



Coachella Valley Animal Campus

MINUTES

Thursday – May 5, 2022
9:30 a.m.

Commission Meeting
ZOOM

Animal Campus Commission

City of Indian Wells

Councilmember Kimberly Muzik

City of Desert Hot Springs

City of Cathedral City

Councilmember Mark Carnevale

Chairman

Mayor Ernesto Gutierrez
(Alternate)

City of Coachella

Councilmember Denise Delgado
Vacant (Alternate)

City of Indio

Councilmember Ramos Amith
Councilmember Elaine Holmes
(Alternate)
Scott Trujillo
(City Representative)

City of La Quinta

Councilmember Steve Sanchez
Councilmember Kathleen
Fitzpatrick (Alternate)

City of Palm Desert

Councilmember Karina Quintanilla

Vice-Chairman

Councilmember Susan Marie
Weber (Alternate)

Palm Springs

Animal Shelter

Vacant
Executive Director

Friends of Palm Springs

Animal Shelter

Tamara Hedges- President
Ex- Officio

City of Rancho Mirage

Councilmember Steve Downs
(Alternate) - Mayor Ted Weill

County of Riverside

V. Manuel Perez, 4th District
Alexis Perez, Board Assistant
Jeff Hewitt, 5th District

Animal Samaritans

Len D. Betz, President
Ex-Officio
Tom Snyder, CEO

County Staff

Laurie Dozier
Executive Assistant I

1. ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 2021-001 (CHAIRMAN)

The resolution was adopted by all members of the Commission. Adopting this resolution means that all agree to hold this meeting in a virtual forum, and recognizing the need for social distancing due to the state emergency order put in place by Governor Newsom.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The Animal Campus Commission Meeting was called to order on Thursday, May 5, 2022, at 9:30 a.m. via ZOOM by Chairman Mark Carnevale, Cathedral City.

A roll call was conducted by the County Staff, Laurie Dozier, and it was determined that there was a quorum. The following were present:

Members in Attendance:

Councilmember Steve Downs, City of Rancho Mirage
Board Assistant Alexis Perez, Riverside County
Councilmember Steve Sanchez, City of La Quinta
Councilmember Mark Carnevale, Cathedral City
Councilmember Kimberly Muzik, City of Indian Wells
City Representative Scott Trujillo, City of Indio

Others in attendance:

Erin Gettis, Director, County of Riverside Animal Services
Kim McWhorter, Deputy Director of Operations, County of Riverside Animal Services
Jackie Schart, Operations Chief, County of Riverside Animal Services
John Welsh, Public Information Officer, County of Riverside Animal Services
Michelle Bergeron, Animal Samaritans, Coachella Valley
Laurie Dozier, Executive Assistant, County of Riverside Animal Services
Dan Rossi, Executive Director, Palm Springs Animal Shelter
Tamara Hedges, President, Friends of Palm Springs Animal Shelter

4. FINALIZATION OF AGENDA:

The agenda was approved.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes from February 3, 2022, were approved.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. Brad Anderson expressed his concern regarding having this meeting remotely. He is suggesting that this meeting be held in person. Mr. Anderson also has concerns with the high number of dogs at the Coachella Valley Animal Campus and being known as a high kill shelter and stated that we do not want this to happen.

7. CORRESPONDENCE:

No correspondence.

8. ANIMAL CAMPUS COMMISSION MEMBERS AND DIRECTOR COMMENTS:

Steve Downs thanked Jackie Schart for the tour of CVAC this past week.

Mark Carnevale stated they now have a microchip scanner at Cathedral City's local fire department.

9. RIVERSIDE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SERVICES:

Kim Youngberg, Deputy Director of Operations:

Kim Youngberg introduced Erin Gettis, the new director of Riverside County Animal Services. Erin stated she is excited to be here and to connect with the commission members. She invites anyone over to take a tour of our shelters. Erin stated she is working on the departments 90-day report. The 90-day report will be added to our next agenda to share with the commission.

John Welsh, Public Information Officer:

John Welsh stated there is a vaccine and free microchip clinic at the Coachella Valley Animal Campus today. This was made possible with grant funding and there will be a few more clinics during the month of May. John invited the commission members to join and follow our social media platforms.

Jackie Schart, Animal Services Chief:

Jackie Schart stated that there is a line forming for the vaccine and free microchip clinic happening today at the Coachella Valley Animal Campus. She also stated they are reminding the public about the 4th of July holiday coming up and to make sure to microchip and put a collar with a tag on your pet to get them home. During this time of year animal services puts logos on their animal control trucks stating fireworks are illegal in Riverside County to help through the 4th of July.

10. ANIMAL SAMARITANS (Tom Snyder, CEO):

Michelle Bergeron stated that Animal Samaritans received a donation for \$750,000 from the Richard Brook Foundation to assist with their new pet adoption center they are building. Their goal is to raise \$11 million dollars. They are also in the process of hiring an Oncologist to assist public needing assistance with their pets with cancer.

11. PALM SPRINGS ANIMAL SHELTER (Dan Rossi, Executive Director):

Dan Rossi stated they received a \$12,500 microchip grant for the city. This is a low-cost TNR program for the public. They also receive \$30,000 a year from the city of Palm Springs for TNR. Palm Springs is looking forward to doing great things.

12. FRIENDS OF PALM SPRINGS ANIMAL SHELTER (Tamara Hedges, President):

Tamara Hedges introduced Dan Rossi, the new Executive Director of the Palm Springs Animal Shelter. Dan Rossi stated he we all have the same challenges, and we are working hard to resolve them.

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS

At our next meeting on August 4, 2022, the commission members will discuss having in person meetings or continue to telecommute.

Kimberly Muzik will be leaving the commission and the city of Indian Wells. Kimberly also stated that the City of Indian Wells has a microchip scanner now as well.

The next meeting of the Animal Campus Commission is scheduled for August 4, 2022, at 9:30 a.m. via ZOOM.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 9:50am.