

**MINUTES**

On January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021, the Animal Management & Welfare Advisory Board met at 5:05 p.m. via Zoom to discuss the agenda.

VOTING MEMBERS	PRESENT	NO. MEETINGS HELD SINCE APPOINTMENT	NO. OF MEETINGS ATTENDED
Stacy Grant	Yes	05	03
Matt Hite	No	04	04
Charlie Sanchez	Yes	04	04
Eddie Sauer	Yes	04	04
Christopher Wrampelmeier	Yes	17	17

Also, in attendance were:

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| Victoria Medley | Director, Municipal Court, City of Amarillo      |
| Courtney White  | Attorney, City of Amarillo                       |
| Rob Sherwin     | Interim Director, AM&W, City of Amarillo         |
| Laura Storrs    | Assistant City Manager, City of Amarillo         |
| Elisa Yara      | Admin Operations Manager, AM&W, City of Amarillo |

**ITEM 1: Public Comment:** None

**ITEM 2: Minutes:**

Chris Wrampelmeier, Chair, called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Amarillo Animal Management & Welfare Advisory Board to order at 5:05 P.M. The motion to approve the Minutes from Regular Meeting, November 4, 2020, was made. The motion carried 4:0.

**ITEM 3: Staff Updates:**

- A. **Update on department staffing:** Rob Sherwin presented the AMW Advisory Board with department staffing updates. On January 4, 2021, Field Operations gained 3 Animal Management Officers. Increasing field officers promotes public safety. Laura Storrs and Jared Miller were present during a badging ceremony for the new Animal Management Officers. In February there will be another classroom training for an additional 3 Animal Management Officers for Field Operations. These new officers will also be badged when their training has been completed. A Part-Time Veterinarian was hired, along with 3 part time Vet Assts. The new model for AMW will also include looking for more Part-time Veterinarians. Three Animal Care Workers will start on February 01, 2021. The Amarillo Panhandle Humane Society has done an excellent job on moving animals out of the shelter to Rescue groups.
- B. **Update on new building:** Animal Management Officers were relocated to this new building to give them the necessary space to function. The new building will also accommodate the Field Supervisor and Compliance Manager, Veterinarians and Vet Assistants. Vet surgical area will also be located out of this new building. Quarantine kennels will be set up for bite dog cases. An administrative office remodel is currently underway for the front counter operations.
- C. **Update on operations:** Rob explained the Daily Report Card that is posted at amw.amarillo.gov. In December APHS got 370+ animals out to Rescue groups. Victoria Medley set up an online reporting system, so that the public had additional access to Animal Management & Welfare. The online reporting system sends citizen’s specific issues/concerns directly to the department for immediate response/follow-up. Monthly summaries will be posted on the website as well.

**Item 4: Discuss Tethering Ordinance.**

The current Tethering Ordinance is good as currently written.

**Item 5: Discuss and Consider Breeders Ordinance:**

Rob Sherwin presented the AMW Advisory Board with state mandates vs. local municipality mandates. Under Texas Law, Chapter 802 regulates large scale breeders of dogs and cats. State Law does not include small breeding operations. Rob wanted to develop a Breeders Ordinance that was not punitive in nature and less complicated for breeders to comply with. Rob presented the requirement for a Breeders Permit which included an application to AMW for a fee of \$50.00 (from the time of the application), no more than 4 dogs or cats per location, all animals must be vaccinated, enclosed cages and or runs, proper zoning for a business. A Revocation of Permit would include a dangerous animal complaint, non-sanitary conditions and excessive barking. The AMW Advisory Board recommended the yearly fee be increased to \$100.00. An individual would not be required to pay the breeders fee if they had 1 accidental litter. The AMW Advisory Board recommended deleting item #3 under Sec. 8-2-16-

Permit for breeder of dogs and cats. The third recommendation was to add 1 breeder permit per address and to delete "transferring litters".

**Item 6: Identify Future Agenda Items:**

Vision for progressing in one direction and building a relationship with Amarillo Panhandle Humane Society.

Continue the discussion regarding the Breeders Ordinance.

Great job to Victoria Medley and Rob Sherwin in bringing stability to Animal Management & Welfare.

Discussion on the necessary use of catch poles.

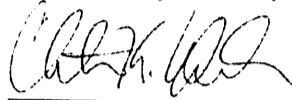
Report on further updates at AMW.

**Item 7: Set Schedule for Next Advisory Board Meeting:**

February 10<sup>th</sup> or February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021 is next scheduled Advisory Board Meeting via Zoom.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:24 P.M.

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



Christopher Wrampelmeier, Chairperson

ATTEST:



Elisa Yara, Admin Operations Manager,  
Animal Management & Welfare Dept.