



Forsyth County Animal Control Advisory Board

July 16, 2015

6:00 PM – 7:45 PM

Forsyth County Animal Control Department
5570 Sturmer Park Circle
Winston-Salem, NC 27105

Sandra Averitt, Chair
Tina Sanderford, Vice Chair
Sandra Clodfelter
Thurman Dillon
Molly Douglass, DVM
Priscilla Ivester
Janice Freeman
Chad Griffin
Koy Kincaid
Robert Lakey
Tracey Shifflette

Members Present

Sandra Averitt	Tina Sanderford
Sandra Clodfelter	Koy Kincaid
Thurman Dillon	Molly Douglass
Priscilla Ivester	Janice Freeman
Chad Griffin	Tracey Shifflette

Staff Present

Tim Jennings
Karin Burnette
Dawn Lamb

CALL TO ORDER

- The Advisory Board meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Sandra Averitt.
- *Approval of meeting minutes May 21, 2015.*
MOTION: Sandra Averitt made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 21, 2015 meeting. The motion was seconded by Tina Sanderford and approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- There was no public comment.

OLD BUSINESS

- *2015 Work-plan* - Staff provided presentations on the FCAC Special Programs providing assistance to the animals in the County's custody. The Community Care Program provides for transferring ownership of animals from the department to approved non-profit organizations that guarantee the County adoption criteria (spay/neuter) will be met in placement. The Almost Home program provides for similar transfer &/or fostering to veterinarian clinics, or other shelters licensed by the NC Department of Agriculture. Each year approximately 250 animals are transferred. The Project Pearl organization coordinates the foster program for the department creating a community extension of the shelter. Project Pearl provides medical care for the dogs and cats in the foster program. Foster animals remain the property of the department.

There was discussion regarding educating the community with programs for special needs, such as Spay/Neuter Clinics, AniMeals, etc.

- *Field Services:* The Sheriff's Office has hired several Animal Control Officers as deputies. Sheriff has offered to assist with animal cruelty complaints. FCAC will look to hire more non-commissioned officers as well as more positions as recommended by the Advisory Board in the strategic plan.
- *Microchipping:* Discussion about whether microchipping should be mandatory for all pets in the community. Discussed that microchip is already a requirement when adopting or returning to owners.
- *Shelter Definitions:* Discussion of adding the definition of shelter to the TACT sheet utilized by officers evaluating shelter and environmental conditions..
- *Temperatures:* Discussion on possibly drafting an ordinance in regards to animal care during hot/cold temperatures. The County Attorney has the authority on exact language. The process for the adoption of a code was reviewed by staff. used to educate the public and possibly send out to the public for comments or survey. The draft will be need to be created before next Advisory Board Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

- *Hearing Tribunals:* Discussion was made on signature policy on the final determination written recommendation to the department Director. All three attending the tribunal usually sign, but some tribunals have just had the chair sign. After discussion, Sandra Averitt made a motion that all three members sign, and if one dissents with the determination they so note on the document.
- Sandra Averitt asked to move to carry, Sandra Clodfelter seconded, no one opposed.
- *Monthly Report:* The year-end report for FY 2014-15 was presented. There were many positive categories. Areas where demand was reduced:
 - Field Service Response - 12%
 - Sheltered Animals - 7%
 - Euthanasia - 14%
 - Rabies Bites/Exposures - 3%Where results increased:
 - Adoptions + 6%
 - Redemptions + 8%
 - License Transactions + 29%
 - Revenue + 20%
 - Citations + 10%
 - Violations cited + 37%
- *H3N2 Canine Flu:* News coverage was on K9 flu situation. Discussion on what we were doing. Supposedly a dog transferred from foster care to Humane Society had the H3N2 strand, which the current vaccine does not prevent. H3N2 (upper respiratory) is very dangerous and can cause the dog to come down w/pneumonia -- Asheville has had some cases. Sandra Averitt suggested that we put a link on our website about this K9 flu (H3 strand) and possibly attaching a news clip.
- *Educating Public/Prevent Repeated Offenders:* Priscilla suggested we should come up with program or seminar that could reduce animal problems and prevent repeat offenders, especially

for Dangerous Dogs and Potentially Dangerous Dogs. Possibly create a session that educates on bad husbandry/neglect or animal behavior patterns.

The board brainstormed ideas on the following:

- offering to dismiss 50% of the penalty fines if they attended this seminar;
- create a testimony and penalty phase; and
- advising the tribunal of any past history on certain owners before hearings.

Tim stated that they could look into a protocol for necessary steps and correct wording.

ADJOURN

Motion: With no further business, Sandra Averitt asked for a motion to adjourn. Koy Kincaid made the motion, which was seconded by Tina Sanderford. Sandra Averitt adjourned the meeting at 7:46 pm.