

Monterey County Animal Advisory Board

Monterey County Animal Services Center

Meeting Date: April 18, 2007 Time: 3:30 p.m.

MINUTES

Members Present: District 4 Darlene Drain
District 5 Susan O'Brien
Member-At-Large Barbara DeGroot, Chair
Member-At-Large Tom Bailey
Member-At-Large Shirely Jorgenson

Members Absent: District 1 Tom Collier
District 2 Joy Rosales
District 3 Vacant
Member-At-Large Vacant

Ex-Officio Representatives Present:

Gary Tiscornia, SPCA of Monterey County
Lisa Hoefler, SPCA of Monterey County

Staff:

Kathy Prew, Director of Animal Services
Nancy Ratto, Animal Services Supervisor
Deb Mag, Animal Services Supervisor

The meeting of the Monterey County Animal Advisory Board was called to order at 3:30 p.m.

The minutes of January 17, 2007 were reviewed and approved.

Kathy Prew reported that she presented a request for support by the Board of Supervisors of AB 1634, the "mandatory spay/neuter bill" before the Legislative Committee of the Board. The Board chose not to support the bill, believing that animal control would spend too much time in search of unaltered animals. However, the Board did not take a stance in opposition of the bill.

Within Animal Services, there have been recent reclassifications of positions, including two new senior positions, which will function as "lead" positions in animal control and animal care, in the absence of the supervisors.

The Board reviewed possible language for a proposed Resolution to Title 8, requiring an inspection and animal permit for residences owning over a specified number of dogs or cats. This Resolution is being considered because the County Zoning ordinances have dropped their regulations concerning companion pets for Monterey County as a whole, and only some parcels carry limitations through Zoning at this time. The intent of this proposed Resolution is not to regulate number of animals owned, but to have access to inspect premises where a multitude of pets live, to insure suitable standards for their housing and care. Several suggestions were added to the language of the proposal, and it was recommended that other counties be contacted to determine their method of enforcement.

The County's CAO's office provided copies of DVDs which were distributed to members presenting an overview of duties and responsibilities of the Board of Supervisors and

Commission members under State law and County ordinance, including legal requirements of financial disclosure, public meeting laws, public records, etc.

The Advisory Board reviewed charts and reports for euthanasia for Monterey County and the Coalition for Companion Animals. The charts indicated that 51% of the dogs euthanized are unaltered males, and 33% are unspayed females. The figures also specified % age of animals of individual breeds that are euthanized, with pit bulls and pit mixes being the greatest numbers of dogs. Figures of various animal count categories are currently published on the Animal Services web page, as are other Coalition member agencies' statistics.

The next meeting is scheduled for July 18, 2006. The meeting was adjourned.