

**THE GOVERNING BOARD
OF THE JOINT POWERS AGENCY OF THE
STANISLAUS ANIMAL SERVICES AGENCY (SASA)**
Meeting Minutes

Regular Meeting

Thursday

June 20, 2013

Members Present:

Stan Risen, Stanislaus County
Rick Armendariz, City of Modesto
Mike Borges, City of Ceres

Raul Mendez, City of Hughson
Rod Butler, City of Patterson
Tim Ogden, City of Waterford

Members Absent:

None

Staff Present:

Annette Patton, Executive Director
Deirdre McGrath, County Counsel
Jim DeMartini, Board of Supervisors

Francine Gutierrez, Manager II
Doris Foster, CEO's Office

Guests:

Renee Rhoy, Susan Robinson

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m. by Stan Risen, Chair.

Roll call: See above

Public Comment: None

Approved the Agency Board Meeting Minutes of March 21, 2013
(6/0 - Butler/Borges)

Correspondence: None

New Business:

- A. Nominated Rod Butler – Chair for the 2013-2014 fiscal year. (6/0 – Mendez/Ogden) Nominated Raul Mendez Vice-Chair for the 2013-2014 fiscal year. (6/0 – Ogden/Butler)

- B. Recognized Eagle Scout Jared Harris. Jared, a Cub Scout from 2007 through 2010, received the highest award possible as a Cub Scout. Jared acquired his Eagle Scout status at the age of 13. Jared was responsible for planning and building our new bench that sits in front of our building. In addition, he provided staff with a picnic table out by the employee break room. Animal Services is appreciative of his work and dedication and we are proud to give him this special recognition.

- C. Approved the Ordinance for Disposition of Stray Cats to Recommend for Adoption by the Member Jurisdictions. (5/1 – Borges/Butler – No – Ogden)
- D. Adopted the Recommended Budget for Fiscal Year 2013-2014. (6/0 – Ogden/Mendez)

Director Report:

- A. Executive Director Patton shared the information regarding correspondence from the Department of Industrial Relations Division of Occupational Safety and Health. The letter reported that the freezer was not cold enough. We confirmed the freezer is cold enough and has good insulation. However, during the summer months, carcasses start to smell very soon. Officers required to pick up carcasses now have plastic bags to place the carcass into. The plastic bag containing the carcass will be placed in the freezer upon arrival. In addition we have purchased industrial strength deodorizer to eliminate foul odors. The correspondence and letter in answer to the correspondence has been shared with Risk Management and was posted on the employee bulletin board and the AWP bulletin board for the legal time frame of three days. We have not heard any more from Cal Osha, but understand we may not until October.
- B. June is a very busy month for Animal Services. Cat season is upon us. We received 80 cats on Monday alone. Adopt a Shelter Cat Month is every June and we are participating for the first time. We've advertised Stanislaus Animal Services Agency's Adopt A Shelter Cat Month on Kat Country radio and the Modesto Bee. We already exceeded June 2012 cat adoptions. We are also participating in a Trap/Neuter/Release program. This program is the model program used in Florida and San Jose. The Trap Neuter and Release, or TNR Program, will reduce the euthanasia of cats and future intake. A cat coming in that is healthy but not adoptable will be spayed or neutered, ear tipped, and the Humane Society of Stanislaus County (a 501 (C) 3) will release the cat back to the area it originally came from. Sick cats will be treated as they always have been, as will adoptable cats. Any and all questions or concerns should come directly to Annette. For those that do not want the cats back, they can request they be relocated and we will find another colony. For those that do not want cats on their property there are alternatives. Walmart has a section of cat deterrents in their stores and Starbucks provides used Coffee Grounds, free, which is also a deterrent.

C. Foster Program – this is a program where puppies and kittens are housed and cared for by foster parents until they make weight. Once they make weight and can safely be altered, they are spayed or neutered and put up for adoption. These animals are always adopted quickly and benefit greatly from the socialization they get while being fostered. We started in April of this year so we would have plenty of kittens available for adoption in June. We appreciate the assistance of the Agricultural Center who provided us with 4H members that are interested in the Foster Program. We now have a great data base for future fosters.

Future: License renewals are going out with the “Shop for a Cause” flyers from Macy’s. Those that purchase and use the shopping pass will shop with savings all day on Saturday, August 24th. The pass proceeds will benefit Stanislaus Animal Services Agency. We thank ASA for taking on this project on our behalf.

Veterinarians: Currently there are six veterinarians on contract with one more coming in July. This allows us an opportunity to see how they work in spay/neuter, shelter medicine and leadership roles. Pay depends on experience. All seem to be interested in applying when we open a recruitment for a full time Veterinarian. This has been working well, with the need to have two veterinarians here during varying programs. (TNR/Adoptions and/or Clinics/Adoptions)

Embark on Health – Sargent’s has provided health kits for any dog adopted. This program starts in June as well and has been advertised in the Modesto Bee.

Rescue numbers have increased over the last year. I’ve assigned a supervisor that is doing a fabulous job in this area.

Recruitment: We just hired a new Animal Care Specialist who came to us from Escalon Animal Services. She is doing well and took the place of one of our other Animal Care Specialists when he promoted to the field. We also have a few Extra Help Animal Care Specialists helping us out during some long term leaves.

Wags and Whiskers, a 501 (C) 3 will be utilizing the Finch Road Facility for rescued animals.

SASA now has a Facebook page. We look forward to posting educational information there. Those looking for their lost pets on Craigslist are reminded to check the shelter.

Pet Awareness Month: This could be an opportunity to educate the public on animal care, health, laws. We look forward to taking a closer look at this in the future.

Member Referrals: None

Adjourned Regular Meeting to Open Closed Session

Opened closed session– Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation:
One case: Jose Martinez, et al.v.Timothy Wester, et al., United States District
Court, Eastern District of California Case No. 1:13-CV-00320-LIO-SMS,
Government Code Section 54956.9 (d)(1).

Public Employee Evaluation–Executive Director Government Code: 54957 (b)

Re-Opened regular meeting. Nothing to report.

Adjourned Regular Meeting at 11:00 a.m.

ATTESTED: Linda Ford, Clerk
of the Governing Board of the
Joint Powers Agency of the
Stanislaus Animal Services Agency
State of California

(The above is a summary of the minutes of the Governing Board of the Joint
Powers Agency. Complete minutes are available from the Clerk at Stanislaus
Animal Services Agency, 3647 Cornucopia Way in Modesto, CA.)