The meeting of the Monterey County Animal Advisory Board was called to order at 3:30 p.m. The minutes of July 25, 2007 were reviewed and approved.

Basil Smith, a teacher from No. Salinas High School and resident of King City, joined the meeting as an invited guest, prior to submitting his application to Supervisor Simon Salinas to represent District 3.

Patricia Zerounian, an epidemiologist from the Monterey County Health Department and a recent adopter, spoke during Public Comment, concerning AB1634, which would mandate spaying and neutering throughout the State. Patricia, a graduate of the Public Policy program at the Panetta Institute, offered to volunteer her time to the Advisory Board to research and compare policies, and analyze what would work best in this community to promote mandatory spay/neuter and reduce euthanasia. Barbara DeGroodt suggested that her talents might be used better by the Coalition for Companion Animals, which has the primary goal of reducing euthanasia. Barbara plans to refer Patricia’s offer of assistance to Jan Elster, the facilitator of the CCA.

Kathy Prew informed the Board that some staff turnover has occurred animal control, and a new officer will be hired soon. She reported on a large FoCAS fundraiser, Shelter Shindig, in September, which was quite successful. Kathy has introduced a new Strategic Initiative for Animal Services in the 2008 Health Department Business Plan to study the feasibility of installing wind turbines to supplement the shelter’s energy costs.

Recommended changes to Title 8, which have been reviewed by County Counsel, were distributed. The Board discussed and gave their final recommendations on the numbers of
companion animals allowed without obtaining a companion animal permit. The Board opted to recommend ownership of no more than six companion dogs or six companion animal cats without the permit, which will be sent back to County Counsel.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for February 20, 2008.