

**SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS\***

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

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

May 17th, 2023– 6:00p.m.

**A. ROLL CALL:** The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.  
Commissioners Present:

Mr. Blackburn – Chairperson  
Ms. Geary - Vice Chairperson  
Ms. Christopher - Commissioner  
Ms. Taggart - Commissioner  
Ms. Crompton - Commissioner

Commissioners Excused:

Mr. Couch – Supervisor

Staff Present:

Nick Cullen – Director, Kern County Animal Services  
Jeremy McNutt - Deputy County Counsel, Kern County  
Amber Chrissakis - Volunteer, Kern County Animal Services

*[item was made by the first Commissioner named and seconded by the second Commissioner named.]*

**B. APPROVAL OF SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS**

1. April 19th, 2023 - Regular Meeting - Approve

Motion to receive and file - (Geary/Taggart) - All in favor

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

These agenda items before the Animal Services Commission (Commission) may be acted upon with one motion if no member of the Commission or audience wishes to comment or ask questions.

1. CORRESPONDENCE FILED WITH THE COMMISSION - Receive and file
  - a. Email received from Amanda Fox-Fredline 04/19/23 regarding her opposition to any mandatory spay or neuter laws.
  - b. Email received from Bob Rilling-Smith 04/26/23 requesting a current draft of the proposed Title 7 revisions.
  - c. Email received from Karen Vonfelten 05/01/23 requesting a complaint be forwarded to Ridgecrest Animal Control.
  - d. Email received from Michelle Vallejos 04/20/23 regarding her support of the current draft of the Title 7 revisions.
  - e. Email received from Michele Hardin 04/19/23 regarding her preference for dog breeding regulations.
  - f. Email and attachment received CW Academy 04/19/23 expressing their opposition to any mandatory spay and neuter laws.

Motion to receive and file - *(Geary/Taggart)* - 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 Courtney Clerico concerning the pet over population in Kern County and the shelter leadership.

Heard from Carrie Zaninovich concerning a new shelter for Kern County

Heard from Joan Peyton concerning leadership of the Kern County Animal Shelter.

Heard from Judy Coffman concerning a donation made by the California Federation of Dog Clubs to the shelter.

Heard from Lynn Howe who would like to get the community involved in educating about not breeding.

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

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

Heard from Director Cullen concerning the department's current events and statistics from the Director's report. Director Cullen answers questions from the public regarding things discussed during this agenda item.

Heard from Commissioner Geary concerning rescue partners in other states and if it's possible to fly dogs there.

Heard from Commissioner Taggart concerning owner surrender intakes at the shelter.

Heard from Commissioner Christopher regarding numbers of cats on the Director's report.

Heard from Commissioner Blackburn concerning shelter population numbers.

Heard from unidentified member of the public regarding euthanasia numbers and procedure.

Heard from unidentified member of the public regarding the rescue process at the shelter.

Heard from unidentified member of the public regarding funding for a new shelter vs. a Veterinarian for the existing shelter.

Heard from an unidentified member of the public concerning spay/neuter funds.

Heard from an unidentified member of the public concerning licenses sold.

Heard from an unidentified member of the public concerning rescue numbers.

Heard from an unidentified member of the public concerning the rescue process at the shelter.

Motion to Receive and file (*Geary/Christopher*) - All in favor



## **F. COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

Heard from Commissioner Crompton inquiring about community relations in areas with high intake numbers.

Heard from Commissioner Christopher praising Critters Without Litters.

## **G. OLD BUSINESS:**

### **1. STAFF REFERRALS**

NONE

### **2. UPDATE ON AKC REUNITE FUNDRAISING EFFORTS**

NONE

### **3. STATUS ON ORDINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE REVISIONS**

Heard from Stacey in favor of the proposed ordinances.

Heard from Courtney Clerico in favor of the proposed ordinances.

Heard from Michelle Vallejos in favor of the proposed ordinances.

Heard from Priscilla Cervantes in favor of the proposed ordinances.

Heard from Sheryl Doeckel in favor of the proposed ordinances.

Heard from Neel Sannappa in favor of the proposed ordinances.

Heard from Brian Porter in opposition of the proposed ordinances.

Heard from Jill Marsh in favor of proposed ordinances.

Heard from Teri Kahn in opposition of of the proposed ordinances.

Heard from Bob Rollins-Smith in opposition of the proposed ordinances.

Heard from Carrie Zaninovich in favor of the proposed ordinances.

Heard from Barbara Allen in opposition of the proposed ordinances.

Heard from Danny Litteral in favor of the proposed ordinances.

Motion to send back to the sub-committee for re-wording (*Geary/Crompton*) - All in favor

**H. NEW BUSINESS:**

NONE

**I. ADJOURNMENT:**

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


The meeting was adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

The next Animal Control Commission meeting is scheduled for:

June 21st, 2023  
6:00 p.m.

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Attest:

  
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Gary Blackbourn  
Chairperson

*\*A full recording of the proceedings, which constitute the official record of the Animal Services Commission's meetings, can be heard at: <https://www.kerncountyanimalservices.org/who-we-are/animal-services-commission/>*