

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

November 15th, 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
Kendra Graham – 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. August 16th, 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.**

Heard from Joan Peyton who suggested that the discussion regarding frequency of Commission meetings be revisited. Commissioner Madigan responded that she feels the Commission needs to be “reinvented” and that the Commission could be more involved on a more detailed basis. Commissioner Anderson suggest that the discussion be brought to January’s agenda.

Heard from Liz Keogh who spoke about former Director of Animal Services, Denise Haynes and Ms. Haynes’ retirement.

Heard from Stacey Jischke who would like to see the meetings continue monthly. She asked about taking a look at current legislation and how possibly coming up with new legislation might help solve some of the problems Animal Services currently faces. She also wanted to follow up with a request she sent to Director Cullen in October in regards to a place in Lamont she was concerned about. Director Cullen responded that there is an ongoing investigation regarding this situation. He encourages anyone who has ideas regarding ordinances to send those ideas to him. Commissioner Anderson also gives her input on code enforcement and ordinances.

Heard from Danny Spanks who wanted clarification on whether or not Animal Services has been to or located the property in which Ms. Jischke refers to. Director Cullen responds that the department has not located the property. Danny suggests that Animal Services have an educational meeting open to the public to help facilitate understanding of what Animal Services does on a daily basis. Commissioner Geary asks Director Cullen about the possibility of ride alongs to which Director Cullen responds that the department does allow ride alongs with Animal Control Officers and requests can be made through him. There is further discussion regarding ordinances and other processes that happen at Animal Services that are not necessarily publicized.

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 reports that the Foster Coordinator was awarded a grant to go to Austin, TX and learn about their barn cat program. Director Cullen talks about the No Kill Coalition and its purpose.

A unidentified member of the public asks Director Cullen if the department still has a program that goes to schools and educates school aged students. Danny and Director Cullen speak about the PAWS program which is not hosted by KCAS but that the department participates in. Director Cullen states that schools do contact the department requesting that the department come and do a presentation and he is more than happy to do that to contact him with the school's information. There was discussion about how to increase the number of live outcomes and the subject of spay/neuter is mentioned at which time Director Cullen talks about free vouchers for County residents to spay/neuter their pit bulls. There is further discussion on methods in which could be used to distribute information regarding spay/neuter. Commissioner Blackburn speaks briefly regarding the statistics in the Director's report.

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.

Motion to Receive and File items E1., E2., and E3 (*Taggart/Madigan*) – 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 Blackburn who asked a BC student to speak about why they were attending this meeting. He also speaks briefly about a company that has a special price on billboards. Commissioner Blackburn talks about his experience with the ride alongs he has been on.

Heard from Commissioner Madigan who briefly speaks about the steering committee.

Heard from Commissioner Anderson who implores people to get involved with helping Kern County reach their No Kill goal and thanks everyone for their help.

G. OLD BUSINESS:

1. STAFF REFERRALS

NONE

2. EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS SUB-COMMITTEE

Heard from Commissioner Geary reports that CCADT is holding new volunteer training December 2nd. People can go to CCADT.org to express interest.

1. LIFESTOCK CONTAINMENT COMMITTEE

Heard from Commissioner Geary who reported she received information from the UC Davis on livestock care and Sonoma zoning ordinance and they are researching further. She suggests that they should possibly revamp the entire Commercial Animal Facility Permit. There is brief discussion on how to go forward and Kendra Graham suggests she talk with Jerri Bradley who is regular counsel to see how to proceed and Jerri can report back to the Commission.

H. NEW BUSINESS:

1. DISCUSSION ON WHETHER OR NOT THE COMMISSION WILL GO DARK IN DECEMBER

All Commissioners with the exception of Commissioner Madigan would like to go dark in December.

Motion to go dark in December (*Geary/Blackburn*) – All in favor.

I. ADJOURNMENT:


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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

The next Animal Services Commission meeting is scheduled for:

January 17th, 2018
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*