

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS*

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

Kern County Administrative Building
1115 Truxtun Ave., Bakersfield, CA 93301
3rd Floor, Multipurpose Room

October 19th, 2016 – 6:00p.m.

A. ROLL CALL: The meeting was called to order at 6:09 p.m.
Commissioners Present: Ms. Anderson –Chairperson/Commissioner
Mr. Blackburn – Vice Chairperson/Commissioner
Ms. Taggart – Commissioner

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

Staff Present:
Nick Cullen – Director, Kern County Animal Services
Jerri S. Bradley – Deputy County Counsel
Blake Smith – Business Manager, Kern County Animal Services
Jeff George – Volunteer Coordinator, Kern County Animal Services
Amber Chrissakis –Volunteer 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. September 21st, 2016 Regular Meeting.

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

C. CONSENT AGENDA:

1. CORRESPONDENCE FILED WITH THE COMMISSION - Receive and File

NONE

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 Aaron Malloy, Store Manager of Petco on Gosford. Aaron speaks about adoption events at Petco stores and how local rescues and shelters can get involved and create a partnership with Petco. He strongly believes that creating such partnerships and highly publicizing adoption events at Petco locations can bring adoption numbers up. Also heard from Tina Gonzalez who is the dog trainer that works with Aaron at the Petco on Gosford. Tina speaks about the reasons she believes animals end up in shelters. She states that the number one reason animals end up at the shelter is for behavioral reasons. She believes that training people to train their dogs properly reduces the reasons that people will surrender their pets to shelters, therefore lowering euthanasia numbers. Director Cullen asked Aaron how the partnership works with Petco and 501.c.3 organizations. Aaron responds that Petco creates partnerships with local rescue groups but all have to be 501c.3 organizations and that he and Petco can assist in helping organizations become 501c.3s. Heard from Commissioner Blackburn asked how many Petco stores there are Nationwide. Aaron replies that there are 1500+. Commissioner Blackburn asks Aaron how common it is within the company that Store Managers reach out like he does to the community. Aaron replies that he is unsure but that for him it is just a lifestyle and something he feels strongly about. Tina then replies that she has worked with the company for a long time and she has not seen anyone like Aaron this involved. Commissioner Anderson asks if this plan would spread to all local stores or if this would be just the Gosford store that Aaron manages. Aaron responds that it is up to the individual manager of each store but he would like to try and get other local store managers involved as well. Danny Spanks confirms that there are currently just cats available for adoption at Petco on Gosford. Aaron confirms. An unidentified member of the public asks for clarification on where people should be surrendering animals. Aaron clarifies for her that they are not a shelter that animals must be surrendered to the appropriate shelter. Heard from Liz Keogh. She inquires about whether or not there is ordinance on how many litters of puppies one household can have in one year. Jerri Bradley, County Counsel responds that there is a restriction on how many litters can be sold or published for sale in one year not on how many litters can be had by one dog. Director Cullen further clarifies that if there is more

than one litter had, that doesn't make it illegal, it would then require permits. Liz Keogh also asks Ms. Bradley about the ordinances and the name change to Animal Services. Ms. Bradley responds that she is working on it. Tina Gonzalez asks what makes a breeder a breeder and how does Animal Services control people breeding. Director Cullen explains obtaining a Commercial Animal Facility Permit for anyone who is breeding and selling more than one litter per year. Director Cullen also states that taking a look at current ordinances and rewording to help the department better control these issues is on the agenda for the department.

E. STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS OR REPORTS:

1. DIRECTOR'S MONTHLY REPORT – Receive and File

Heard from Director Cullen who highlighted some of the statistics from the Director's Report. Commissioner Blackburn inquired about how many volunteers the department currently has to which Jeff George replies there are 151 volunteers. Commissioner Blackburn comments on other statistics from the Director's report. Director Cullen spoke about two fundraisers being hosted by Friends of the Kern County Animal Shelters Foundation. On November 11th, Veterans Day between 6:00am and 3:00pm, at the Broken Yolk Café a portion of the proceeds made will go to the Friends Foundation to support the Pets for Vets program. Also, dinner ticket vouchers are being sold for \$20.00 by the Friends Foundation and can be purchased at Supervisor Couch's office. The \$20 dinner voucher will be for November 9th at Tahoe Joe's and covers the entire cost of one dinner. A portion of the proceeds from that fundraiser will also go to the Pets for Vets program. Director Cullen speaks in regards to the surgery room being finished and running efficiently. Director Cullen points out and thanks a member of the community, Danny Spanks who has been highly involved and successful in marketing dogs from Animal Services.

2. VOLUNTEER UPDATE - Receive and File

Heard from Jeff George who added to Director Cullen's report on volunteer statistics. He added, the number of that the volunteer hours from January 1st, 2016 to October 31st, 2016 have surpassed the total number of volunteer hours in all of 2015.

3. SPAY/NEUTER FUNDS UPDATE - Receive and File

Heard from Blake Smith who spoke in regards to the surgery suite in which he informs that it will take approximately 3 years for the department to break even on their investment. Blake also discusses the \$250,000 the department was given for spay/neuter efforts. An unidentified member of the public inquired about where to purchase a voucher and Blake responds. The group begins to discuss grants and donations and where someone would send a donation however Ms. Bradley gets the group back on the agenda topics.

Motion to receive and file Director's monthly report, and spay/neuter funds update. (*Taggart/Blackburn*) – 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 Blackburn who states he had a great tour of the shelter and thanks Director Cullen.

Heard from Commissioner Anderson who informs that the Responsible Dog Ownership Day event that was held October 1st was successful and well attended. She thanks everyone who attended and participated. Commissioner Anderson thanks Director Cullen for a job well done in managing Animal Services.

G. OLD BUSINESS:

1. STAFF REFERRALS

- a. Follow up on public request for euthanasia in regards to Locke vs. Kern County

Heard from Jerri S. Bradley, County Counsel who explains the basic requirements that came from the Locke vs. Kern County lawsuit.

2. EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS SUB-COMMITTEE

Heard from Director Cullen who states that the group hasn't met in about 6 weeks but he, Officer Smith and a Coordinator with Central California Animal Disaster Team are close to finishing off the departments new disaster preparedness response policy. Once is has been finalized they will present it to Emergency Operations Center and the Fire Department.

3. FRIENDS OF THE KERN COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTERS UPDATE

NONE

H. NEW BUSINESS:

NONE

I. ADJOURNMENT:

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

The next Animal Services Commission meeting is scheduled for:

November 16th 2016
6:00 p.m.

Attest:



Janice Anderson
Chairman

**A full recording of the proceedings can be heard at http://www.co.kern.ca.us/acd/AAC_AS.aspx*