

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

**Regular Meeting**

**Thursday**

**July 16, 2026**

**Members Present:**

Scotty Douglass, Alternate for City of Modesto-Chair  
Mike Willett, Alternate for City of Patterson (attended until 11:43 a.m.)  
Steve Williams, City of Ceres  
Jewel Warr, Alternate for Stanislaus County  
Kim Weimer, Alternate for City of Hughson (joined at 10:30 a.m.)

**Members Not Present:**

Mike Pitcock, City of Waterford

**Staff Present:**

Jesus Mendoza, Deputy County Counsel  
Lily Yap, Executive Director  
Megan Morriss, Confidential Assistant IV  
Stephanie Loomis, Business Manager

**Guests and Dignitaries:** None

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 am by Chair, Scotty Douglass.

1. **Welcome:** Scotty Douglass-Chair
2. **Roll Call:** City of Waterford absent
3. **Presentations:** None
4. **Public Comment Period (Limit of 5 minutes per person):**
  - Samantha Lopez – Concern about Director, R.E.D. list size, misinformation; example of dog Lindy.
  - Christina Johnson – Rescue dependency concerns; empty kennels vs. large R.E.D. list.
  - Greg Kyler – Board unaware of live release rate, lack of TNR, Director performance; recommends free adoptions and clinic resumption.
  - Darlene Mathews – R.E.D. list concerns; praises rescues as shelter's heroes.
  - Bridget Miles – Advocates for low-cost spay/neuter and Spanish outreach; shelter needs change.
  - Claudia Henley – States rescues/volunteers keep numbers low; questions euthanasia with open kennels.

- Christina Wilson – Appreciates second vet; wants more spay/neuter; concerned about empty kennels and R.E.D. list.
- Kelly Ceglio – R.E.D. list concerns; wants rescue extensions; calls rescues heroes.
- Cynthia Homen – Says rescues overused; invites Board to tour full shelter; calls Compassion Caravan ineffective.
- Tina von Stade – Concerned about customer service; wants more TNR and low-cost spay/neuter.
- Nancy Klein – provided a handout. Acknowledged Advisory Committee member Cynthia for her attendance. Spoke about SB707 and the open meeting and teleconferencing requirements. Asked for SB707 to be added to next month's agenda. Had concerns regarding a lost dog incident. Raised concerns about SASA animal control and the use of a prong collar on the dog when a follow up check was done.
- Ann Routen – Questions healthy dogs on R.E.D. list; suggests improving rescue partnerships and moving meeting to 5 PM.
- Dr. Nell Moore – Opposes moving dogs constantly; locked kennel doors prevent dogs from being seen; says staff afraid to speak up.
- Richard Davis – Calls for shelter overhaul; concerns about Director absenteeism; wants more extensions and communication

#### **5. Minutes of Previous Meeting:**

- Motion to approve 5/21/26 minutes. (Stanislaus County/City of Ceres; 4-0 - City of Hughson and City of Waterford absent)
- Motion to approve 6/18/26 minutes. (Stanislaus County/City of Ceres; 4-0 – City of Hughson and City of Waterford Absent)

Public comment: None

#### **6. Correspondence: None**

**10:20am-Recess**

**10:30am-Meeting resumes**

**Kim Weimer-Alternate for City of Hughson joins quorum.**

#### **7. New Business:**

- A. Motion to approve the election of Jewel Warr for Chair of the Board and Scotty Douglass as Vice-Chair of the Board. (City of Ceres/City of Patterson; 5-0 – City of Waterford absent)

Public comment: None

- B. Motion to receive the Strategic Planning update and recommendation from Andrea Stevenson from Stevenson Wallace. (City of Ceres/City of Patterson; 5-0 – City of Waterford absent)

Public comment:

- Kelly Ceglio – Concern about Zoom use convenience.
- Tina von Stade – Worried update may justify delaying needed resources.
- Unknown speaker – Thanks City of Modesto; volunteers to run shelter free for one year; concerned about Director.
- Linda Ford – Reads legal excerpt on restricted funds.
- Nancy Klein – Questions consultant terms; cites grand jury report on \$3M restricted funds; demands transparency.
- Greg Kyler – Says services were better in past; funding confusion unjustified; cites California Animal Law

Board comments:

- No term for the Strategic Planning contract. Intend to come back with the final draft of the Strategic Plan.
- In the future, we will be bringing forth the true up for the 3 year span after the audits are complete.

C. Motion to approve the blanket purchase order with MWI Veterinary Supply Co. for supplies and prescriptions. (City of Hughson/City of Ceres; 5-0 - City of Waterford absent)

Public comment:

- Edward Davis – Asks why fixed animals would be euthanized; concerns about Director decisions.
- Unknown speaker – Discussed dog Raven's case (R.E.D. list, spay, no x-ray); calls it misuse of funds.

Board comments:

- City of Modesto asked if the Vet weighs in on the items purchased from this vendor. Staff confirmed that the Vet does.
- Stanislaus County asked if this approval was needed to keep services going? Staff confirmed that we have a current PO under \$200,000 but anticipate going over that this Fiscal Year.

**11:32am-Recess**

**11:43am-Meeting resumes**

**Mike Willett-City of Patterson left the meeting. Still maintained quorum.**

D. Motion to receive report from the Executive Director on the Capacity for Care, R.E.D. List and Safety tagging. (City of Ceres/City of Modesto; 4-0 – City of Waterford and City of Patterson absent)

Board comments:

- City of Modesto advised that this report was a lot on information to process. It takes time to process this information. Question

came to mind is the Capacity for Care graph. What number of employees were working that day. Staff responded we had 6 kennel staff working that day. 2 staff do the cats so that leaves 4 staff for the dogs.

- Stanislaus County asked if we have vacancies in any of those positions. Staff advised no we are fully staffed in those positions. Then staff made a correction advising that we have 2 open animal care specialist positions that were previously unfunded.

Public comments:

- Samantha Lopez-Example of dog Max (172 days locked in); praises safety tagging.
- Christina Johnson-Opposes no-kill; euthanasia burden shifted to rescues.
- Kelly Ceglio-Says Board was misled; locked kennel doors create false data; volunteers underutilized.
- Claudia Henley-Questions the yellow list; dogs skipping from green to red; staffing shortages; wellness concerns.
- Nancy Klein-Say's Lily's presentation missing from packet; late rescue emails; intake scheduling concerns.
- India (Ruff Day Rescue)-Notes disabilities; advocates for transparency and volunteer usage.
- Tina von Stade-Challenges staffing numbers; wants presentation included online; statistics can be manipulated.
- Dr. Nell Moore-Urges unlocked kennels; references dog Taz; calls locked doors neglect.

Board comments:

- City of Ceres stated thank you Lily for this report and for the citizen comments.
- City of Modesto stated he feels the same way. Had my calculator crunching the numbers. Interested in knowing alternatives to what we are doing today.
- Stanislaus County stated she feels the same way as City of Ceres and Modesto. Additional information will be helpful in moving the way forward. There will be more discussion in the future.

**E. Informational reports:** Continued to the following meeting due to time limitations.

**F. Adjournment:** 1:16pm

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

State of California