



Coachella Valley Animal Campus

COMMISSION MINUTES

Animal Campus Commission



City of Cathedral City

Councilmember Stan Henry

City of Coachella

Councilmember Steven Hernandez
David Garcia (Alternate)

City of Desert Hot Springs

Mayor Adam Sanchez

City of Indian Wells

Councilmember Mary Roche
Chair
Warren Morelion (Alternate)

City of Indio

Councilmember Elaine Holmes
Vice-Chair
Jason Chan (Alternate)

City of La Quinta

Councilmember Kristy Franklin

City of Palm Desert

Frankie Riddle

City of Rancho Mirage

Councilmember G. Dana Hobart

County of Riverside

John J. Benoit, 4th District
Marion Ashley, 5th District

Animal Samaritans

Betty Maytag, President
Ex-Officio

County Staff

Carol-Ann Myers
Executive Assistant

Thursday, July 10, 2014

9:30 a.m.

Commission Meeting

CVAG

73-710 Fred Waring Drive,
Palm Desert, CA 92260.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The Animal Campus Commission Meeting was called to order on Thursday, July 10, 2014 at 9:45 a.m. at the CVAG, 73-710 Fred Waring Drive, Palm Desert, CA, by Chairwoman Mary Roche, Councilmember for the City of Indian Wells.

A roll call was conducted and it was determined that there was a quorum. The following were present:

Members in Attendance:

Kristy Franklin, Councilmember, City of La Quinta
Mary Roche, Councilmember, City of Indian Wells
Elaine Holmes, Councilmember, City of Indio
Dana Hobart, Councilmember, Rancho Mirage
Frankie Riddle, City of Palm Desert
Fred Saunders, Animal Samaritans, Ex Officio

Others in attendance:

Earl Moss, Police Captain, City of Cathedral City (**proxy to vote**)
Patricia Cooper, County of Riverside (**proxy to vote**)
Paula Terifaj, Desert Hot Springs (**proxy to vote**)
Tom Snyder, Animal Samaritans
Jason Chan, Sr. Management Analyst, Indio
Robert Miller, County Animal Services
Frank Corvino, County Animal Services
John Welsh, County Animal Services
Veronica Ramos, County Animal Services
Deanna Burnett, County Animal Services
Carol-Ann Myers, County Animal Services
Michael Dowry, Rancho Mirage Animal Control
David Kirk, No Kill Coachella Valley
Leigh Kirk, No Kill Coachella Valley
Janet McAfee, Loving All Animals
Kim Hardee, Coachella Animal Network

2. FINALIZATION OF AGENDA:

The agenda was approved as submitted

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- Kim Hardee (CAN): C.A.N. held a clinic in June for spay/neuter and vaccinations. County Animal Services attended and sold licenses to the residents. Kim would like to see License Inspectors at all spay/neuter events. The next clinic will be in August and September. Councilmember Holmes thanked Kim for her efforts.

Coachella Valley Animal Campus

PUBLIC COMMENT CONTINUED:

- Paula Terifaj (DHS): Dr. Terifaj voiced her concerns of citations being given out in the City and not enough low-cost services for residents. Councilmember Roche acknowledged the validity of her concerns and Robert Miller informed the Commission that there are now informational pamphlets being distributed with citations to residents. Mr. Miller also informed Dr. Terifaj that extensions are given to all residents who communicate the need to the Department. A flow chart is being created in order to outline the various programs and help streamline the process for the Department.
- Janet McAfee (Loving All Animals): The next adoption event will be November 15 & 16, 2014. The event theme will be "There's No Place Like a Home". Janet would like low cost vaccinations and for County Animal Services to have a booth where licenses are sold.
- David Kirk (No Kill Coachella Valley): Mr. Kirk introduced a collaborative effort happening in the desert where various organizations are working together in order to develop a 5 year plan. The plan will include yearly actions and programs that will be implemented in order to help the animals. Mr. Kirk emphasized this is a community effort, and he would like members of the government to participate. There is no fee for those participating, and NKCVC is not a 501 C3. The Commission voted unanimously to add this item on the next agenda, where Mr. Kirk will present the plan to the Commission.

4. ANIMAL CAMPUS COMMISSION MEMBERS AND DIRECTOR COMMENTS:

Councilmember Roche inquired about the trust funds that were to be given to the Commission. The County has not received any additional funds since the \$2,000 that was used toward the Mecca Spay/ Neuter event. The County will follow up on this.

5. **CORRESPONDENCE:** Letter authorizing proxy voting rights to Earl Moss (Cathedral City), for the July 10, 2014 meeting. Letter authorizing proxy voting rights to Patricia Cooper (Riverside County), for the July 10, 2014 meeting. Letter authorizing proxy voting rights to Paula Terifaj (Desert Hot Springs), for the July 10, 2014 meeting
6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Minutes approved as submitted. m/s Riddle/Holmes
7. **COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES:** Robert Miller (Director) reminded the Cities the danger of the summer heat on animals. Mr. Miller encouraged all Cities to put the warning out to their communities.

Frank Corvino (Deputy Director): The Thousand Palms Shelter often experiences crowding from the public coming in for various services. There is currently only one central lobby, and they are looking at ways to mitigate the wait times and clear out the lobby.

Case Updates: There was a bite case that occurred in Indio where a woman who was walking her two pit-bulls was attacked. Two dogs died from heat exhaustion when they were left on a patio in the City of Indio. Two horses were seized from the unincorporated area of Riverside; the District Attorney's office is looking to file. RSO had to break a car window in order to save a dog who was suffering from heat exhaustion; the animal was surrendered to the County and adopted out to a new home.

Facility Updates: All facility updates will be discussed at the next meeting once the Staff Report is updated.

John Welsh (Public Information Officer): There were two major stories within the media; a Boxer was overheated and was rushed to the shelter. Staff slowly brought the dog back to normal temperature and it was later adopted out. One of the Animal Control Officers received a call from the Water District regarding a dog that was clinging to the canal. With the help of the Water District, Animal Control was able to rescue the dog from the canal. The dog was Microchipped and reunited with its owner.

8. **ANIMAL SAMARITANS & ADOPTION ALLIANCE UPDATE- Fred Saunders CEO:** Fred Saunders introduced Tom Snyder who is now their Chief Operating Officer. Mr. Snyder discussed the “Wings of Rescue” transport, where 52 dogs were taken by plane out of the shelter and to a rescue group. This transport was well covered by the media, and Mr. Snyder acknowledged the huge volunteer support. One of the local rescuers assisted in raising the funds to pay for the fuel that enabled the transport to take place. There may be another rescue in the future. Animal Samaritans received a wellness grant that is going to be used towards services for senior citizens. A.S. would like to offer all Senior Citizens free or low-cost services with proof of residency.

9. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next meeting is November 13, 2014 at 9:30AM at the Coachella Valley Association of Governments. 73-710 Fred Waring Drive Palm Desert, CA 92260

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

Chairwoman Mary Roche, City of Indian Wells, adjourned the meeting at 10:21 a.m.