

Abilene Animal Control Advisory Committee

April 6, 2006

The Abilene Animal Control Advisory Committee held its first meeting of the year on April 7, 2006 at the Planning and Development conference room.

The Chairman, Dr. Jack Callan, called the meeting to order at 3:33 P.M.

Members present were Dr. Jack Callan, Alvin O'Dell, Leah Herron and Megan Santee. Also present were Lesli Andrews and Christy Frost. Tom Rigsby entered the meeting at 3:40 pm.

The minutes of the December 8, 2005 meeting were approved as mailed.

The Manager's report was the first item on the agenda. Alvin presented the Customer Service Report for March 2006. The first positive rabies case of the year inside the city limits has been received. A skunk entered a backyard and attacked the resident's dog. The dog was surrendered by the owner and put down when the skunk came back positive.

A discussion was opened on the DVM Board rule requiring animals released from a shelter and spayed or neutered by microchipped or tattooed. Alvin presented the revised adoption agreement that now includes a statement telling adopters about the rule and that the adoption fee did not cover this requirement and would be an additional expense to the owner at the time of the spay or neuter.

Alvin reported some the pros and cons of the shelter website. The shelter has recently had some technical problems with equipment, but those have been resolved. There was some discussion on the Rescue the Animal website; some people believe the "Shelter Animals" pictures on the RTA website is actually a link the shelter's pictures, but are actually pictures taken by RTA on a weekly basis. Dr. Callan inquired on the number of hits the website receives and Alvin will get with Scott Hughes in IT and see if that number can be acquired.

Leah Herron and Alvin attended a forum on the various councils and boards associated with some departments in the City of Abilene. Leah reported that the attendance was low, but she was happy to have participated.

Alvin reported on a new Animal Issues board that will have to be organized to fulfill the requirements of Gov. Perry for emergency planning. Alvin explained that the suggested participates could and/or should include a large number of people. There will be more information and coordination explained at the meeting Alvin will attend on Tuesday, April 11, 2006 at City Hall.

Alvin reported that the new pickup and flatbed trailer are now in used at the shelter and two new field trucks with new transport bodies should be ordered this year.

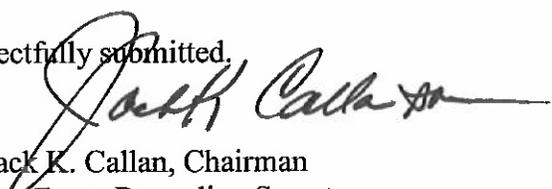
Facility improvements this year have included painting of the rabies quarantine area; this improvement was required to pass state inspection by the Texas Department of Health. Alvin also reported that it was hoped we can expand the entrance of the shelter to provide more reception room. A new roof for the shelter has been approved and will hopefully be completed in the near future.

At the December 6, 2005 meeting Thaddeus Iwuji had opened discussion of drafting by-laws for the Advisory Board. Alvin asked Megan Santee if Thaddeus had mentioned or forwarded any information on this. Megan said he had not, but she would talk to Thaddeus and draft a set of by-laws to be presented for adoption at the next meeting.

Alvin reported that Ron Piland, A.J. Garcia and Cole Edmondson will attend the East Texas Conference of the Texas Animal Control Association in Tyler on April 9-11. Joe Helm will be presenting a class on animal cruelty for the conference.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:19 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,


Dr. Jack K. Callan, Chairman
Christy Frost, Recording Secretary

Date minutes approved: 4-10-06