

**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

September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015 – 6:00p.m.

**A. ROLL CALL:** The meeting was called to order at 6:06 p.m.  
Commissioners Present: Ms. Anderson –Chairperson/Commissioner  
Ms. Madigan – Vice-Chairperson/Commissioner  
Mr. Blackburn – Commissioner  
Ms. Geary – Commissioner  
Ms. Taggart - Commissioner

Commissioners Excused: Ms. Perez – Commissioner (*non-voting member*)

Staff Present:

Nick Cullen – Director, Kern County Animal Services  
Jerri S. Bradley – Deputy County Counsel, Kern County  
Maggie Kalar – Public Information Officer, Kern County Animal Services  
Blake Smith – Business Manager, Kern County Animal Services  
Jeff George – Volunteer Coordinator, 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. July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Regular Meeting
2. August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Regular Meeting.

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

### **C. CONSENT AGENDA:**

1. E-mail received 7/7/15 from Stacy Enns regarding the procedure for the public to speak at Animal Control Commission meetings. (KCAS has responded).
2. E-mail received 7/14/15 from Stacy Enns regarding adding an upcoming agenda item to the Animal Control Commission meeting. (KCAS has responded).
3. E-mail received 7/25/15 from Rey Rodriguez regarding a dog bite. (KCAS has responded).
4. E-mail received 7/31/15 from Shawnra Ancheta regarding zoning questions. (KCAS has responded).
5. E-mail received 8/18/15 from Susan Maclean regarding condition of animals in Tehachapi. (KCAS has responded).
6. E-mail received 9/3/15 from Bill Matthew regarding the trapping of a raccoon. (KCAS has responded).

All items removed from consent for discussion.

Heard from Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Madigan and Director Cullen.

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 Liz Keogh regarding the recent appointment of Supervisor Perez to the Board of State & Community Corrections by Governor Brown and changes to AB109.

Heard from Joan Payton regarding her recent encounter with the KCAS rescue coordinator and the great service she received when attempting to help a specific dog in the shelter get placed with a rescue she works with.

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

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

Heard from Director Cullen regarding the director's monthly report.

Heard from Commissioner Madigan on the status of kitten intakes at the shelter. Also heard from Director Cullen on this topic.

Heard from Commissioner Geary on the Petharbor.com email options. Also heard from Director Cullen and Commissioner Madigan on this topic.

Heard from Commissioner Blackburn on the Petco partnerships, a comparison of statistics from July 2014 to July 2015 and August 2014 to August 2015 and the engagement of the community. Also heard from Director Cullen on this topic.

Commissioner Madigan asked about how the location change has effected the community involvement. Director Cullen responded that he believe the location change has had a positive effect on the community involvement.

Heard from Commissioner Madigan about the reasons for intake reductions.

Commissioner Anderson thanked Director Cullen for his hard work and announced his new appointment as the permanent director. Commissioner Anderson also discussed the reduction of too young puppies in the shelter as a positive result from the services provided by the department.

Heard from Joan Payton about the introduction of Commissioner Taggart. Also heard from Commissioner Anderson regarding the introduction and appointment of Commissioner Taggart.

Motion to Receive and File (*Blackburn/Madigan*) – 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 Madigan regarding the appointment of Director Cullen; the Planning Commission changes and the appreciation to have a chance to discuss the issues outside of the normal meeting; adoption of a horse in August; her wonderful experience as a kitten foster

mom for several kittens and the great experience she had with the foster coordinator; Oakland SPCA's video on Facebook; the receiving of city animal shelter statistics and, the grant received by City of McFarland and the issues facing the McFarland shelter. Also heard from Judi Daunell and Jerri S. Bradley on the topic of the grant awarded to the City of McFarland and issues facing the McFarland shelter.

Heard from Commissioner Blackburn regarding the city animal shelter's euthanasia numbers.

Heard from Commissioner Anderson regarding the Northern California fires and the creation of a disaster preparedness sub-committee. Heard from Commissioner Geary about the request to have volunteers assist with the sub-committee. Jerri S. Bradley answered that volunteers could assist commissioners on the sub-committee and explained how the commissioners could communicate. Also heard from Commissioner Madigan about emailing between commissioners. Jerri S. Bradley responded on how to communicate without violating the Brown Act. Commissioner Geary, Commissioner Anderson and Commissioner Madigan asked for clarification on sending research information to other commissioners. Jerri S. Bradley responded that passing of information could be sent without a violation of the Brown Act via email.

Heard from Commissioner Geary regarding the Greater Tehachapi Large Animal Sheltering Program that is being created.

Heard from Liz Keogh regarding the County's disaster plan and KCAS Department input, if sub-committee could see the County's disaster plan and the process to take recommendations from sub-committee to committee and then to the Board of Supervisors. Also heard from Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Geary and Director Cullen regarding how the County's disaster plan works in stages and where there is need for assistance in the form of contacts for resources that are not supplied. Heard from Commissioner Blackburn regarding the commission taking information to the Board of Supervisors to find out what other resources are available through other County agencies and incorporating that information.

Heard from Commissioner Geary about using volunteers for disaster preparedness and coverage for volunteers under County's insurance. Heard from Director Cullen that in the past, typically it is only staff that respond and, during a declared emergency, the Department has reached out to individuals that could assist with large animals, regardless of whether they were covered or not. Also heard from Jerri S. Bradley that in the state of California when offering aid during a disaster or emergency, you are immune from certain liabilities, generally speaking.

Heard from Public Information Officer Maggie Kalar regarding the use of Public Health Department's Medical Core Volunteers for disasters and the potential for creating similar volunteers for Animal Services that would then be covered under the department's own insurance during times of disaster.

Heard from Janice Anderson regarding the Bakersfield Pet Food Pantry, the great resource they are for community members trying to keep pets in their home and the need to support the organization with donations. Also heard from Liz Keogh and Director Cullen on this topic regarding the organization's website.

Motion to nominate Commissioner Geary and Commissioner Taggart to Create Disaster Preparedness Sub-Committee and (*Madigan/Blackburn*) – All in favor.

**G. OLD BUSINESS:**

1. REQUEST BY PLANNING DEPARTMENT FOR SUPPORT OF ANIMAL RELATED REVISIONS TO COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE TO BE PRESENTED TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Motion to Approve and Authorize Chairperson to Sign (*Geary/Madigan*) – All in favor.

2. STAFF REFERRALS

- a. INCORPORATE SUGGESTIONS FROM DANGEROUS DOG ORDINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE INTO DEPARTMENT PROCEDURE

Heard from Jerri S. Bradley with an update that the document is under review.

Heard from Commissioner Madigan regarding several changes on the draft. Also heard from Director Cullen and Jerri S. Bradley on this topic.

3. SPAY/NEUTER FUNDS UPDATE

Heard from Blake Smith, with an update on the expected expenditure and number of surgeries that will be completed once all of the final numbers are in and calculated.

Heard from Liz Keogh regarding low-income voucher redemption rate. Also heard from Blake Smith on this topic.

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

4. FRIENDS OF THE KERN COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTERS UPDATE

Heard from Judi Daunell regarding an update on the spay/neuter vouchers; Basic Needs Foundation spay/neuter events; meeting with an Eagle Scout candidate for a project that would create a free-roaming cat room at the shelter and, a program in Lake Isabella that would transport feral cats to be fixed.

5. UPDATE ON LETTER OF VOTE OF CONFIDENCE FOR INTERIM DIRECTOR NICK CULLEN TO BE PRESENTED TO THE BOARD

Heard from Commissioner Anderson that the letter was presented.

6. UPDATE ON A REPORT TO THE BOARD IN REGARDS TO WHAT THE ANIMAL CONTROL COMMISSION ACTIVITIES WERE DURING 2014

Heard from Commissioner Anderson that she is working on the report and should have it prepared to present next month.

**H. NEW BUSINESS:**

Heard from EJ Rutledge regarding the need to provide adequate sound for the audience through the use of microphones for each commissioner and for speakers and a better room configuration for continuing community engagement. Also heard from Director Cullen regarding how the room configurations are set up and ensure future meetings will allow the public to be able to hear the meetings properly.

**I. ADJOURNMENT:**

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

The next Animal Control Commission meeting is scheduled for:

October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015  
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)*