

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

February 21st, 2018 – 6:00p.m.

A. ROLL CALL: The meeting was called to order at 6:04 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
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. January 17th, 2018 Regular Meeting.

Motion to Receive and File (*Geary/Taggart*) – 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 Liz Keogh who announced that February 22nd, at 6:00pm Maddie's Fund will hosting a Webinar regarding spay/neuter. She also announces that National Animal Care and Control Association quarterly newsletter had an article stating that the American Bar Association is supporting TNR programs.

Heard from Michelle Vallejos who asked the Commission to add mandatory spay/neuter to the agenda for next month.

Heard from Darlene Foss who spoke about a dog out at Hart Park that she has been trying to catch and has requested assistance in catching.

Heard from Susan Richardson who shares her frustration and concern in regards to the stray and overpopulation problem in Kern County. Commissioner Madigan replied to Ms. Richardson's concerns.

Heard from Judy Coffman who shares her concerns about fake service animals.

Motion to add Mandatory spay/neuter to March's agenda (*Geary/Madigan*) – 4 Ayes - 1 Abstained

E. STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS OR REPORTS:

1. DIRECTOR'S MONTHLY REPORT – Receive and file

Heard from Director Cullen who briefly follows up with Ms. Coffman's concerns regarding service animals. Jerri Bradley comments on this subject. Director Cullen also speaks briefly about mandatory spay/neuter and low cost spay/neuter. He reports that the department applied for a Petco grant to help fund the foster program. Of the \$95,000 they applied for, Petco awarded the department \$225,000 spread out over 3 years. He also reports that the department has applied for a nationwide "Innovation Grant" in the amount of \$350,000. The idea is to operating a foster program at the Lerdo facility to take around the clock care for neonate kittens. Director Cullen reports that the County is in negotiations for purchasing the currently leased property at 3951 Fruitvale where the shelter is located. He also speaks about the senior foster program that the department is trying out with one senior dog and one recovery health care facility. The dog is at the facility being cared for by the residents, each taking a part in caring for the dog. Director Cullen speaks about World Spay Day which is February 27th. There are lots of other organizations participating and lots of opportunities to obtain low cost spay/neuter vouchers. He reports that the 2nd Mega Adoption event will be held April 22nd. He encourages anyone qualified for the Deputy Director position to apply. He also states that the department participated in the "Paws for Patriots". Director Cullen informs that Kern County has seen several cases of distemper so encourages everyone to vaccinate their animal for distemper. Lastly he reports on statistics from the Director's report. There is brief discussion regarding the distemper vaccination

Commissioner Geary inquires about the Save the Pitties program.

Commissioner Blackburn speaks briefly on the statistics from the Director's report

2. VOLUNTEER UPDATE - Receive and File

Director Cullen reported volunteer statistics in his 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. Blake spoke about possibly having to increase the license fee for unaltered dogs. Heard from Wally BeVille shares his opinions on why some people may not take advantage of voucher programs and there is brief discussion on this topic.

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 encourages people to get their animals microchipped. She also thanks Friends for their help with a foster dog she is caring for.

Commissioner Anderson announces that the grant for the disaster trailers has been approved and fundraising can begin. \$24,000 will have to be raised for both trailers. She shares several ways people can donate if they so wish. She also announces that the Kern County Kennel Club dog show is coming up.

G. OLD BUSINESS:

1. STAFF REFERRALS

NONE

2. EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS SUB-COMMITTEE

Commissioner Geary has nothing to report.

3. LIFESTOCK CONTAINMENT COMMITTEE

Commissioner Geary has nothing to report.

H. NEW BUSINESS:

1. REPORT FROM LISA RICHARDSON REGARDING VISIT TO AUSTIN, TX

Lisa was unable to attend tonight's meeting.

Motion to Receive and File items E1., E2., and E3. - (*Taggart/Geary*) – All in favor

I. ADJOURNMENT:

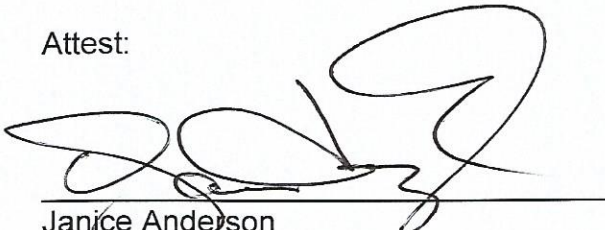
Motion to adjourn (*Blackburn/Geary*) – All in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

The next Animal Services Commission meeting is scheduled for:

March 21st, 2018
6:00 p.m.

Attest:



Janice Anderson
Chairperson

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