

Abilene Animal Control Advisory Committee

April 25, 2002

The Abilene Animal Control Advisory Committee held its first yearly meeting, April 25, 2002, at the Community Services Conference room.

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

Members present were Dr. Jack Callan, Charlotte Roy, Dottie Scott, and Asem Eltiar. Also present Heather Randolph, and Tony Neitzler.

The minutes of the November 15, 2001, meeting were approved as mailed.

The first item on the agenda was to discuss and take action to amend the current city ordinance in regards to the Dangerous Wild Animal Law. According to Asem Eltiar, HB 1362 added subchapter E which implemented a list of animals that will be included in this law. Tony Neitzler states that our amendment to the ordinance will cover us if the state makes any additions to the list of animals prohibited. Questions were asked if exemptions are made to cover the zoo, Mr. Eltiar said yes. Ms. Roy made a motion to accept, Mrs. Scott second. All were in favor.

Discussion and action on amendment to City Code Chapter 6, Animals and Fowl, Article II, Division 3: Dangerous Dogs was the second item on the agenda. Tony stated that directly after making the first amendment to the code we had to declare a couple of dogs dangerous. This raised question for some needed revisions. For these proposed revisions to City Code see hand out given at the meeting. Mr. Eltiar stated that these revisions would give us the ability to prosecute if the owner attempts to move or get rid of the dog. This allows us to keep the dog till they meet all the requirements. Charlotte stated this is necessary, it gives us the tools to remain in control of the situation. Dr. Callan asked, "Will most cases be resolved by euthanasia?" Charlotte said, "Yes." Dottie Scott declared a motion, Charlotte second. All were in favor.

The Superintendents report was the third item on the agenda. Charlotte informed the committee that the shelter has begun free dips early this year due to the onset of tick season coming earlier. In previous years free dips were every Wednesday, 3:00 PM to 4:30 PM, from May to August, this year we started at the first of April. Also, the shelter has been fortunate to be able to replace the ceiling tile and grid in the two big dog wings. We have replaced the lighting as well. Ms. Roy commented regarding how much it really brightens it up. It has been placed in next year's budget to complete the dog area by replacing the grid and tile in the puppy wing and in the foyer.

Heather Randolph provided the information for the fourth item, the 2002 Annual Adopt-A-Thon. It was presented that last year the shelter adopted 20 dogs and 8 cats. Rescue the Animals also took 1 dog and 8 cats. This year we hope to exceed that number, Pam Percival the media coordinator with the city has published several news releases and the

information has been placed on the city web sight. The Adopt-A-Thon will be held on May 4, 2002, at the shelter at 925 S. 25th. Unlike previous years we will not be having a vendor fair but the hours will be extended till 3:00 PM.

The fifth item discusses staff changes at the shelter. Charlotte informed the committee of several changes. Merrel Nichols, a 14 year Animal Control Officer, will retire and to take his place we are transferring James Prescott from traffic. Also, Samantha Freeman, the Data Entry Clerk, has moved to Sherman and to replace her Christi Tucker has been hired. Lastly, Sara Loven, Shelter Attendant, has put in notice for June, that she will be moving back to Denver.

Last on the agenda is Christmas for Animals 2001. Christmas for Animals ran December 10-21, 2001, and during that time we were able to adopt out 69 dogs and 29 cats. Rescue the Animals helped by taking 1 dog and 4 cats, and 4 dog adoptions were made through the humane society.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:51 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jack K. Callan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

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

Date minutes approved: _____