

MINUTES

On July 28, 2021, the Animal Management & Welfare Advisory Board met at 5:01 p.m. in the City Council meeting room located on the third floor of City Hall at 509 E. 7th Ave to discuss the agenda. This meeting was recorded, and all comments are on file with the City Secretary Office. Chris Wrampelmeier, Chair, called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Amarillo Animal Management & Welfare Advisory Board to order at 5:01 P.M.

VOTING MEMBERS	PRESENT	NO. MEETINGS HELD SINCE APPOINTMENT	NO. OF MEETINGS ATTENDED
Stacy Grant	No	09	06
Charlie Sanchez	Yes	08	07
Eddie Sauer	Yes	08	07
Christopher Wrampelmeier	Yes	21	21
Bethany Schilling	Yes	01	01

Also, in attendance:

Victoria Medley	Director, AM&W, City of Amarillo
Kris Shaffer	Assistant Director, AM&W, City of Amarillo
Courtney White	Assistant City Attorney, City of Amarillo
Ty Vernon	Field Service Manager, AM&W, City of Amarillo
Jim Liggitt	Compliance Manager, AM&W, City of Amarillo
Kayla Sell	Outreach Manager, AM&W, City of Amarillo
Alexis Scroggins	Administrative Technician, AM&W, City of Amarillo

ITEM 1: Introduction of New Board Member, Bethany Schilling, DVM.

ITEM 2: Public Comment:

Janda Raker (4605 Journey St, Amarillo, TX 79110) wanted to address concerns about stray and off leash dogs attacking her dog in her neighborhood, which has happened multiple times in several areas. She passed her suggestions on to the Field Services Manager.

ITEM 3: Minutes. The motion to approve the Minutes from Regular Meeting, July 28, 2021, was presented. The motion carried 4:0.

ITEM 4: AMW Activity Report PowerPoint

- A. **Shelter Update: Distemper Outbreak.** On 06/03/21, we had released a public statement due to a parvo, which affects dogs, and panleukopenia, which affects cats, outbreak. Both diseases have a very high mortality rate and are extremely contagious. The shelter became limited access and required appointments to try to mitigate the amount of exposure for the two diseases. Staff kept record of the number of cases for parvo and panleukopenia so that we would be able to restore full access as soon as the numbers were declining and were able to go back to full access for one day before the distemper outbreak. The distemper outbreak started with a stray animal on 07/18/21. The on-staff vet had examined the animal and determined to send for testing. On 07/23/21, we started tracing contact between the animal and possible exposures. Two veterinarians, one from Texas Tech Veterinary School and the other from the Texas Veterinary Medicine Association, assisted us with procedures going forward. Local, private practice veterinarians have reported positive distemper cases found through their private practices in the public as well as local wildlife rehabilitators have had foxes testing positive for distemper. Six other shelters in the state of Texas have had distemper outbreaks as well. Best practices and procedures recommended by the consulting veterinarians were implemented. On 07/24/21, our vet techs as well as volunteers from Texas Tech gave an extra booster vaccine to 186 dogs in the shelter. Cat adoptions and surrenders are by appointment, but not limited since distemper will not affect the cats. The shelter doors have been shut, with access by buzzer. Dog adoptions are being done through the online website. Field operations is continuing as normal.
- B. **AMW Activity Report.** Shelter numbers reflecting May 2019 vs May 2021. Intake numbers for May 2021 included 336 cats and 534 dogs. Our live release rate decreased due to the parvo/panleukopenia outbreak.
- C. **Field Officer call snapshot.** An image of how many calls and animals were picked up for one day, 7/27/21. In one shift, 4 dogs and 3 cats were brought into the shelter through the field officers only. A total of 78 calls were ran that day.

STATE OF TEXAS
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CITY OF AMARILLO

- D. **Staff updates.** Outreach Manager – Kayla Sell, Adoption Coordinator – Wren Fairrow, Weekend Shelter Supervisor – Alex Langley, and Field Supervisor – Dalton George were all announced. Administrative Specialist II, Administrative Assistant IV, and vet tech position is also currently posted. All current field officers and trainees have taken the ACO Certification Test. Animal Management Officers are staffed from 7am – 10pm, with on call officer from 9pm to 7am.
- E. **Community Outreach/Adoption Programs.** AM&W website has been updated and reorganized to emphasize education and make a more user-friendly adoption and stray list. We ran a successful \$5 cat adoption special that resulted in 114 cats adopted in May and June. AM&W Assistant Director, Kris Shaffer, set a program to partner with Pet Supplies Plus to have cats for adoption at the store. The Amarillo Public Library adoption events were successful; we planned to partner with the libraries for the DHPP shot clinics for the community. Due to donations, the shot clinics will be free.
- F. **Vet services.** Two contracted part time vets and offering a part-time contract to a third vet. A vet tech position is currently posted.
- G. **Questions.** Farm animal ordinances regarding properties and who can have the farm animals besides the properties grandfather in. AM&W's Field Services Manager answered questions about zoning and cows inside city limits.

Item 5: Identify Future Agenda Items. The Advisory Board would like status updates on staffing, veterinary services, community outreach, and adoption program as well as an update for the citizen's concerns and suggestions from the previous AM&W Board Meeting on July 28, 2021.

Item 6: Set Schedule for Next Advisory Board Meeting. Next Animal Management & Welfare Advisory Board Meeting tentatively scheduled for September 29, 2021 at 5PM at City Hall in the Council Chambers.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:52 P.M.

ATTEST:



Christopher Wrampelmeier,
AM&W Advisory Board Chairperson



Alexis Scroggins,
Administrative Technician, AM&W