

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTIES OF POTTER AND RANDALL
CITY OF AMARILLO

The Animal Control Board met on Monday, May 19, 2014, at 11 a.m. in regular session in the City Council Chamber located on the third floor of City Hall at 509 E. 7th Avenue, with the following members present:

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| Sunny Hodge-Campbell | Chairman Animal Control Board Member |
| Andrea Slater Gulley | Vice Chairman Animal Control Board Member |
| Brooke Reeves | Animal Control Board Member |
| Dr. C.P. Paullus | Animal Control Board Member |
| Members absent: | |
| Dr. Jim Cook, DVM | Animal Control Board Member |

Also in attendance were the following administrative officials:

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| Scott McDonald | Acting Director |
| Marcus Norris | City Attorney |
| Tanya Champion | Information Technology Manager |
| Frances Hibbs | City Secretary |
| Deree Duke | Director of Environmental Health |

Chairman Sunny Hodge-Campbell established a quorum, called the meeting to order, welcomed those in attendance and the following items of business were considered.

Item 1. Minutes

Motion was made by Vice Chairman Andrea Slater Gulley; motion was seconded by Board Member Brooke Reeves, and unanimously carried, to approve the minutes. Motion passed 4:0.

Item 2. Presentation and Discussion from the Amarillo Panhandle Humane Society by Jena McFall, Executive Director

Jena McFall stated that since their half price adoption weekend, they had 46 total adoptions. They are still in need of a spay/neuter program for dogs. She advised that Hope Road Veterinary assists with some of the spay/neuter program but due to logistics, they cannot meet demand. Jena McFall asked for any ideas on obtaining a vet that would be willing to work with them. Each animal that leaves the shelter for adoption or foster is a case-by-case situation. Jena advised that per state rule, any animal that leaves the shelter through them must get vaccinated within a week.

Item 3. Presentation and Consideration of recommendations regarding Information Technology Department relating to technical assistance, software options, and data collections needs of the Animal Control Department, including documentation and notice of impounded animals.

Tanya Champion stated the Animal Control records management application is the same as the Amarillo Police Department, and it interfaces with dispatch calls, it does not meet the Animal Control record keeping requirements, so detailed information is kept on separate spreadsheets. There are several

shelter management applications, but the recommended one will need to be selected and implemented and need to meet the records management and reporting requirements for Animal Control. As an interim step, there is an online management report that has records and pictures of the animals, and that completion date is May 30, 2014.

Item 4. Update and Discussion on Animal Control Department

Acting Director Scott McDonald stated the Animal Control Department is fully staffed (with four (4) kennel attendants on staff daily), staff development continues as a significant priority, as well as providing additional resources that are required to garner greater efficiencies. Euthanasia is still under local veterinary supervision, improvements to the facility continue, and officer involvement has improved, as well as, cross training for the officers. New animal intake procedure, extended weekend hours, and electronic ticket writes will be in available the 1st week of June. Acting Director Scott McDonald further stated they promote a safer and healthier Amarillo, and an opportunity for learning the most humane ways possible.

Chairman Sunny Hodge-Campbell inquired as to the capacity of the shelter. Mr. McDonald stated there was not a defined number, but depends greatly on the animals in each kennel, and the temperament of each animal.

Judy Glidewell, 176 Dolphin Ter.; stated that there are other Animal Control shelters that don't put a time limit on the healthy animals, but on the unhealthy ones. She also stated the Animal Shelter did not have a Veterinarian on call to determine if the pets were healthy or not.

Loretta Jordan, 1537 Biggs St.; questioned how the problems at Animal Control were allowed to happen for so long and who is responsible. Scott Edwards, 8105 Prosper Dr.; wanted to find out what happens to injured cats and dogs, and if they are receiving proper care.

Acting Director Scott McDonald advised that an officer takes every means possible to find the owner by trying to reunite the animal to the owner.

Judy Harris, 2013 NW 17th Ave., stated that there are stray dogs in her area, and she cannot take care of all of them.

Item 5. Presentation and Consideration of draft revisions to Chapter 8.2 of the Amarillo Municipal Code related to the Inhumane Treatment of Animals

City Attorney Marcus Norris briefly went over the final form of the City Ordinance changes that were implemented at the April 21, 2014 Animal Control Board meeting. Vice Chairman Andrea Slater Gulley states that 'chain' should be removed from Section A-2-1.2. Mr. Norris advised he would make it consistent throughout the ordinance. Vice Chairman Andrea Slater Gulley made a motion to approve the ordinance, Board Member Dr. Paullus seconded. Motion passed 4:0. Mr. Norris stated the ordinance would be forwarded to the City Manager for a future City Council agenda.

Judy Harris, Northwest 17th Avenue; stated she has a neighbor that has a dog chained up to her fence. Loretta Jordan 1537 Biggs, inquired if this ordinance is passed, would it be enforced.

Loretta Jordan, 1537 Biggs St.; continued to talk about Judy Harris' problem that Acting Director Scott McDonald discussed this situation after the board meeting.

Item 6. Discussion of Items for the next meeting agenda

Chairman Sunny Hodge Campbell requested a five- year plan and the Animal Control budget of a few past years be emailed to her, as well as how they were allocated. Mr. McDonald replied that he would send that information to the Board members. Vice Chairman Andrea advised she would like to look into holding times for the animals. She also wants more help with finding spay/neuter programs to get the euthanasia numbers down, and registration of the animals.

Item 7. Public Forum

Shea White, 4212 West 12th Avenue; stated important things are finally getting done. Judy Glidewell, 176 Dolphin Terrace; stated parvo is bad at the shelter and that Animal Control Officers go around to vets and pick up dead and diseased animals.

Loretta Jordan, 1537 Biggs St.; inquired about educating children in schools.

Donna Rosenburg, 13800 Tangle Aire Point; inquired as to the ongoing investigation. Chairman Sunny Hodge-Campbell stated the investigation is out of the Board's hands. Ms. Rosenburg also inquired about where the webcam would be located and how Animal Control would use the ticket writers. She also inquired why Animal Control Officers were not fully trained before starting their jobs. Mr. McDonald replied the webcam would be used during the intake process taking pictures immediately but these photos would not be a live stream. The ticket writers tie into ILeads and will replace the ticket books. The charges would go straight to Municipal Court to streamline the entire process.

Vicki Powers, 34 Colonial Drive; asked what they would be seeing in the future and what processes will be in place so these types of things don't happen again. She also wanted more information for volunteers.

Mr. Marcus Norris stated there was an ongoing criminal investigation with Randall County District Attorney. The procedures and practices are under internal review, any violations of law will be prosecuted and any city policies or administrative violations reviewed; personnel issues are under the City Charter. Currently reviewing the best practices and what other cities are doing and how to improve the operations. He also suggested anyone interested in volunteering to contact any group such as the Humane Society, SPCA, or various other groups.

Vice Chairman Andrea Slater Gulley stated additional information could be obtained at City Council meetings.

Sandy
Andie Whitney, 4214 Catalpa Lane; stated the need to educate the community. Chairman Sunny Hodge-Campbell stated the Humane Society was trying to raise public awareness and have some funds available. She further stated Animal Control Officers do make appearances at various events to raise awareness. She also stated that the Humane Society was looking into liability issues for allowing volunteers to be at the shelter.

Chairman Sunny Hodge-Campbell stated the next meeting was scheduled for June 16. Meeting was adjourned.

This meeting was recorded and on file with the City Secretary Office.

Sunny Hodge-Campbell
Sunny Hodge-Campbell, Chairman

ATTEST:

Deanna Lamkin
Deanna Lamkin, Administrative Assistant V
Animal Control Department