

## Abilene Animal Control Advisory Committee

April 29, 1999

The Abilene Animal Control Advisory Committee held its first yearly meeting, April 29, 1999, at the Community Services Conference room.

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 P.M. by the Chairman, Dr. Jack Callan.

Members present were Dr. Jack Callan, Charlotte Roy, Sandra Rust, and Tony Neitzler. Also present Heather Randolph and other guests.

The minutes of the December 11, 1998, meeting were approved as mailed.

The first item on the agenda was the Superintendents report. Ms. Roy reported an increase in adoptions of about 100, a decrease in the number of animals picked up, and also a decrease in the number destroyed of about 500, from the same time last year through the end of March, 1999. Ms. Roy stated that this was a sign of public awareness. There was some discussion of whether this may be a trend.

Second on the agenda was the Adopt-a-thon. Ms. Roy informed the Committee of the Annual Adopt-a-thon, May 1, 1999, 10:00 A.M.-6:00 P.M. This is the third year of participation. We have participated since the creation in conjunction with thousands of other shelters. Last year 24 animals were adopted, and Ms. Roy stated that she hopes to double that figure this year. The Committee was also informed of community involvement (Television, Radio, and Newspaper), area High School Mascots will be on location, and a live KEAN remote will also take place. Free pizza and soda pop will be served. At the Abilene Police Department will give a K-9 demonstration at 11:00 A.M., and Thunderstorm will have a demonstration at 1:00 P.M.

Third, Ms. Roy presented information on Staff Reorganization, there were two employees lost in the month of April, Scotty Mitchell and JJ Kerns-Hughes. There was one new hire, Heather Randolph, as the new Administrative Animal Control Officer. Ms. Roy discussed the immediate plans for reorganizing staff with in the existing budget, interviews have been conducted for the hire of a Shelter Supervisor to perform day-to-day activities in the shelter, help in the field, and be an administrative asset. Also, the hiring of an Administrative Clerk was discussed, one Shelter Attendant position has been moved to the front to fill that void. The closet in the front office is being renovated to house the new position that will be in charge of dispatch and data entry. The reorganization will leave two Shelter Attendants and two Office Personnel at all times.

Next, Tony Neitzler presented information on the Euthanasia Procedures, please see the attached for report. Discussion was made as to the burn out rate of the staff doing the lethal injection; it is believed that with a plan of staff rotation the burn out rate will be minimized and moral will stay high. It was stated that Dr. Roberson will volunteer to

help train staff. Mr. Neitzler informed that no other shelter programs observed use a 2-step process, tranquilizer and lethal injection.

Last, Paul Washburn provided information on the Rescue the Animals Program, a nonprofit organization that acts as a public relations hub for Abilene Animal Control.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:54 P.M.

Respectfully submitted.



Dr. Jack K. Callan, Chairman  
Heather Randolph, Recording Secretary

Date minutes approved: August 26, 1999