

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

October 18th, 2017 – 6:00p.m.

A. ROLL CALL: The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m.
Commissioners Present: Ms. Anderson –Chairperson/Commissioner
Mr. Blackburn – Vice Chairperson/Commissioner
Ms. Taggart – Commissioner
Ms. Geary – Commissioner
Ms. Madigan - Commissioner

Commissioners Excused:
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
Lisa Richardson - Shelter Supervisor, Kern County Animal Services
Jeff George - Volunteer Coordinator, 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. August 16th, 2017 Regular Meeting.

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

C. CONSENT AGENDA:

1. CORRESPONDENCE FILED WITH THE COMMISSION - Receive and File

- a. Email received 09/19/17 from Hillary Rosen regarding Seizure Hearing/Paiva
- b. Email received 09/19/17 from Cari Canin regarding Sept 21 Seizure Hearing
- c. Email received 09/19/17 from Christine regarding Paiva - Animal A List
- d. Email received 09/24/17 from Stacey Jischke-Steffe regarding Monthly meetings
- e. Email received 09/25/17 from Vicky Thrasher regarding Critters Without Litters Press Release
- f. Email received 09/19/17 from Drew Mackie regarding Seizure Hearing/Paiva

Item e. removed from consent by Commissioner Madigan

Heard from Jerri Bradley who suggests a motion be made to add item f. to the Consent Agenda.

Motion to add item f. Email received 09/19/17 from Drew Mackie regarding Seizure Hearing/Paiva (*Madigan/Blackburn*) – All in favor

Motion to Receive and File items a., b., c., d., and f. (*Geary/Madigan*) – All in favor

Commissioner Anderson asks Vicky Thrasher from Critters Without Litters to stand up and discuss the Press Release. Vicky talks about their 5 year anniversary and the number of surgeries they have performed in the 5 years they have been providing services in Kern County.

Motion to Receive and File item e. (*Geary/Taggart*) – 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.**

Commissioner Anderson states that she heard there were some Bakersfield College in the audience and asks if anyone would be willing to come up and speak about why they chose to observe the Animal Services Commission meeting.

Heard from Desiree Gomez, a Bakersfield College student, taking a Political Science class.

Heard from Sue Bennett from Kern Humane. Sue reports on their progress since the beginning of their fiscal year in June. Sue also gives a brief description of what help Kern Humane offers and gives the address and hours of the thrift shop.

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. He also adds that the department has worked with San Joaquin College to develop an MOU for an externship program. They help the medical team doing surgeries twice a week. He also announces a new spay/neuter program the department is rolling out called "Save the Pitties". Director Cullen also announces that they started a barn cat program in which they adopt out TNR cats at no cost to residents that may need free rodent control. He briefly discussed the status of the No Kill Coalition and the No Kill Coalition Steering Committee. Director Cullen spoke about Dr. Wilson and the amount of surgeries she and her medical team have been performing since she joined the team. He announced that the department will be hiring a Deputy Director and a Registered Veterinary Technician and he encourages anyone who would like to apply to do so. Director Cullen also states that the department is trying to develop a training program that will allow people intending to surrender their animals due to behavioral issues, free services to help them navigate through their behavioral issues. Director Cullen briefly talks about the department's need for a fully stocked disaster trailer in the Tehachapi/Mojave area. Director Cullen also announced that on October 21st the Kern County Libraries will be hosting an event at Hart Park from 5pm - 8pm.

Commissioner Anderson asks Director Cullen if he has specifics on what the department needs for a disaster trailer in which he replies they do. She then mentions that they check with the AKC.

Heard from Commissioner Blackburn who gives many compliments to the department for all the work they are doing and improvements that have been made. He also inquires about the increase in live cat outcomes. Director Cullen responds that Meow Rescue (formerly Sox Rescue) has been instrumental in the increase in those numbers because they are one of few rescues who come to the shelter and pull cats.

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

2. VOLUNTEER UPDATE - Receive and File

This item was discussed by Director Cullen in the Director's report.

3. SPAY/NEUTER FUNDS UPDATE - Receive and File

Heard from Blake Smith who reports on the data on the Spay/Neuter report.

Commissioner Madigan inquired about the trust fund and there was a brief discussion on the status of the trust fund.

Liz Keogh inquired about the voucher redemption rate and there was a brief discussion on what the statistics in the report indicate.

Blake Smith also announces that the x-ray machine has finally arrived and is in use.

There was a 1 minute break in the audio at this point in the meeting.

Heard from a member of the public who asked Blake if having the x-ray machine will lower the number of animals being euthanized. Blake responds that he cannot answer that question accurately.

Motion to Receive and File item (*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 spoke briefly about the Pet Detective program. Commissioner Madigan speaks to the students and explains why the Commission was created. She then asks everyone to think about things they can do to revitalize the Commission and she gives a few things she thinks can be done to help.

Commissioner Blackburn announces that the Manager at Petco, Aaron Malloy is no longer employed there. He also talks about the low adoption numbers at the Petco and asks staff to comment on what could be causing that. Jeff, Lisa and Nick inform him that they are utilizing all the cubbies that Petco has allowed them.

Heard from Commissioner Anderson who spoke briefly about Responsible Dog Ownership Day.

G. OLD BUSINESS:

1. STAFF REFERRALS

NONE

2. EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS SUB-COMMITTEE

Heard from Commissioner Geary reports that CCADT was put on standby for 2 fires however did not deploy. They are also working on getting more community partners and she gives a list of partners they already have. She states that they need to work on doing more training for volunteers.

Heard from Commissioner Blackburn who asked Commissioner Geary if they received any calls for assistance during the Northern California fires. Commissioner Geary responds that they did however they did not deploy because they do not have enough volunteers to help at this time.

Heard from an unidentified member of the public who asked Commissioner Anderson to explain what she does with the AKC and for the Responsible Dog Ownership Day. Commissioner Anderson explains what mission of the AKC is and what the purpose of Responsible Dog Ownership Day is. The unidentified member of the public shared her concern about the information being given by the AKC as she attended the event in which she encountered someone from the AKC and was told to not spay or neuter. Commissioner Anderson shared her concerns with that information being given out as well and said she keep an eye out for things like that.

H. NEW BUSINESS:

1. REVIEW THE PROPER AND SAFE HOUSING OF CONFINED LIVESTOCK AND ENFORCEMENT OF SAME.

Heard from Commissioner Geary who has great concern about what happens to livestock in the event of a disaster such as the fires Bakersfield recently suffered from in which a significant amount of livestock perished. She wants to be able to prevent such tragedy from happening again and so she would like to form a subcommittee to handle this topic. Director Cullen suggests instead of a new ordinance the subcommittee look into expanding the already existing Commercial Animal Facility Permit ordinances.

Motion to create the Livestock Containment Committee (*Madigan/Blackburn*) – All in favor

Heard from an unidentified member of the public who asked if it is typical for stable staff to not have access to animal stables. Commissioner Anderson states that it is sometimes the case but is an issue that definitely needs to be addressed.

I. ADJOURNMENT:

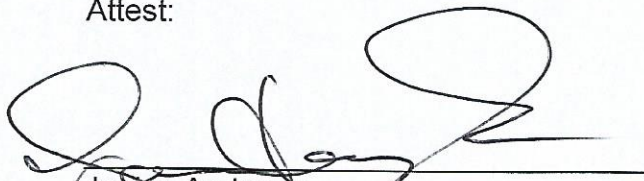
Motion to adjourn (*Blackburn/Geary*) – All in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

The next Animal Services Commission meeting is scheduled for:

December 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*