

City of San Antonio



AGENDA Animal Care Services Advisory Board

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2015 OCT 16 PM 12:03

Wednesday, October 21, 2015

6:30 PM

ACS Facility, 4710 State Hwy
151

A MEETING OF THE SAN ANTONIO ANIMAL CARE SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD WILL BE HELD IN THE ANIMAL CARE SERVICES FACILITY, 4710 STATE HIGHWAY 151, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78227 ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015 AT 6:30 P.M., TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING MATTERS:

At any time during the Animal Care Services Advisory Board Meeting, the Board may meet in Executive Session regarding any of the matters posted below in compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act (Attorney-client, Personnel, Security, Real Estate) under Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.

Call to Order

1. Approval of Minutes from August 19, 2015

Director's Report

2. Performance measures for Animal Care Services pertaining to field, live release, shelter, clinic operations, and education and outreach - presented by Kathy Davis

Individual Items for Consideration

3. Discussion regarding Animal Care Services Advisory Board By-Laws Changes - presented by Bill White
4. Discussion and possible vote regarding the creation of an Indigent Fund Program at Animal Care Services - presented by Vincent Medley
5. Continuing Education for Animal Care Services Advisory Board

members regarding the ACS Community Cat Program Update -
presented by Kathy Davis

6. Report regarding cat issues in the Community - presented by Virginia Brown
7. Report regarding the status of the Animal Care Services Advisory Board Spay/Neuter Special Committee - presented by Rita Braeutigam
8. Report regarding the inspections of Animal Care Services facility Hwy 151, Brackenridge facility, and the ACS Stray Kennels facility at Animal Defense League - presented by Rita Braeutigam
9. Discussion regarding the ACS Advisory Board Holiday Celebration - presented by Rita Braeutigam

Citizens to be Heard

Determination of Next Meeting Date

Adjournment

ACCESSIBILITY STATEMENT: This meeting site is wheelchair accessible. Parking is available. Auxiliary Aids and Services are available upon request (Interpreters for the Deaf must be requested forty-eight [48] hours prior to the meeting). For Assistance, Call (210) 207-7268 Voice/TTY.

Esta reunión es accesible a personas incapacitadas. Se hará disponible el estacionamiento. Equipo y servicios adicionales (interpretes para los sordos) se harán disponibles si se pide con cuarenta y ocho (48) horas de anticipación a la reunión. Para asistencia llame al (210)207-7268 por voz/servicio de TTY.

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ANIMAL CARE SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD

Annual Worksession Meeting Minutes

August 19, 2015, 6:30 p.m.
4710 State Highway 151, Annex Training Rooms 1 & 2
San Antonio, TX 78284

ACS Board Members: Rita Braeutigam-Chair, Bill White-Vice Chair, Mona Thaxton-Secretary, Sallie Scott, Roderick Sanchez, Karen Speer, Virginia Brown, Shannon Espy, Christian Anderson and Cynthia Martinez²

Ex-Officio Members: Kathy Davis, Xavier Urrutia, and Vincent Nathan

Staff Liaison: Maria Kieke

I. Call to Order

Rita Braeutigam, Board Chair welcomed all present and introduced Monica Hernandez from City Attorney's Office who read a statement to the Board regarding protocol for citizens to be heard.

Ms. Braeutigam convened the meeting at 6:38 PM.

II. Approval of Minutes from June 17, 2015

Mona Thaxton motioned to approve June 17, 2015 minutes seconded by Christian Anderson. Motion passed.

III. Continuing Education for the ACS Advisory Board regarding Board's Roles and Responsibilities

Camila Kunau, Ethics Lawyer from the City Attorney's Office made a presentation about Board's and Commissions' rules based on City Ordinance and State Law.

IV. Director's Report

Kathy Davis presented ACS's Department highlights regarding the new Education and Outreach Team, ACO Training Academy, ACS Summer Camp, HSUS Animal Transport, Clear the Shelter, Campus Enhancements, ACS Staffing and CNSI Proposed FY 2016 Calendar Dates including introduction of interim Ex-Officio Board member, Roger Pollok from the Health Department. Ms. Davis also discussed the FY16 Comprehensive Sweeps Initiative dates for districts 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7. Full report handouts were provided to Board members.

V. Animal Care Services Advisory Board Elections

The Board conducted their Annual Board Member Election presented by Roderick Sanchez. Board voted as follows: Rita Braeutigam was elected as Board Chair, Mona Thaxton elected as Vice-Chair, and Karen Speer was elected as Board Secretary. Mona Thaxton moved, seconded by Christian Anderson. Motion passed.

VI. Animal Care Services FY16 Budget Presentation

Heber Lefgren made a presentation regarding the ACS proposed FY16 Budget focusing on two main projects, the new spay/neuter clinic at Brooks City Base and the Education and Outreach program. Full report handouts were provided to Board members.

VII. Report regarding the inspections of Animal Care Services facility Hwy 151

Rita Braeutigam presented the inspection report of the 151 facility.

VIII. Discussion regarding the creation of the Animal Care Services Advisory Board Ad Hoc Committees

Rita Braeutigam discussed challenges some council districts are experiencing throughout the city with spay/neuter services. Due to these challenges, the Board has created an Ad Hoc Committee that will assist in finding solutions and new ideas to the spay/neuter challenges. The Board will also be requesting assistance from the Education and Outreach Division at ACS to assist with the spay/neuter situation. Discussion follow up at the next Board meeting.

IX. Citizens to be Heard

1. Chris Montgomery

² Indicates not present at Board Meeting

City of San Antonio Animal Care Services Department Director's Report

October 21, 2015

The department closed out FY 2015 on a historic high. ACS achieved a Live Release rate of 85% for the fiscal year for all pets – **and over 91% for healthy/treatable pets**. More ACS pets found placement this year than ever before! I couldn't be more proud of our energetic, hardworking and committed staff, volunteers, and community partners. We had a fantastic FY 2015 and look forward to an even better FY 2016! The following are high-level highlights from this year.

FY 2015 STRATEGIC GOALS: Through the teamwork, integrity, innovation and professionalism of our staff, Animal Care Services successfully addressed and completed all of this year's FY 2015 Strategic Goals. These goals include:

- The opening of the ACS Stray Kennels on the campus of the Animal Defense League in November 2014, allowing for over 3,100 additional live outcomes annually.
- The closing of the Brooks Auxiliary Shelter in December 2014.
- The hiring of an additional Staff Veterinarian, bringing our ranks to 3 fulltime vets, to provide resources to complete specialized surgeries for pets that would not have had a second chance in the past. In the last 8 months of 2015, ACS completed over 325 specialized surgeries (including amputations, hip replacements, etc.).
- The hiring of 1 additional full-time dispatcher to improve the quality of dispatching Animal Care Officers to calls.
- The transition of the Community Cat Program from Best Friends Animal Society to Animal Care Services. In the first 6 months of implementation, ACS has issued over 250 traps and 3,500 in-house surgery vouchers to trappers and have sterilized over 1,700 community cats. Additional information regarding the Community Cat Program will be provided during the Continuing Education presentation.
- The grant-funded Pets for Life Program in partnership with the Humane Society of the United States and PetSmart Charities was renewed for a second year. We are on target to complete more than 500 spay/neuter surgeries in a targeted neighborhood in the 78207 zip code. In addition, we have addressed over 5 medical cases and provided over 250 free vaccinations to pets in the program.
- Received funding in the FY 2015 Mid-Year Budget Adjustment for an additional \$150,000 for community spay/neuter surgeries for a total of \$665,000 in FY 2015. Thanks to our partners, 13,500 free spay/neuter surgeries were provided to SA residents in high need areas – areas with high pet intake and high 311 call-for-service requests.

REGISTERED MICROCHIP/RTO: In April 2015, the City Council approved the elimination of the City's Licensing Program in favor a registered microchip for all SA pets. In addition, the department received funding in the FY 2015 Mid-Year Budget Adjustment for the provision of free registered microchips to San Antonio residents. Through an aggressive outreach effort including 18 Microchip MANIA! Community clinics, over 3,500 free microchips were provided to SA pets. In conjunction with the microchipping requirement, ACS increased efforts on return to owners (RTOs) through the automatic registration of all ACS microchips and a dedicated RTO Officer who locates (often through additional investigative efforts) and contacts owners of pets found with microchips in ACS care. RTO's have increased just under 33%

over last fiscal year. Over 3,650 pets were returned to their owner – nearly 13% of all live outcomes – up from 6% of all live outcomes just a couple of years ago.

EDUCATION & OUTREACH TEAM: As part of the addition of the 4th ACS Strategic Priority of *Engage & Educate the Community*, the department received funding during the FY 15 Mid-Year Budget Adjustment to hire 1 Public Relations & Outreach Manager, 2 Education Coordinators and 1 Management Analyst (in addition to the previously funded Health Education Specialist) to create the ACS Education & Outreach Team.

We are elated to officially announce the fully staffed team. The Public Relations & Outreach Manager, Lisa Norwood (ACS' previous Public Information Officer) will oversee a team composed of Lyssa MacMillan (previous ACS CNSI staff member), Josie Espinoza (previous ACS Customer Service Representative), and Jesse Enriquez (longtime School Education staff member) who will work “hands on” in our neighborhoods while Management Analyst, Daniel Gonzalez will provide administrative support, data analysis, and event support. The team is currently going through training, learning more about ACS programs & services, and is beginning the strategic planning process for FY 16 with an initial focus in the District 2 area.

ROSIE THE PITBULL: After two months of recovery and intensive medical treatment for burns, heartworm and other medical issues, Rosie's team of veterinarians have announced her eyes have healed to the point surgery is no longer medically necessary. Rosie was rescued in late July by Animal Care Services after she was burned by corrosive acid that blinded her and ate away most of her ears.



Rosie's story went viral. Dog lovers from around the world (literally) have sent toys, treats, prayer blankets and inspiring handwritten notes to Rosie. Her gentle spirit and quiet strength has touched so many people and we are beyond grateful for the outpouring of support for Rosie and for other dogs like her. Rosie still has a long road of recovery ahead of her and is still in protective foster care pending adoption. Her attacker was arrested and faces felony animal cruelty charges.

SENTENCING: On October 15th, Perla Rojas-Ibarra was sentenced to 5 years in the State Penitentiary after she was found guilty in connection with a fatal attack her dogs committed 18 months ago. An elderly woman, Petra Aguirre, died of dog mauling injuries sustained while she was tending to the garden in her back yard. The dogs were loose and brutally attacked her. I am extremely proud of our Investigations Team, Medical staff and all of our ACS staff for their great work, testimony, and support in bringing this pet owner to justice.

Finally, it is with great sadness – and also our sincerest congratulations – that we announce the resignation of ACS Assistant Director Vincent Medley. Vincent's oversight of our Field Operations division his past 7 years with the City has brought great change for the residents and pets in our community. Through his leadership, our Field Management team, Animal Care Investigators and Animal Care Officers have grown personally and professionally and are an excellent representation of enforcement coupled with compassion for the greater good. Vincent has accepted the position of Executive Director with the Philadelphia Animal Care and Control Team. This is a terrific career promotion for him and I am thrilled for him personally. Vincent, you will be sorely missed, and never forgotten. Thank you for your contribution to the Animal Care Services and we wish nothing but the best in Philly.



City of San Antonio Animal Care Services Department Director's Report



FY 2015 YEAR END SUMMARY

ENHANCED ENFORCEMENT							
Performance Indicators	FY 14 Actual	FY 15 Target	FY 15 Actual	Variance <small>(FY 15 Act. – FY 15 Tar.)</small>	% Change <small>(FY 15 Act. vs. FY 15 Tar.)</small>	Variance <small>(FY 15 Act. – FY 14 Act.)</small>	% Change <small>(FY 15 Act. vs. FY 14 Act.)</small>
Call-for-Service Requests (Overall)	90,515	90,000	102,855	12,855	14.3%	12,340	13.6%
<i>Citizen-Initiated</i>	73,960	73,500	74,563	1,063	1.4%	603	0.8%
<i>ACS-Initiated</i>	16,555	16,500	28,292	11,792	71.5%	11,737	70.9%
Impoundments (Overall)	30,056	29,000	29,727	727	2.5%	(329)	(1.1%)
<i>Dogs</i>	23,714	22,801	22,869	68	0.3%	(845)	(3.6%)
<i>Cats</i>	6,342	6,199	6,858	659	10.6%	516	8.1%
Impoundments (Field)	18,263	18,310	18,232	(78)	(0.4%)	(31)	(0.1%)
Return-to-Owners (Field)	917	1,300	1,892	592	45.5%	975	106.3%
Citations/Warnings Issued	5,331	6,000	7,136	1,136	18.9%	1,805	33.9%
Aggr./Dang. Dog Designations*	40		57			17	42.5%
Serious Bodily Injury Cases**	6		20			14	133.3%
Cruelty Cases Filed**	42		83			41	97.6%
IMPROVED CONTROL OF STRAY POPULATION							
Performance Indicators	FY 14 Actual	FY 15 Target	FY 2015 Actual	Variance <small>(FY 15 Target)</small>	% Change <small>(FY 15 Act. vs. FY 15 Tar.)</small>	Variance <small>(FY 14 Actual)</small>	% Change <small>(FY 15 Act. vs. FY 14 Act.)</small>
Surgeries Performed (Overall)	16,400	16,400	14,658	(1,742)	(10.6%)	(1,742)	(10.6%)
<i>ACS</i>	16,400	16,400	12,949				
<i>Community Cat Program</i>			1,709				
Surgeries Performed by Partners	9,683	11,928	13,458	1,530	12.8%	3,775	42.7%
Deceased Dog/Cat Pick-Up	25,460		22,796			(2,664)	(10.5%)
INCREASED LIVE RELEASE							
Performance Indicators	FY 14 Actual	FY 15 Target	FY 2015 Actual	Variance <small>(FY 15 Target)</small>	% Change <small>(FY 15 Act. vs. FY 15 Tar.)</small>	Variance <small>(FY 14 Actual)</small>	% Change <small>(FY 15 Act. vs. FY 14 Act.)</small>
Live Release Rate	81%	80%	85%	5%	6.2%	4%	4.5%
Adoptions	6,647	6,200	6,673	473	7.6%	26	0.4%
Rescues	13,835	14,025	13,257	(768)	(5.5%)	(578)	(4.2%)
Return-to-Owners (Overall)	2,758	2,400	3,668	(1,268)	52.8%	910	32.8%
Trap-Neuter>Returns	816	575	937	362	63.0%	121	14.8%
Pets Fostered	1,403	1,000	1,241	241	24.1%	(162)	(11.5%)
Volunteer Hours	15,159	14,000	14,095	95	0.7%	(1,064)	(7.0%)
ADMINISTRATION/OTHER							
Performance Indicators	FY 14 Actual	FY 15 Target	FY 2015 Actual	Variance <small>(FY 15 Target)</small>	% Change <small>(FY 15 Act. vs. FY 15 Tar.)</small>	Variance <small>(FY 14 Actual)</small>	% Change <small>(FY 15 Act. vs. FY 14 Act.)</small>
FY 2015 Budget [†]	\$11.4 M	\$12.0 M [†]	\$11.9 M [°]	~\$100K	0.8%		
Media Interactions	871	500	888	388	77.6%	17	1.9%

^{*}This statistic represents cases that have actually been deemed and designated as aggressive/dangerous.

^{**}This statistic represents cases that have been investigated, packaged, and delivered to the prosecutor for potential prosecution.

[†]In May 2015, the San Antonio City Council approved a mid-year budget adjustment increasing the department's budget by \$350,000 relating to 2 initiatives. The FY 2015 Target reflects the FY 2015 Revised Budget.

[°]Fiscal Year-End Close-Out Pending. FY 2015 Actuals represent FY 2015 Estimate of Actuals.