

THE STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTIES OF POTTER AND RANDALL

CITY OF AMARILLO

On this day of October 1, 2013, the Animal Control Board of the City of Amarillo, Texas, held a regular scheduled public meeting at City Hall, Commissioner's Chambers, at 11:00 a.m., with the following members in attendance:

VOTING MEMBERS	PRESENT TODAY	NO. MEETINGS HELD 2012-2013	NO. MEETINGS ATTENDED
Mrs. Tracy Dougherty	Yes	5	5
Ms. Sunny H. Campbell	Yes	5	5
Mrs. Brooke Reeves	Yes	5	4
Mr. Benjamin Pollard	Yes	5	5

NON-VOTING MEMBERS	PRESENT TODAY	NO. MEETING HELD	NO. MEETINGS ATTENDED
Mike McGee, Director Animal Control	Yes	5	3
Shannon Barlow, Asst. Director Animal Control	Yes	5	5
Vicki L. Covey, Division Director of Community Services	No	5	2
Deree Duke, Director Environmental Health	No	5	4

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Deanna Lamkin, Recording Secretary

Also, in attendance were the following:

Jena McFall of the Amarillo Panhandle Humane Society, Marcus Norris City Attorney, Mayra Camunez from WTAMU.

Tracy Dougherty, called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m. and established the quorum.

ITEM 1: Approval of Minutes

Tracy Dougherty called for a motion for approval of the minutes held on July 25, 2013. Motion made by Sunny H. Campbell, seconded by Benjamin Pollard.

ITEM 2: Presentation and discussion from the Amarillo Humane Society by Jena McFall, Executive Director

- A. Adoption/Foster Programs, Jena McFall advised adoptions are up by 78 since July 2012. Of those, 60 of them went to a rescue center. Texas state law states that animals have to be sterilized when they leave the Humane Society, and due to lack of records to prove this, there has been a decline in the number of pulled animals. There is new staff personnel in charge of foster programs to help expand to other avenues past orphaned, nursing mothers, or medical reasons. For example, TPPS is completely foster based and the foster parents have to bring the animals to foster events. Mike McGee advised the programs done by the Humane Society over the past year has saved Animal Control \$3,000 in tranquilizing drugs and euthanasia solution, which was then used for our expansion program(s).
- B. Great Dane incident from August 7, 2013, Jena McFall advised Animal Control is in no way responsible for this issue because it was a miscommunication between TPPS and the Humane Society. This issue has been addressed by adding new policies into place just because of this incident.
- C. Public Education through PSA's, Jena McFall advised public service announcements are going to be done through public education and the Humane Society and Animal Control. The Humane Society earmarked \$10,000 for a public campaign to use public service announcements to promote public education focusing on several aspects of animal education. Currently there is no roll out date.
- D. Rabies Drive, Jena McFall advised the rabies drive was held September 7, 2013 at the Civic Center, and this was the 1st year for computerized documentation. Problems were that the wi-fi didn't work, there was no paper book back up system when the wi-fi didn't work, but overall the same amount of shots were done as last year. Jena McFall advised some fixes to the problems encountered are to consider a monthly clinic, possibly alphabetizing the list through pre registration. No money is made, it is purely done for the community only, and only staff time gets paid as part of cost from the low cost service for the community.

ITEM 3: Consider and approve changes to the Amarillo Control Board Meeting Schedule

Mike McGee advised a day and time needs to be confirmed for future board meetings.

Tracie Dougherty made a motion for the board members to meet every other month, starting in January 2014, on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 11:00am. Mike McGee advised the new veterinarian to be added to the board is still unknown but we will have one by January 2014 board meeting.

ITEM4: Presentation and discussion from the Animal Control, Mike McGee advised he plans to design a dog walk park in an area for the Humane Society to utilize as a staging area for customers to evaluate new dogs for adoption, have enough space so they can bring existing pets in to see how they will interact with the new adopted pets, and all done in a safe environment. This will allow citizens to interact and walk the dogs. The old area will be used for handicap accessibility because it is not covered in grass, and will also be used for puppies as well because they can carry the parvo sickness which makes it easier to clean the sickness off of cement rather than grass. In the long run, it is more functional for this project to be within our facility, and the project will be complete. The city commission has authorized 3 new employees. This will allow us by January/February to field train them and take our schedules back to working up until the midnight shift, but not a 24 hour shift. The 3 new employees will be a help because of court appearances and continuing to train with education. Shannon Barlow advised Animal Control hosted a euthanasia training class where an officer is trained and certified for euthanasia, the Humane Society has 2 euthanasia officers from that class we hosted, and the rest of our staff was trained to be a euthanasia officer. The Animal Control Officer basic training classes we host, through the Lubbock of State Health Services, will be held in November 2013. In January/February the National Animal Control Association training classes (levels 1, 2 and 3) will be completed or started, and the Humane Society will be involved. It's a week long and includes animal cruelty training and many other things. It's a privilege for us to host that once a year. Animal Control would like our field officers to be nationally trained.

ITEM 5: Presentation on Texas Open Meeting Requirements, Marcus Norris provided everyone with a handout. He discussed certifications, key concepts, laws, policies, violations, open meetings and open records. Certificates must be turned in by next board meeting for all board members that don't currently have a certificate.

ITEM 6: Public Forum, Shay White advised Animal Control officials and staff spend a lot of time training towards cruelty cases. She advised the Animal Control Officers can only do so much, such as write tickets, reports, and talk to the owners about animal cruelty. She proposed those cases are then up to someone else to prosecute, but the prosecution doesn't get followed up on. Shay White requested that the city ordinance regarding animal cruelty cases be presented to city commission for reinforcement and prosecution because these cases are not being prosecuted, and it needs to be done after animal control officers have done their part. Sunny H. Campbell asked if they can have a copy of the city ordinance and have it provided to them by Animal Control by the next board meeting. Shay White requested to add to the next agenda that the animal cruelty city ordinance be reviewed at the next board meeting. Tracie Dougherty requested a master calendar be provided to show when board meetings will be and have it emailed to them.

Benjamin Pollard made a motion to put animal cruelty on the next agenda and that Animal Control staff provide the board members with the relevant information to current city ordinances on the city charter and any relevant cases in the past. Sunny H. Campbell second the motion. ~~Fracie~~ Dougherty advised the motion carries.

There is a tape recording of this special meeting at the Animal Control Department.

With no further business for the Board's consideration, the meeting is adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,



Mrs. Tracy Dougherty, Chairperson
Of the Animal Control Board



Deanna Lamkin, Administrative Assistant V of
Animal Control Board