

Monterey County of Monterey Animal Control Program Advisory Board meeting

Meeting Minutes

August 3, 2017

Location:

Monterey County Animal Services Center
160 Hitchcock Rd, Salinas CA 93906

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Monterey County of Monterey Animal Control Program Advisory Board meeting was called to order at 3:32 pm on August 3, 2017 at 160 Hitchcock Rd, Salinas CA 93906.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Six members attended, a quorum was present.

Mary Arnold, Appointee of the Director of Health
David Alexander, Representing- District 5 Supervisor Adams
Nannette Newbury, Representing- District 2 Supervisor Phillips
Linda Sanders, Representing- District 4 Supervisor Parker
Marcella Zobel, Appointee of the Director of Health
Basil Smith, Appointee of District 3, Supervisor Salinas

MEMBERS ABSENT

Tom Bailey, Appointee of the Director of Health
Tom Collier, Representing- District 1 Supervisor Alejo

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS

Edward Moreno, M.D., Monterey County Health Officer

PUBLIC ATTENDEES:

Mary Koch
Debra Long
Tina Daniel
Sandra Cortez

COUNTY OF MONTEREY STAFF:

John Ramirez, Director of Environmental Health
Ric Encarnacion, Assistant Director of Environmental Health
Rebecca Cenicerros, County Counsel
Robin Kimball, Management Analyst, Environmental Health

INTRODUCTION:

Chairperson Mary Arnold called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m., introductions were made.

II. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS BY THE PUBLIC

Chair Arnold acknowledged public comment from Tina Daniel regarding the coordination and use of animal rescues and the use of volunteers.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

No changes to the agenda were presented.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Nannette Newbury, seconded by David Alexander and carried to approve the June 15, 2017 meeting minutes with a correction to the item under Old Business, Mandatory Microchipping Update to reflect “Nannette Newbury confirmed that all adopted spayed and neutered animals leave the shelter with a microchip. She noted that all kennel animals should have the kennel license number on the microchip registration data and should be included in the county database.”

III. CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence was presented.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Member Appointments

Chair Arnold reported that several board members are scheduled for reappointment by the Board of Supervisors and noted that the Director of Health will be appointing new members due to resignation. Discussion was held regarding the responsibility of each Board member and their reappointment status per the ByLaws. A request was made to add the term expiration date of each board member to the agenda.

B. Review of Mission Statement

Chair Arnold reviewed the mission statement of the ACPAB. The purpose of the Board is to advise on the budget and staffing but do not set policy, and acting as an advisory panel there is no legal standing to create or enforce policy.

C. Brown Act Update: Emails and Attachments Outside of ACPAB Meetings

Rebecca Cenicerros reviewed the Brown Act as specified to communication by email. The Brown Act requires the business of the Board be conducted in an open meeting forum, any email conversation that shares information to the members of the Board is considered a meeting. This includes circulating attachments for review. Administrative

issues such as meeting dates and times are excluded. Rebecca recommended not including the meeting minutes as an email attachment.

D. Review Approved Budget Request Regarding Animal Care Technician Positions

Chair Arnold inquired about the change of full time to part time positions for the kennels. John Ramirez reported that after multi-tiered options were presented at the Budget Hearings, the Board of Supervisors approved funding for six months for two Full Time Equivalent (2.0 FTE) Animal Care Technician positions, one half time (.50 FTE) RVT and one half time (.50 FTE) veterinarian. Hiring of positions is a management decision and based on operational need, a decision was made to hire four half time (.50 FTE) Animal Care Technicians rather than two full time positions as this better supports the needs of the shelter. Nannette inquired about being able to provide input on the budget when it is being prepared and John clarified the role of the ACPAB is to review the budget and make recommendations however information regarding the budget can be added to the agenda at any time. John provided the Board with copies of the presentation that Elsa Jimenez presented at the Budget Hearings.

E. Discuss the Possibility of Changing ACPAB Meeting Times

A brief discussion was held regarding changing the time of the ACPAB meeting to allow for members of the public to attend however the consensus was that a decision could not be reached due to the existing board members availability.

F. Receive Update on Veterinary X-Ray Machine Donation and Proposed MOU from Central Coast College

John distributed to the Board copies of a Power Point presentation regarding the status of the donation of a Veterinary X-Ray machine from Central Coast College. A meeting was held with a representative from Central Coast College regarding the information that is still required to move forward with the donation. Central Coast College requires the use of an x-ray machine and is required to have an x-ray machine to maintain their RVT accreditation. The information that has not been obtained to date are the details regarding the x-ray system component specifications and requirements, Central Coast College needs to formally receive the machine first so that they are able to donate it to the County and also the Memorandum of Agreement with Central Coast College detailing the financial responsibilities of the school. Once confirmed, next steps require going to the BOS for approval and submitting a bid request for electrical and structural changes. This is anticipated to October at the earliest however any forward movement is dependent upon Central Coast College. Rebecca Cenicerros reviewed the statutes governing reporting requirements of accepting donations for the benefit of the public.

G. Receive Status of Euthanasia Complaint

Chair Arnold reviewed that a member of the public at the previous ACPAB meeting complained regarding the euthanasia of a cat she brought in. After review of this concern, it was determined that the cat was not received by the County shelter but was taken to the City of Salinas shelter instead.

H. Review Status of Proposed Amendment to Title 8 Regarding Anti-Tethering to Bring Monterey County into Compliance with State Law

John reviewed the proposal amend Title 8 regarding animal tethering limits that was presented at the June 15, 2017 meeting. He reported that Monterey County Code already includes anti-tethering limits, there is no need to amend the code. John reported that the review of the minutes indicated a proposal to amend the Health and Safety Code regarding tethering limits and based on the language of that proposal, it is not possible to amend the Health and Safety Code through amending Title 8. Discussion was held regarding the intent of the proposal, and the authority of the Animal Control Officer, designated by the State as the County Health Officer. As such, the Animal Control Officer, Dr. Edward Moreno, under Title 8, has authority to designate authority to Animal Control Officers regarding enforcement of established Health and Safety Codes. A review of the proposal does not indicate the need to amend Title 8 as established authority to limit animal tethering already exists. Animal Control Officers will be supported in their enforcement of state law based on observation of suspected animal abuse and also in their education of the public regarding the state laws. Regardless of time, if an Animal Control Officer suspects animal abuse, they will be supported in their efforts to cite or to provide education to correct and resolve the situation. County Counsel also reviewed the proposed amendment and also found it to be unnecessary due to established State and County codes.

Dr. Moreno reviewed further the limitations for tethering and the role of the Animal Control Officers and the protection of the public health and that ongoing training will be provided to the Animal Control Officers regarding identification and citing of threats to public health as well as educating the public. A discussion was held regarding the need for kennel inspections and how this falls under the purview of public health, Dr. Moreno reviewed further the association of rabies prevention and public health and John reviewed further the training that Animal Control Officers are required to have to issue citations. John requested that if the Board has questions regarding requests or needs presented to them by staff that the Board advise staff to follow the “chain of command” to present their requests to management to ensure that these requests are known and addressed.

After further discussion regarding the proposal, a motion was made by Chair Arnold and seconded by Basil Smith and carried to reopen and correct the June 15, 2017 minutes under agenda item VI. Old Business, *Review and Discuss Proposal to Amend title 8 Regarding Anti-Tethering to Bring Monterey County Into Compliance with State Law* to read “We ask that the following amendment be made to the **state** county regulations to allow our county ACO’s to follow and comply with the ordinance.”

I. Discuss Mandatory Spay/Neutering Request

David Alexander asked if the Board was aware of what the issues that surround a mandatory spay/neutering and queried if the Board was in support of it or against. The Board does not support a mandatory spay/neutering regulation, however working together with other entities such as the City of Salinas, there are opportunities that can be

explored to develop education versus punitive measures to encourage education about spay and neutering. The Board will request that this item be reviewed at a future meeting as an item added to the agenda.

J. Discuss AB 485 (2017-18 Session) Regarding the Regulation of Pet Sales Through Retailers to Rescue Animals Only

David Alexander reported on AB485, *Regulation of Pet Sales Through Retailers to Rescue Animals Only* stating that it appears that it will be approved and there does not appear to be much that can be done at this time to change this direction.

V. REPORTS

Animal Services Monthly Statistics

Statistics for June and July were distributed however the reports still need to be fine tuned to include additional detail in the reports. This will be reviewed and evaluated. John reported that the Community Cats program assisted in the past, however because cats are not a public health threat for the spread of rabies, cats brought in are euthanized rather than being returned back to the community. Basil Smith requested a summary of the costs associated with keeping a full time veterinarian on staff and the costs of housing cats.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

Mandatory Microchipping Update

Due to time constraints, this item is tabled to the next meeting.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT

ADJOURNMENT

- The meeting was adjourned at 5:31 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for October 19, 2017 at 3:30 p.m. and will be held in Monterey County Animal Services Center. Meeting Location: 160 Hitchcock Rd, Salinas CA 93906