

MINUTES

On February 3, 2016, the Animal Management & Welfare Advisory Board met at 6:00 p.m. in the Council meeting room to discuss the agenda, in the City Council Chamber located on the third floor of City Hall at 509 E. 7th Avenue, with the following members present:

VOTING MEMBERS	PRESENT	NO. MEETINGS HELD SINCE APPOINTMENT	NO. OF MEETINGS ATTENDED
Andrea Slater Gulley	Yes	14	14
Kellie Dodson DVM	Yes	01	01
William Kearns	Yes	3	3
Dale Potter	Yes	4	4
Brooke Reeves	Yes	14	12

Also in attendance were:

Richard Havens	Director, AM&W, City of Amarillo
Christy Fischer	Asst. Director, AM&W, City of Amarillo
Raymond Chavez	Shelter Manager, AM&W, City of Amarillo
Jim Liggitt	Compliance Manager, AM&W, City of Amarillo
Kevin Moon	Field Services Manager, AM&W, City of Amarillo
Jeffna Cox	Admin Tech, Animal Management & Welfare, City of Amarillo
Elisa Yara	Office Manager, Animal Management & Welfare, City of Amarillo
Jena McFall	Executive Director, Amarillo- Panhandle Humane Society
Robin Cupell	Asst. Director, Amarillo-Panhandle Humane Society

ITEM 1: Call to Order. Andrea Slater Gulley established a quorum and called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Amarillo Animal Management & Welfare Advisory Board to order at 6:00 P.M. The approval of Minutes from Regular Meeting, December 16, 2015: Motion carried to approve by William Kerns and second motion by Brooke Reeves. 5:0

ITEM 2: Presentation of Amarillo-Panhandle Humane Society, Jena McFall. The adoption event held on January 2, 2016 resulted in 90 animals being adopted (\$20.16).

Live Release Totals January 2016

Kittens: 27
 Cats: 32
 Puppies: 103
 Dogs: 126
 Adoption Option: 8
 Other: 1 chicken
 1 goat
 3 guinea pigs
Total Adoptions: 301
To Rescue: 256 (127 dogs, 75 puppies, 17 cats, 37 kittens)
Total: 557 (up 120 from last year)

Live Release totals for last 5 years:

2011: 1715
 2012: 2522
 2013: 2579
 2014: 2654
 2015: 5296

ITEM 3: Presentation of Amarillo animal Management & Welfare Operations, Richard Havens. January kicked off the new software and training of personnel to learn the new system. The department is testing inconsistencies within the data set. Testing will continue until the software passes all tests.

Shelter Statistics

Intake to date: 12715 Total Intake (39.95% Euthanasia Rate / 60.05% Live Release Rate)

5056 Stray Dogs
 3917 Stray Cats
 3072 Donated
 670 Bite Cases
 1452 Reclaimed
 5296 Left through Humane Society
 567 Kittens
 243 Cats
 819 Puppies

920 Dog-
 79 Other
 119 Adoption Options
 2549 Transferred to Rescues
 1349 Dogs
 687 Cats
 437 Puppies
 76 Kittens
 5080 animals were euthanized

Monthly statistics on calls and department activities

- o AM Officers
 - December 2470 calls for service
 - Total Calls for Service 34,454

2014 to 2015 Live Release Comparison: Found in Board Members Packet

January to December 2014	January to December 2015	Percentage Change 2014 to 2015
AM&W 1230	1452	+18.0%
HS-Live Release 2654	5296	+99.54%
Total 3884	6748	+73.74%

January 2015 to January 2016 Comparison: Found in Board Members Packet

Ongoing Operations and improvements at the shelter

Efface is currently on-going

- Chain link is currently on-going
- Cat Building/Storm Shelter
- Walls are up and poured
- Roof is on and poured

Portilizing Cat Kennels – TZI Report

February 9th Start date and will be going slow

January Adoption Event

January 2nd – 75 microchips were implanted on the shelter side

Training

February 2016 – Law Enforcement Training Institute 8-12
Level I (Professional Investigator)

ASPCA – Cruelty Investigations Training

December 8th and 9th

Approximately 70 people attended

LEO's

ACO's

Veterinarians

Veterinarian Support Staff

District Attorney

Humane Society

Ordinance Updates Update:

The ordinances changes would be a Level 1 Impact.

Community Engagement so far:

Community Animal Health Committee - December 10, 2015 - Support

Animal Management & Welfare Advisory Board – December 16, 2015 - Support

Amarillo Globe News – December 16, 2015 – Publication

Bi-County-City Health Board – January 12, 2016 - Support

Amarillo-Panhandle Humane Society – January 21, 2016 – Support

17 Letters have been sent out to the local vets informing them of the potential changes

Currently sitting in the legal department waiting on final review before proceeding with the process to get them before City Council.



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Animal Management & Welfare Website Updated

Pages updated and currently published.

Home Page

Pet Wellness

Spay/Neuter-Logic

Adoptions

Adopt Don't Shop

Rescue Groups

Resources

Statistics

2015 Statistics

2016 Statistics – Should be Live at 6:00PM today

Resource Links

General Pet Care Tips and Tricks

Unwanted Behavior Resource

Local/State Resources

Historical Value

Where We Have Been and Where We Are Going

Contact Us

Facility Info

Key Staff

Animal Management & Welfare Advisory Board

FaQ

How Can I Help?

Donations

Monetary Donations

Physical Donations

Fostering

Richard Havens introduced his Administrative Staff and his management staff.

AM&W and APD case coordination are currently working on nine (9) active cases.

Update on darted cat case: no current leads or suspects. AM&W is working on partnering with a National Organization to possibly offer a reward for information that leads to an arrest and conviction.

Christy Fischer, Asst. Director, AM&W, working on School Education Program, called Paws for Kids. Next two months she will be going to Mesa Verde Elementary School, Margaret Elementary School and two visits to Will Rogers Elementary School.

ITEM 4: Report from Community Cat Committee, William Kearns, Chairperson, acknowledged his committee. The Community Cat Committee is tasked on how to reduce the rate of cat euthanasia. Currently the ratio is 3 to 1 compared to dogs being euthanized. The committee has to deal with illness in feral cat population at the Shelter. The first meeting was held on January 14, 2016, to find a solution to controlling free roaming and feral cat populations. Ordinances must change to allow TNR. Chase Steinmetz, the Co-Chair of Community Cat Committee presented presentation on the need for TNR in our community. Last 12 months, 3917 trapped feral cats (326 per month) have been turned in to AM&W to wait out the 72 hour stray hold period before being euthanized at a rate of 100%. Five freedoms are being denied to the feral cat population when housed at shelters. Illness in cat increases due to high stress level and increases the spread of illness to other cats. Melanie Davidson, Community Cat Committee member, presented key points on the Target Zero report (TZI) to use as a valuable resource for the city of Amarillo to implement TNR. Ms. Davidson handed out a packet to the Advisory Board Members. The report focused on decreasing shelter intake of cats, maintaining a healthy cat population within the shelter, and reaching a live outcome to 90% save rate. Per TZI report TNR is the single most significant quick way to decrease shelter intake of felines. Camille Scott introduced ordinance changes to start an effective TNR program. Definitions of a Cat colony must be properly defined and feral cat definition in order to keep the community safe while helping reduce cat population. William Kearns wrapped up the TNR discussion with changes that would not impact the city financially and it worth a try due to the fact that nothing is currently being done to reducing the feral cat population in Amarillo. Robin Cupell explained the vacuum effect, that when one cat is removed from one cat colony, it is replaced immediately by another. The cost to euthanize a cat is .66 cents and \$1.23 to vaccinate on intake. The cost for a 2 week period to care for a feral cat is \$75.00. Richard Havens will collect correct data for having to support the savings to the tax payers if TNR was implemented in Amarillo. A work session will be scheduled for the official presentation of TNR program, from Richard Havens, Director of AM&W.

Andrea Slater Gulley opened the discussion for public comment.

Ms. Stewart, 4248 W.13th, 79109, suggested that a spay cost for a female cat could be obtained for \$40.00. She is in support of TNR in the community.

Melody Malouf, P.O.Box 50236, 79159, asked about the status of the pig that was abused. It could not be discussed because it was not on the agenda.

ITEM 5: Report from Community Education Committee, Dale Potter, Chairperson, introduced his board. The goals and strategy for the committee to address is to educate the public on vaccination, spay and neuter education, common pet issues and basic recommendations to trainers to help with behavior pet issues. Another aspect is to identify cultural differences within the community and teach people what Amarillo's cultural animal expectation. The committee will look for volunteers to help out at diverting owner surrenders at the shelter. The goal in mind to reduce owner surrenders is 25% reduction. The committee will have to gather data for the Amarillo community to get information on the pet population. Once the data is collected the committee will move forward on addressing the needs of animal/pet education. When educating the public, a positive spin will be put on the fact that your pet's life will be extended by vaccinating your pet/animal. The committee will go into public and private schools and day cares to begin educating young children. In February the committee will begin in schools and in May will initiate summer programs to educate on pet issues for both adults and children.

Public comments:

Melanie Davidson, 2607 S. Hayden, 79106, suggested adding education of the importance of micro chipping pets. Educating the public on how micro chips works and keeping information current on micro chips.

Laura Marquez, 1521 S. Rosemont, 79109, suggested educating people that do not how to tell if a cat is spay or neutered. How is a cat identified as belonging to a feral cat colony?

Item 6: Propose Future Agenda Items. Andrea Slater Gulley, Chair Person of AM&W Advisory Board, requested Richard Havens and William Kearns develop and present report on TNR with support of the City legal department. Ms. Gulley rescheduled the Advisory Board meeting that was slated for April 27, 2016 to April 20, 2016 (5:00 p.m. work session/6:00 p.m. board meeting). Regular reports from Amarillo Panhandle Humane Society and Animal Management & Welfare will be presented.

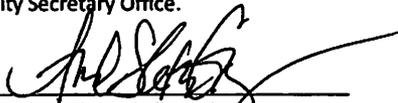
Item 7: Public Forum.

Melody Malouf, P.O. Box 50236, 79159, suggested increasing the publicity via social media on the dart cat incident to encourage a reward from Amarillo Crime Stoppers and raising awareness on the criminal impact of the incident.

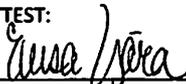
Ms. Stewart, 4248 W.13th, 79109, commented that a reward would not work on identifying the culprit on the dart cat incident. The best way would be to target the student bodies at the public schools and encourage the students to give police the information. She also expressed her concern on identifying dysfunctional family behavior in regards to harming family pets. She exceeded her 3 minute time limit. Dillard Lane, 7351 Outlook Ave, 79109, concerned about how many outlying area's animals that AM&W processed and what percentage of the 12000 animals belonged to the outlying areas and counties. Is there any funding coming from the outlying counties and areas to assist Amarillo? Richard Havens was not able to respond due to the fact that it was not on the agenda to discuss. Mr. Lane was deferred to speak with Mr. Havens after the Board meeting. Ms. Gulley suggested adding that item to the next agenda for further discussion.

ITEM 8: Adjournment. There being no further business, Andrea Slater Gulley adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

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


Andrea Slater Gulley, Chair Person

ATTEST:


Elisa Yara, Office Manager,
Animal Management & Welfare Dept.