

**SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS\***

**KERN COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT  
ANIMAL CONTROL COMMISSION**

**Kern County Administrative Building**  
1115 Truxtun Ave., Bakersfield, CA 93301  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Multipurpose Room

March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016 – 6:00p.m.

- A. ROLL CALL:** The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.  
Commissioners Present: Ms. Anderson –Chairperson/Commissioner  
Mr. Blackburn – Commissioner  
Ms. Geary – Commissioner  
Ms. Taggart – Commissioner  
Ms. Perez – Commissioner (*non-voting member*)
- Commissioners Excused:  
Ms. Madigan – Vice-Chairperson/Commissioner

Staff Present:  
Nick Cullen – Director, Kern County Animal Services  
Bryan Walters – Deputy County Counsel  
Jeff George – Volunteer Coordinator, Kern County Animal Services  
Amber Chrissakis – OSS, Kern County Animal Services

*[When names appear in parenthesis, the motion initiating action on the agenda item was made by the first Commissioner named and seconded by the second Commissioner named.]*

**B. APPROVAL OF SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS:**

1. January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Regular Meeting.

Motion to Approve, Receive and File (*Geary/Blackburn*) - All in favor

### C. CONSENT AGENDA:

1. CORRESPONDENCE FILED WITH THE COMMISSION - Receive and File
  - a. E-Mail received 1/20/16 from Katie Aguilar regarding her desire to have mandatory spaying/neutering. - REMOVED

Liz Keogh requested that Commissioner Anderson read the email so that everyone knew what the email was in regards to. Commissioner Anderson read the email out loud. Heard from Bob Rutledge asked for clarification on what the email was saying. Heard from Liz Keogh regarding mandatory spaying and neutering. Heard from Sue Bennett with Kern Humane regarding spaying and neutering. Heard from Terri Kahn regarding spaying and neutering. Supervisor Perez speaks on mandatory spaying and neutering. Commissioner Taggart concurs with Supervisor Perez. Commissioner Blackburn concurs with Liz and Sue. Commissioner Geary asked for clarification from Director Cullen on “backyard breeding” and licensing. Director Cullen responds. Liz Keogh speaks specifically about the Lamont area. Bryan Walters suggested that this matter be placed on a future agenda due to the fact that the individual that wrote the email was not present at the meeting and she should have an opportunity to speak on the matter. Commissioner Anderson speaks on the issue of loose and dead dogs in the area in which Ms. Aguilar lives and in regards to mandatory spaying and neutering. Supervisor Perez and Bryan Walters agree that the item should be placed on next month’s agenda.

Motion to put item on April’s agenda (*Geary/Taggart*) – All in favor.

- b. E-Mail received 01/24/16 from David Harman regarding stray cats.

Motion to Receive and File (*Geary/Blackburn*) – All in favor.

- c. E-Mail received 02/16/16 from Lynn Zontini regarding information on grants to help fund a spay/neuter project for feral cats. – REMOVED

Commissioner Anderson reads email from Lynn Zontini out loud. Commissioner Geary wanted pulled to find out if there was anything anyone could do to help. Judy Daunell from Friends of the Kern County Animal Shelters Foundation clarified what the need is in the area Ms. Zontini wrote about. Supervisor Perez suggested talking with the Supervisor for the area and speaking with them about how they can possibly help. Commissioner Anderson asks Director Cullen to make contact with Ms. Zontini in which Director Cullen responds that he has spoken with her. Bob Rutledge speaks about costs for spay/neuter and brings up the point that if an RVT could perform these services it may cut costs. Commissioner Anderson responds that there are programs that are considering starting this practice. Sue Bennett comments that Kern Humane has offered financial assistance but the problem is getting the animals down to Bakersfield for the actual surgery and they cannot offer gas assistance.

Motion to Receive and File (*Geary/Blackburn*) – All in favor.

#### **D. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:**

This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons to address the Commission on any matter not on this agenda but under the jurisdiction of the Commission. Commissioners may respond briefly to statements made or questions posed. They may ask a question for clarification; make a referral to staff for factual information or request staff to report back to the Commission at a later meeting. Also, the Commission may act to direct the staff to place a matter of business on a future agenda. Please state your name and address for the record before making your presentation. **SPEAKERS ARE LIMITED TO TWO MINUTES.**

Heard from Sue Bennett with Kern Humane with a report on their vouchers. She also speaks on educating the public on spay/neuter. Supervisor Perez speaks about the importance of education. Ms. Bennett speaks about the difference she has seen in the last 4-5 years of dogs being advertised in the newspaper. Director Cullen speaks in regards to the Californian and how he spoke with them and informed them that it would help Animal Services with their goals if they would just ask some questions of posters wishing to post ads selling animals. After having had that conversation, and the Californian asking more questions the number of ads have been reduced.

#### **E. STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS OR REPORTS:**

##### **1. DIRECTOR'S MONTHLY REPORT – Receive and file**

Heard from Director Cullen. He began by thanking Bob and EJ Rutledge for supplying the food for the Nathan Winograd presentation in February. He also thanked Supervisor Perez for ensuring the Board Chambers was available for the presentation. Director Cullen spoke in regards to mandatory spay/neuter. Director Cullen begins by reporting for the month of January. He reports on Rescue, Foster and TNR programs. He also reports on adoption numbers, mobile spay/neuter and rabies vaccination clinics. He talks about the free microchips KCAS offers. He speaks on the Volunteer program and field services statistics. Director Cullen reported on all the same statistics for the month of February. He briefly spoke about the PEET team and how the vaccination clinics have brought in more revenue recently. Officers are issuing citations for vaccinations and licensing but holding them for 2 weeks before sending them to the courts in hopes that people will comply and then voiding the citation if they do comply. Director Cullen also spoke about the "Shelter Bowl" adoption promotion and the "Pets for Vets" promotion. Director Cullen talked about the fundraiser Sugar Daddies, a women's clothing boutique, held. That fundraiser resulted in a donation in the approximate amount of \$900 to KCAS. Director Cullen spoke about World Spay Day and how the department offered half price vouchers which made them \$10 which resulted in 263 vouchers being sold that day. He also spoke about volunteer hours and field service calls. Director Cullen spoke about the Petco program and announced that Petsmart would like to start a similar program. Director Cullen announced that KCAS is recruiting for a Veterinarian.

Trisha Lamas asked Director Cullen asked if the adoption numbers he reported on were just private adoptions or rescued as well. Director Cullen responded.

Commissioner Blackburn requested that the Petco numbers be included in the Director's report. He also inquired about how many active foster families KCAS has. Commissioner Blackburn also talks about the increase on the live outcome rates. Commissioner Blackburn asked Director Cullen to speak about how animal seizures work. Director Cullen responds.

Commissioner Geary thanks Director Cullen for including the field stats. and for changing procedure with citations.

Commissioner Taggart and Supervisor Perez commended the department for all the hard work.

Motion to Receive and File (*Geary/Taggart*) – All in favor.

## 2. SPAY/NEUTER FUNDS UPDATE - Receive and File

Director Cullen reports that all but \$88,000 has been spent and 2,000 surgeries has been the result, 50% of which has come from vouchers. He also reports that he expects to spend all of the \$250,000 before the end of the fiscal year. The County set up a trust fund for spay/neuter in which 10% of all licensing fees goes into. With the licensing fee revenue going up with vaccination clinic turn out, the trust fund also grows. Director Cullen reports that the trust fund has not been used in approximately 1 year and a half. Director Cullen reports that between Critters Without Litters, KCAS adoptions and KCAS TNR approximately 20,000 animals have been altered last year.

Motion to Receive and File (*Geary/Taggart*) – All in favor.

## 3. VOLUNTEER UPDATE - Receive and File

Jeff George discusses the number of hours performed by core volunteers. He also reports that one of his volunteers lost her opportunity to do her RVT hours through a veterinarian and asked if she could do her hours with our medical staff. After discussing with Director Cullen she has now begun working with our medical staff. Jeff also reports that a program called Pet Detective is being built to help reunite animals with their owners. Additionally, he reports there will be an open house on April 16<sup>th</sup> and invites everyone to come join him and his volunteer staff. Lastly, he recognizes 2 specific volunteers for their hours worked with KCAS.

Motion to Receive and File (*Geary/Taggart*) – All in favor.

## **F. COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS OR REPORTS:**

On their own initiative, Commissioners may make an announcement or a report on their own activities. They may ask a question for clarification, make a referral to staff, or take action to have staff place a matter of business on a future agenda (Government Code Section 54954.2(a)).

Heard from Commissioner Geary thanks Commissioner Blackburn and Commissioner Anderson for organizing the Nathan Winograd presentation. Commissioner Blackburn responded regarding the Winograd presentation. Commissioner Taggart also spoke in regards to the presentation. Supervisor Perez also comments on the efforts of all involved in the presentation and the no kill movement. Commissioner Anderson praises the efforts of all involved.

Commissioner Anderson spoke about the expansion of ROP programs

## **G. OLD BUSINESS:**

### **1. STAFF REFERRALS**

ID Badges for Commissioners – No Action

NONE – To be discussed when Jerri S. Bradley returns

### **2. EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS SUB-COMMITTEE**

Heard from Commissioner Geary reports that not much to report but next month she should have more to report.

### **3. FRIENDS OF THE KERN COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTERS UPDATE**

Heard from Judi Daunell who reports that they are holding a fundraiser called “Wags to Riches” in which anyone can purchase a \$5 ticket for a chance to win a \$500 Visa gift card. Fundraiser goes through May 7<sup>th</sup> when they are at the Jazz Festival. Friends will also be attending the Open House at KCAS on April 16<sup>th</sup> doing dog tags. Applause For Paws comedy dinner will be held Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup> so they can raise more funds for vouchers.

#### 4. REPORT TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS UPDATE

Heard from Commissioner Anderson who reports that the numbers just need to be put together and get it to the board.

#### **H. NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair of the Animal Control Commission under Kern County Code of Ordinances § 2.150.030.

Commissioner Anderson opens up the floor for volunteers or nomination. Commissioner Geary nominated Commissioner Anderson

Motion for Commissioner Anderson to remain Chairperson for the Animal Control Commission - (*Geary/Blackburn*) – All in favor.

Commissioner Anderson asks for volunteers or nominees for Vice Chairperson. Commissioner Geary nominates Commissioner Blackburn.

Motion for Commissioner Blackburn to become Vice Chairperson for the Animal Control Commission – (*Geary/Taggart*) – All in favor

**I. ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion to adjourn (*Geary/Taggart*) – All in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

The next Animal Control Commission meeting is scheduled for:

April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
6:00 p.m.

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Attest:



Janice Anderson  
Chairman

*\*A full recording of the proceedings can be heard at [http://www.co.kern.ca.us/acd/AAC\\_AS.aspx](http://www.co.kern.ca.us/acd/AAC_AS.aspx)*