

Abilene Animal Control Advisory Committee

August 26, 1999

The Abilene Animal Control Advisory Committee held its second yearly meeting, August 26, 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, Dottie Scott, and Tony Neitzler. Also present Heather Randolph.

The minutes of the April 29, 1999 meeting were approved as mailed.

The first item on the agenda was the Superintendents report. Ms. Roy reported an increase in adoptions of 22%, a decrease in the number of animals picked up by 5.5%, and also a decrease in the animals returned to owner by 22%, from the same time last year through the end of July, 1999. Ms. Roy also reported an increase in response time to 37.5 min. this year verses 36 min. last year. The report also included the total number of cremations for the public, total 134.

Second on the agenda was the Animal Control Budget. Ms. Roy informed the Committee of some of the additions Animal Control was able to make. Control was able to submit a revised budget to obtain these additions this year verses next. Including: digital scales- this allows the ACO's to determine accurately how much drug is needed for euthanasia, new euthanasia facility- this allows the process to be done out of the public view, able to send 2 employees to Certified Euthanasia Technician school- the rest of the employees will be able to go next year, new air conditioning system in the dog runs- next year will install in the puppy wing, mobile phones in all the units and mobile radios on all the officers. This allows the officer to be in constant contact with Control and each other. On June 1, 1999, the Shelter increased shelter hours on Saturdays to 2:00 p.m. verses 10:00 a.m., and on October 1, 1999 a new shelter attendant position will be added to staff. To help fund the staff addition the city animal license will increase to \$7.00 instead of \$6.00.

Third, Ms. Roy presented information on a Rabies Awareness Seminar she and Officer Sanchez attended on August 4, 1999, in San Angelo. Ms Roy stated that the seminar was informative and reinforced present knowledge. A great deal of information was presented on rabies and there was extensive discussion regarding the aspect of paralysis in rabies victims.

Next, Ms. Roy presented information on euthanasia progress; the Committee was made aware that there have been 1,962 injectable euthanasizations performed June 1, 1999, and July 31, 1999. Ms. Roy gave praise to the ACO's for doing such a good job, stating that the officer's have the mechanics down it is the emotion that is hard to handle.

Next, Ms. Roy provided information on the new sign unveiling, 8/27/99 at 10:00 am the new sign changing Abilene Animal Control Center to the Abilene Animal Shelter and Adoption Center was presented to the community.

Then, Ms. Roy informed the board of the adoption push on 8/28/99. Rescue the Animals joined with Cellular One to provide \$20.00 off the spay/neuter costs of each animal adopted from the shelter that day. It was also made known that Rescue the Animals, KTXS and TCI have somewhat adopted Animal Control. Cellular One, during the month of July, also, gave customers their phone at no charge to new activation for a \$10.00 donation to Rescue the Animals.

Finally, Ms. Roy updated the committee on her efforts to get a directional sign on Treadaway for the Shelter. She stated that she had spoken with Jim McKinnon of the Texas Highway Department, he expressed that the facility did not fit into any current category, which would warrant a directional sign. Charlotte announced that she had written a letter to Bob Hunter and was awaiting his response.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted.



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

Date minutes approved: 1-6-00