay all the other redemption fees. She also mentions a pet match maker program in which a staff member could help families looking to adopt find a dog that best fits in their family.

Dr. Wilson comments on the City's RTO program and speaks highly of it and it's benefits.

G. OLD BUSINESS:

1. STAFF REFERRALS

NONE

2. EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS SUB-COMMITTEE

CCADT has been busy looking for sheltering sites in the greater Tehachapi Valley area. There was also a drill that was administered to the core CCADT group and they did really well. They are also still looking for volunteers. The last training was cancelled due to lack of attendees.

3. FRIENDS OF THE KERN COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTERS UPDATE

There was no one present from Friends but Director Cullen did report that Friends purchased 15 medium sized dog crates
Heard from Commissioner Geary who asks if the x-ray machine has been delivered.
There was brief discussion on the status of the x-ray machine

4. CITIZEN'S PATROL SUB COMMITTEE

NONE

5. PRESENTATION BY COMMISSIONER MADIGAN AND LIZ KEOGH ON THE FEASIBILITY OF A JPA

Heard from Commissioner Madigan who reports she has spoken with a few people at the City of Bakersfield. She does not believe the City would be interested in any kind of JPA at this point in time. The City officials feel as though "it would be a step backwards", however she feels that the Commission should pursue this subject anyway. She explains she put together a packet which included a draft letter that she would like the Commission to consider sending to the Board in regards to contacting City officials. Commissioner Madigan expresses the urgency in taking action if that is what the Commission so chooses to do.

Commissioner Anderson and Director Cullen express their opinions on the suggestions being made by Commissioner Madigan's letter.

Also heard from Liz Keogh and Jerri Bradley on the logistics of a MOU or a JPA. Commissioner Geary also expresses her thoughts on the workability of a JPA or MOU. Heard from Jerri who shares the possible legalities of interfering with contract and suggests that the letter be reworded should the Commission agree to the letter.

Heard from Danny Spanks who shares his concerns with allowing people to take animals to whichever shelter they choose. Commissioner Madigan suggests that there be a possible financial agreement between City and County in regards to caring for dogs from the other's jurisdiction. Blake gives his thoughts on how difficult any type of financial agreement may be between the two municipalities.

Heard from an unidentified person who would like to see the shelters come to an agreement so that there is a shelter open 7 days a week.

Heard from Teri Kahn who suggests taking 2-3 important issues, doing research and collecting data and then taking that information to the Board for consideration. There is brief discussion on how difficult it may or may not be to collect data on how many residents are denied services at each shelter due to their jurisdiction.

Commissioner Madigan confirms that the two key concerns she should address are taking each other's animals and complimenting each other's hours.

Motion to table this particular letter for now and that more research be put in, and possibly put in a different format in the future. *(Geary/Taggart)* – All in favor.

H. NEW BUSINESS:

NONE

I. ADJOURNMENT:

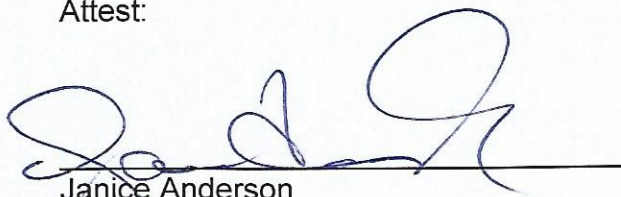
Motion to adjourn *(Taggart/Geary)* – All in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

The next Animal Services Commission meeting is scheduled for:

August 16th, 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*