

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

June 20th, 2018 – 6:00p.m.

A. ROLL CALL: The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.
Commissioners Present: Ms. Anderson –Chairperson
Mr. Blackburn – Vice Chairperson
Ms. Geary – Commissioner
Ms. Madigan – Commissioner

Commissioners Excused: Ms. Taggart – Commissioner
Ms. Perez – Commissioner

Staff Present:
Nick Cullen – Director, Kern County Animal Services
Sally Breyer - Deputy Director, Kern County Animal Services
Jerri S.Bradley – Deputy County Counsel, Kern County
Blake Smith – Business Manager, Kern County Animal Services
Dr. Kimberly Wilson - Veterinarian, Kern County Animal Services
Amber Chrissakis – 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. May 16th, 2018 Regular Meeting

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

C. CONSENT AGENDA:

1. CORRESPONDENCE FILED WITH THE COMMISSION - Receive and File
 - a. E-mail received 05/13/18 from Melinda Maxson regarding "Untitled"
 - b. E-mail received 05/15/18 from Carol Weidenbach regarding "Animal ordinance need review"
 - c. E-mail received 05/16/18 from Roxanna V. regarding "AC COMMISSION CALL TO ACTION"

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.**

Heard from Sue Bennett with Kern Humane who commends Animal Services staff on their efforts to return a dog to an owner who was out of state. Sue also reports on the yearly statistics for Kern Humane.

Heard from Liz Keogh who spoke about the new Animal Services website. She also spoke about the success of the most recent Bakersfield City vaccination clinic.

Heard from Judyth Coffman who invites anyone to attend a breed workshop that will be held by California Federation of Dog Clubs at the Fruitvale shelter Saturday at noon.

Heard from Michelle Vallejos brought to everyone's attention with photos the amount of dogs and cats for sale on Facebook.

Motion to Receive and File photos provided by Michelle Vallejos - (*Geary/Madigan*) - All in favor.

Heard from Joan Peyton who reminded everyone about hazards of fireworks from the 4th of July and urged everyone to try and get dogs back to their owners. Heard from Commissioner Blackburn who asked if anyone had heard if fireworks will be banned in Bakersfield.

Heard from Pamela Coleman who shared a negative experience she had a few weeks ago with a stray dog she tried to contain for the 15 day stray dog hold. The stray attacked and killed their family dog. She was concerned that the dog was returned to the owner and another incident like this could happen to someone else and suggests ordinances be changed. Director Cullen

explained dangerous dog procedures to help clarify that there are procedures in place to make sure dangerous animals are handled appropriately.

Heard from Angela Perdakis expressed her concerns about animal over population, hoarding cases and the resulting health and safety of animals involved in such cases.

Heard from Lois Henry who also expressed her concerns regarding ordinances on dangerous dogs and how they are handled. She believes the ordinances need to be tightened up. She also thinks there needs to be a public service announcement or public education so that the public is aware that they need to report dangerous dogs so that in the event that Animal Services needs to act on a dangerous dog, they can. She suggests looking into turning aggressive dog claims into animal owner's home owner's/renter's insurance. She is also pro mandatory spay/neuter. Heard from Jerri S. Bradley and Commissioner Madigan who had brief discussion regarding the current local and state ordinances on dangerous dogs.

E. STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS OR REPORTS

1. DIRECTOR'S MONTHLY REPORT – Receive and file

Heard from Nick Cullen who started off by recognizing volunteer Liz Keogh for her efforts as a volunteer at Hart Park After Dark event. He then announces that the department has a new website kerncountyanimalservices.org and encourages people to go to the website and give him feedback on things that work well, things that don't or things that could be added. Director Cullen reports that the department has been invited to be a presenter at the Best Friends conference in LA in July and shares intake numbers starting 2013, ending 2018. He points out that in targeted areas where dog intake is always the highest, there has been a precipitous drop in dog intakes in those areas and says this is what an organization looks for in spay/neuter programs and it shows in the decrease in euthanasia rates.. He also points out that the number of cats has not changed. Director Cullen updates on the kitten nursery and reports statistics from the Director's report. He also reports that the department has partnered with Best Friends Animal Society to put Volunteer Coordinator Jeff George through a mentoring program to help expand the volunteer program at Animal Services. Heard from Commissioner Blackburn who commented on the euthanasia statistics. Heard from Sue Bennett from Kern Humane who asked Director Cullen about the current save rate. An unidentified member of the public asked if the Barn Cat program is up and running to which Director Cullen and Deputy Director Breyer stated is has been up and running for approximately 6 months.

2. VOLUNTEER UPDATE - Receive and File

Director Cullen covered this item in his Director's report.

3. SPAY/NEUTER FUNDS UPDATE

Heard from Blake Smith, who discusses the spay/neuter funds report. There is discussion among the group about what spay/neuter programs are available. There is also brief discussion regarding TNR procedures. Heard from Liz Keogh about Bakersfield City's TNR program.

Motion to Receive and file (*Geary/Blackburn*) - All in favor

F. COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Heard from Commissioner Madigan who announces that this meeting will be her last as Commissioner. She also spoke briefly about taking precautions for 4th of July. Commissioner Madigan tested the email link to the Commission on the department's new website. She requested that a auto-response be sent back to the sender when an email is sent to the Commission via the website. She also asked for an update on the budget proposals to which Director Cullen responds that it will be heard at the next Board of Supervisor's meeting.

Heard from Commissioner Geary who announced that Kern County has a fully stocked disaster trailer that will be stored in Tehachapi in case of a disaster. Central California Animal Disaster Team is going to be having a training in Visalia.

Heard from Commissioner Anderson who announced that donations are being accepted to stock two more disaster trailers.

G. OLD BUSINESS:

1. STAFF REFERRALS

NONE

2. LIFESTOCK CONTAINMENT COMMITTEE

Heard from Commissioner Geary who states she has nothing new to report.

H. NEW BUSINESS:

1. REPORT FROM DR. WILSON REGARDING VISIT TO AUSTIN, TX

Heard from Dr. Wilson about her visit to Austin Pet's Alive. She gave a brief description and explanation about Parvo and Panleukopenia. She talks about the steps she has taken to create an isolated area to treat animals with Parvo and Panleukopenia. She briefly answers questions from the public.

2. DISCUSSION ABOUT FORMING A SUB-COMMITTEE TO ADDRESS ORDINANCE CHANGES

Heard from Commissioner Madigan announced that she met with a couple of members of the public to discuss some issues they felt necessary to address in the sub-committee and has provided a document outlining those issues. She briefly discusses the issue on the document she provided. Commissioner Madigan asks for input on where to go from here with regards to choosing members to sit on the sub-committee.

Commissioner Anderson suggests that in light of Commissioner Madigan's departure and a new one being appointed Tuesday that maybe waiting until the next Commission meeting to decide about a sub-committee might be appropriate. She also reminded Commissioner Madigan that 2 years ago the Planning department agreed to work with the sub-committee to discuss breeder's permit ordinances because it is not only animal ordinance issues but planning as well.

Heard from Commissioner Geary who asked Commissioner Madigan which members of the public she met with to discuss the issues in her document. She responded it was Stacey Jischke-Steffe and Michelle Vallejos. Commissioner Geary asked both women what their input is on the direction Commissioner Madigan spoke about earlier and both women briefly gave their opinions on the current direction. Stacey offered to sit on the sub-committee

Heard from Susan Borg who shares her experiences with dog over population and the results of not having mandatory spay/neuter.

Heard from Lois Henry who also expresses her thoughts on the necessity for mandatory spay/neuter.

Heard from Wally Beville who shares his opinions on the importance of revisiting the ordinances via the sub-committee and he offered to sit on the sub-committee.

Heard from Angela Perdikis who offered her thoughts on the need for a sub-committee and she also volunteered her time to sit on the sub-committee.

Heard from Samantha Boykin who wanted to know what the consequences are for breeders who violate the current breeding related ordinances to which Director Cullen responds.

Heard from Susan Richardson who shares her support for a sub-committee.

Heard from Daniel Litterell (Danny Spanks) who shares his support for a sub-committee

Heard from Commissioner Anderson who reiterated that she believes decisions would be best made by waiting for the new commissioner to participate in the discussion and appointments to the sub-committee.

Heard from Liz Keogh who encouraged the commission to approve a sub-committee and make appointments of members next month.

Heard from Director Cullen who agreed with Liz who suggested to approve the sub-committee and wait until next month to appoint members to sit on the sub-committee.

Motion to form a sub-committee to address ordinance changes (*Geary/Madigan*) - All in favor

Motion to Receive and file Commissioner Madigan's document (*Geary/Blackburn*) - All in favor

Motion to continue this topic until July's meeting (*Geary/Blackburn*) - All in favor

I. ADJOURNMENT:

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

The next Animal Control Commission meeting is scheduled for:

July 18th, 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*