

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

Regular Meeting

Thursday

September 18, 2025

Members Present:

Scotty Douglass, Alternate for City of Modesto-Chair
Jewel Warr, Alternate for Stanislaus County
Mike Pitcock, City of Waterford
Dominique Romo, City of Hughson
Mike Willet, Alternate for City of Patterson
Doug Dunford, City of Ceres

Members Absent: None

Staff Present:

Jesus Mendoza, Deputy County Counsel
Lily Yap, Executive Director
Megan Morriss, Confidential Assistant IV

Guests and Dignitaries: None

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by Chair, Scotty Douglass.

1. **Welcome:** Scotty Douglass-Chair.
2. **Roll Call (Silent):**
3. **Presentations:** None
4. **Public Comment Period (Limit of 5 minutes per person):**
 - A. Tanya Chavez-discussed the TNR program she is running in her neighborhood. Would like more money and support for TNR from the shelter.
 - B. Kathy Cole Boyer-discussed the Sunday pick and meet/greet the shelter hosts. Would like to see more employees/volunteers there. Discussed the hardships of having such a full shelter.
 - C. Anita Fox-discussed her concerns with the TNR program at the Shelter. One appointment per week is not making a dent in the cat population. Also discussed the feral cat problem at Fox Grove and that help is needed out there.
 - D. Tina von Stade-new to cat rescues. Wants to see more collaboration with other Counties that have a good TNR program. Gave an example

of Fresno's TNR program. Suggested we benchmark what they are doing. Sacramento/Bradshaw shelter did a seminar on Animal Cruelty that was well received by the public. Suggested we look at the Public Defenders office to redo our recruitment strategies for the vet.

- E. Nancy Klein-discussed concerns with Animal Balance appointments not being advertised. Discussed concerns with the shelter not being able to secure a second vet and lack of advertising for that position. Also questioned why the Love Clinic is not being utilized.
- F. Chris Ricci-discussed his concerns about Animal Services. Provided contacts and suggestions 3 months ago and hasn't heard back from anyone. Need to explore pathways to additional funding. He understands we are short on resources, but we can achieve results with less money. Look at ways to increase revenue.

5. Minutes of Previous Meetings:

- A. Approved the Agency Board Special Meeting Minutes from August 21, 2025. (Stanislaus County/City of Patterson - 6/0).

6. Correspondence: None

7. New Business:

- A. Motion approved to negotiate and execute an agreement with The Animal Alliance for co-facilitation of a Community Engagement Program. (City of Waterford/Stanislaus County; 6-0)
 - a. Public comment: Nancy Klein-has reservations about entering into an agreement with this Animal Alliance. They are very new to Animal Welfare. Would like to know the curriculum.
- B. Motion to approve to negotiate and execute an agreement with Best Friends Animal Society for receipt of grant funding and collaboration. (City of Waterford/City of Modesto; 6-0)
 - a. Public comment:

Tina von Stade-For Best Friends grant-how much money is earmarked for neo-natal kittens? How much would a rescue get for taking on neo-natal kittens?

Nancy Klein-has concerns about entering into a grant with Best Friends. They want access/control over shelter operations. PETA is against Best Friends organization. City of El Paso accepted a grant and ended up kicking Best Friends out of their

city. She does not want the shelter to move ahead with Best Friends grant.

Unidentified speaker-Has concerns with Foxgrove. There are friendly cats out there that should be trapped and put up for adoptions. Feral cats can survive out there, but friendly cats succumb to the elements out there. Need more TNR appointments.

Susie-took in some cats and wanted to say thank you to the shelter. Also thanked Lily for the information she shared.

8. Committee Reports: None

9. Informational Reports:

A. Executive Director's Report: Lily Yap

- a. Welcomed Megan back to the office
- b. 1 in 1000 campaign. Had 833 in adoptions, rescue and foster placements. 2 days after starting the shelter got Strep Zoo. We had to reduce intake at that time. Still has many adoptions though.
- c. Resources are limited due to scarce spay/neuter appointment availability. Re-instated owner surrender appointments
- d. R.E.D. list criteria-staff are meeting on a weekly basis to discuss the R.E.D. list animals. We must use consistent criteria for these animals. It used to be driven largely by length of stay. Now, we are looking at the animals to also include shelter behavior and medical. Still struggling with our capacity for care and our shelter population numbers. We are doing daily capacity assessments.
- e. Capacity for Care and outcome Gap-our staff-driven capacity for care is approximately 100 dogs, assuming perfect circumstances (I.e. fully staffed, no one on leave, an evenly distributed schedule, etc). Basic feeding and care should be completed before opening, allowing full focus on customer service and animal enrichment/evaluations during business hours. We understand and accept that limiting the onsite population to 100 dogs is not feasible at this time due to large intake numbers. The tradeoff is reduced customer service and duties beyond basic care of the animal population when we are above this number. Some facilities opt to close intake when beyond capacity; we do not intend to do that since we act the community's safety net. Our rescue partners are filling a huge gap for us; without them, more animals would be euthanized and we don't take their support for granted.

10. Closed Session: None

11. Adjournment at 10:34 am

Adjourned: 10:34 am

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