

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

August 16th, 2017 – 6:00p.m.

A. ROLL CALL: The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m.
Commissioners Present: Mr. Blackburn – Vice Chairperson/Commissioner
Ms. Geary – Commissioner
Ms. Madigan - Commissioner

Commissioners Excused:
Ms. Anderson –Chairperson/Commissioner
Ms. Taggart – 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. July 19th, 2017 Regular Meeting.

Motion to Receive and File as amended contingent upon verification of prior audio
(*Madigan/Taggart*) – All in favor

C. CONSENT AGENDA:

1. CORRESPONDENCE FILED WITH THE COMMISSION - Receive and File

- a. Email received 07/11/17 from Lisa regarding "Feral Cat Problem".
- b. Email received 07/29/17 from Liz Keogh regarding "Membership in ASC focus group to explore feasibility of a Metro Bakersfield JPA"

Item a. removed from consent by Commissioner Geary

Commissioner Geary asked Director Cullen if he knew what this call was regarding. Director Cullen explained the call that led to this email to Commissioner Geary. He informed her that the recommendation was made to the property manager to take advantage of the County's TNR program.

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 reports on the statistics on the Director's report. Commissioner Geary asks who comes up with the promotion names to which Director Cullen responds it is a collaborative effort and sometimes they are taken from other agencies. Commissioner Blackburn asks Director Cullen what he attributes the change in rescue statistics to, to which Director Cullen responds Sox Rescue has been pulling cats. Commissioner Blackburn also talks about Petco statistics and Volunteer statistics. Heard from Liz Keogh who asks Director Cullen if he has any suggestion on how to lower the amount of field service calls in the area she lives in. He explains that the North East is large and densely populated and that is a factor. Liz Keogh also states that it is a lower income population. There was further discussion about spay/neuter in the Northeast area.

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.

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 inquires about National Clear the Shelters Day. Director Cullen states that the department will not be participating in National Clear the Shelter Day. Commissioner Madigan also asks Director Cullen to elaborate on Sox Rescue to which he replies that they are regularly pulling cats from the shelter to adopt out and that they are one of the few feline rescues that Kern County has. Commissioner Madigan asks for the status on the x-ray machine and Director Cullen reports that they are working through some electrical issues before it can be installed. Commissioner Madigan also asks the status on the department's need for fans. Director Cullen states that the fan issue has been alleviated due to the massive outpouring from the community. Commissioner Madigan asks for an update on the No Kill Coalition that Director Cullen spoke about in last month's meeting. He reports that he met with Marley's Mutts and The Best Friends Animal Society out of LA to discuss ways to generate interest and support for a no kill goal. They are currently developing a Steering Committee which will consist of several organizations that they will reach out to to participate in the Steering Committee. The Committee will meet monthly or bi-monthly to discuss what steps to take to move forward in the no kill goal. Commissioner Madigan asks if a Commissioner can participate in the Committee and Director Cullen states that he will make announcements regarding meetings when they get to that point. Commissioner Madigan asks Director Cullen for specifics on the Petco grant the department applied for to support the foster program. He explains that the grant was for approximately \$97,000 which if they are awarded the grant will go towards 1 Registered Veterinary Technician and 3 Animal Care workers to specifically support the foster program. They will know if they are awarded the grant in October. Commissioner Madigan asks Director Cullen about the incentive rescue program. He responds that Best Friends uses this program and give a monetary incentive to rescues pulling animals from the shelter that are at high risk of euthanasia. He states the County is not in a position to give compensation for pulling animals however they are looking for new, dynamic ways to help animals who have a harder time getting out of the shelter have a better chance of getting out of the shelter. Commissioner Madigan asks Director Cullen to create an email account for the Pet Detective program so that people may send lost

and found information directly to them. Director Cullen responds that emails regarding lost and found dogs are sent to the front office to post. She then asks if there is a way to indicate on the website where to send lost and found information to which he agreed to have done. Director Cullen announces that the Pet Detective program is looking for a volunteer to manage the Pet Detective program.

Commissioner Blackburn comments that he believes that the the No Kill billboards that have been placed around the county are the best way to get the information out there. Commissioner Blackburn asks if there are events or meetings for no kill groups and if there is does the department ever attend. Director Cullen explains that there are those types of meetings and events and that staff has participated in those events.

G. OLD BUSINESS:

1. STAFF REFERRALS

NONE

2. EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS SUB-COMMITTEE

Heard from Commissioner Geary reports that CCADT Director, Danny Flynn came and talked with her and Director Cullen. She reports that KCAS disaster plan is done and just needs to be approved. She also reports that CCADT has been getting sponsors to support their group. They also attended two National Nights Out and got a lot of signatures of people wanting to volunteer.

3. CITIZEN'S PATROL SUB COMMITTEE

Director Cullen states that based on the recommendations from Counsel it doesn't look like there is going to be a Citizen's Patrol. Commissioner Madigan asks for a brief background on a citizen's patrol. Director Cullen explains how it would work. There is further discussion on the pros and cons of a citizen's patrol but it is ultimately decided that this item be removed from the future agendas.

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

Heard from Commissioner Madigan who reports she is all in favor of putting this issue to rest however, she would like to find a way to handle the issue that still linger. She asks Director Cullen if there is a way to put a button the website that would allow people to check their jurisdiction. Director Cullen states that he has looked into this topic and there is not currently any way to do that. Commissioner Madigan expressed that she would like to see some sort of "lower level" liaison that would help the City and the County navigate some of the issues that still have yet to be addressed or solved. There is further discussion between Commissioner Madigan, Director Cullen and Jerri

Bradly on whether or not a liaison is necessary. It is ultimately decided that the issue of a JPA be put to rest.

Motion to put the JPA issue to rest for now and to dissolve the Committee. (Madigan/Geary) – All in favor.

H. NEW BUSINESS:

NONE

I. ADJOURNMENT:

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

The next Animal Services Commission meeting is scheduled for:

September 20th, 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*