

MINUTES

On March 23, 2015, the Animal Management & Welfare Advisory Board met at 12:00 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
Sunny Hodge-Campbell	Yes	9	9
Andrea Slater Gulley	Yes	9	9
Brooke Reeves	Yes	9	8
Dr. C.P. Paullus,	No	9	5
Dr. Jim Cook, DVM	Yes	9	7

Also in attendance were:

Bob Cowell	Assistant City Manager, City of Amarillo
Marcus Norris	City Attorney, City of Amarillo
Scott McDonald	Interim Director, Animal Management & Welfare, City of Amarillo
Richard Havens	Director, Animal Management & Welfare, 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

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 12:04 P.M.

ITEM 2: Approval of Minutes from Regular Meeting held January 20, 2015. Motion was made by Brooke Reeves to approve and seconded by Sunny Hodge-Campbell and unanimously carried to approve such minutes as written.

ITEM 3: Presentation of Amarillo-Panhandle Humane Society. Executive Director, Jena McFall presented results from the Low Cost Rabies Vaccination Clinic on March 14, 2015. The numbers reflected positively on the new implemented "pre-paid" option that was given to the public. The drive administered 1,682 shots and 963 were pre-paid vaccinations (989 rabies shots/492 pre-paid; 578 Parvo vaccines/401 pre-paid; 52 Feline/35 pre-paid; 63 Feline RVCP/35 pre-paid; 176 microchips/133 pre-paid). Ms. McFall further suggested that for future Vaccination Clinics the public which opted to pre-pay be offered a shorter wait time. February adoption numbers were total of 320 animals out the front door (9 kittens, 19 cats, 60 puppies, 84 dogs, 10 Adoption Options and 138 going to rescue organizations 71 dogs/ 67 cats); refunds from the adoptions were 5 dogs (1 tested Distemper case) and 2 cats with Panleukopenia. Ms. McFall also presented an update on the No Balls for Baxter Program. 335-animals benefitted from the program (252 dogs and 117 of that were dogs not currently vaccinated- 46%; 83 cats with 70 of those cats not having vaccinations-84%). Funding for No Balls for Baxter is running low.

ITEM 4: Presentation of Amarillo Animal Management & Welfare. Director, Richard Havens presented the great turn out and success of the Low Cost Rabies Vaccination Clinic. Mr. Havens reflected the importance on continuing vaccination clinics, especially coming on the heels of the second confirmed case of rabies in Perryton, Texas. The dates for future Rabies Vaccination Clinics were announced: June 13, 2015, South Civic Center, September 19, 2015, North Civic Center, and November 21, 2015, South Civic Center. Mr. Havens continued on with giving out Euthanasia/Intake numbers for January and February.

January 866 (39.8%)	February 764 (46.5%)
349 stray dogs	338 stray dogs
257 stray dogs	210 stray cats
210 donated	73 donated
50 bite cases	43 bite cases
84 reclaimed	108 reclaimed
437 left through HS	320 left through HS
345 animals euthanized	355 animals euthanized

Mr. Havens announced the monthly statistics on calls and department activities, 2295 calls for service in January and 2162 calls for service in February. In March, AMO's presented an animal safety & "What We Do" at Coronado Elementary School. In May, the department will participate in the SPCA Mutt Fest. The postings for Asst Director/Veterinarian and Animal Welfare Specialist are active and able to accept applications. MultiOps software has been selected as the software specific to meet the needs of AM&W department. The IT department is currently working to upgrade the IT infrastructure of the entire Osage complex. The facility is continuing to improve the housing and health of the cat/kitten population. Steps have been taken to decrease the stress level of the cat/kitten population. Classical music is being

played in the cat rooms. The wild cat room has been opened to the public. Better cleaning protocols have been put in place (using Wysiwash), reorganizing the cages to minimize dirty litter boxes, visual barriers put in place to give cats a sense of security, foam installation to minimize vibrations and noise, and implementing the use of feral cat boxes to use inside the cat cages for safer handling and reduction of stress for feral and fractious cats. Continual improvements at the shelter are ongoing. Each building has its own dedicated cleaning cart to minimize cross contamination. Twelve positive air pressure fans will be installed in the six of the buildings. Swamp coolers are being removed, 3 layer concrete wall and walkway coating system bid was accepted and will begin immediately. The shelter will be trying an Accelerated Hydrogen Peroxide cleaner that was recommended by Dr. Hall with Merck.

ITEM 5: Presentation and consideration of pet licensing ordinance by Marcus Norris, City Attorney, City of Amarillo. Mr. Norris stated that the ordinance would define what a license registration entailed and defined the complete scope of "veterinarian" to the public and relevance of the application to the city. Breeders will be exempted from the pet registration ordinance and the term "breeder" was defined for the purpose of its application to the ordinance. The process will be available to the public through Veterinarians that wish to participate & at AMW. The ordinance will outline specific requirements and guidelines for participating Vets, and the fees the City will pay to participate (\$2.50 per registration). Fees will be: \$15.00 per intact dog or cat; \$7.50 per neutered dog or cat; a discount of \$2.00 will be given to previously micro chipped pets. Persons age 65 and over will receive a discount of \$2.00 each for up to 2 animals.

The public was asked to speak regarding the ordinance.

Elisha Demerson commented on his concern for the Veterinarians and the scrutiny they would be under to comply with this ordinance and the possibility of them "opting out". Mr. McDonald addressed the fact that our local vets were interested in participating in the Pet Registration Program.

Melody Malouf, Box 50236, 79159, commented on her concern for the number of tags her pet would have to wear. She also recommended a spay/neuter release program for the city. Mr. Norris responded that the Rabies and Pet Registration would be one tag.

Andrea Slater Gulley noted a correction be made to page 4, section 4 to read "\$7.50 per spayed/neutered dog or cat". Also noted, by Andrea Slater Gulley was the addition of the pet's owner's telephone number to the tag (pg 3, item C). The last noted change to the ordinance was allowing persons age 65 and over to receive a discount of \$2.00 each for up to 4 animals from the original 2 animals listed in the draft form of the ordinance. Sunny Hodge-Campbell motioned to approve the ordinance with the above mentioned changes. Brooke Reeves seconded the motion and was unanimously carried out 4:0.

ITEM 6: Discussion on future meeting dates for Animal Management & Welfare Advisory Board. Andrea Slater Gulley, Chair Person of Animal Management & Welfare Advisory Board confirmed dates for future meetings: May 11, 2015 at 5:30 p.m.; June 22, 2015 at 12:00 p.m.; tentative date for week of August 17, 2015; October 12, 2015 at 12:00 p.m.; November 30, 2015 at 5:30 p.m.

Item 7: Public Forum.

Melody Malouf, Box 50236, 79159, addressed overzealous serial cat trappers in the community capturing domesticated cats. She stated this type of activity needed to be regulated. Andrea Slater Gulley suggested the topic be tabled for a future Advisory Board discussion.

Randy Burkett, 6408 Hatfield, 79109, commented on his participation at the recent Rabies Vaccination Clinic. He voiced his concern for better awareness to the public on the ability to pre-register their pet. He suggested putting a notice in the water bill to notify the public. Mr. Burkett donated a \$1000.00 to the No Balls for Baxter Program.

William Kearns, 4400 S. Wilson, 79118, spoke for the need and implementation of a volunteer program at Animal Management & Welfare Department. He commented on the effectiveness of having counselors to volunteer their time to help citizens with adopting the right tempered animal for their family. How volunteer photographers and groomers could play an important part in getting animals adopted out. He is willing and ready to talk about establishing an application process for volunteers. The AM&W department is moving in a positive direction with holding more than 1 vaccination clinic a year.

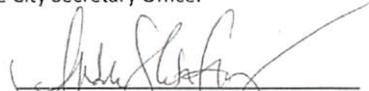
Melody Malouf, Box 50236, 79159, spoke again on the need of better accuracy with the AM&W website, implementing correct scanning methods of impounded animals, need for I.D. requirements at the time of surrendering an animal; charging fees at intake; more public information, maintaining healthy cat population at the Shelter; the need to regulate cat trappers; prohibit the removal of identification from an animal per city law. She recommended a trap/neuter release program.

Chase Steinmetz, 5713 Spencer Street, 79109, commented on rescinding the leash law for cats and for the City to participate in a Trap/Neuter Release program.

Sarah Bush, 4802 Tulip, 79110, commented on rescinding the leash law for cats

ITEM 8: Adjournment. There being no further business, Andrea Slater Gulley adjourned the meeting at 1:22 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.