

## Animal Services Advisory Board

May 19, 2011

The Abilene Animal Control Advisory Committee held a regular meeting on May 19, 2011 in the basement Conference room in City Hall.

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

Members present were Dr. Jack Callan, Aaron Vannoy and Tom Rigsby. Also present were Melissa O'Neill, representative from Taylor-Jones Humane Society, Theresa James, City of Abilene Attorney and Christy Frost, recording secretary.

The minutes of the February 24, 2011 meeting were presented by the chairman, Dr. Callan, and approved by acclimation. There were no additions or corrections suggested.

Aaron presented the Manager's report:

1. Animals received into the shelter have been increasing steadily as normal for this time of year.
2. Records indicate euthanasia rates for time and space have decreased due to more accurate record keeping and increased space. Unfortunately, euthanasia rates for owner surrenders have increased due to large numbers of puppies and kittens being turned in and an increase of sick animals being turned in.
3. Bites have shown a increase, normal for the season when more people are outside.
4. The number of citations issued has remained fairly stable.

Animal Services has began a more aggressive adoption campaign by attending several adoption events with great success. Events attended have been the North Shore Adoption League event at PetsMart, the monthly PetsMart event and Barkapalooza at Camp Barkley. An increase in the budget request for staff salaries has been submitted to allow for greater participation in events next year.

The kennel "B" floor remediation is complete. The surface is high quality and is expected to be serviceable for many years. The satisfaction level with the product is so high plans are to use this product in other projects in the future.

A grant request was submitted to the Community Foundation of Abilene for funding for a dog bit prevention education program. The grant was denied, but one member of the committee was impressed by the program and found funding from another source. The funding allowed the purchase of a prevention program, curriculum guide, workbooks and DVD projector. The program is geared toward 4-13 year olds and is child led. The funding will also provide the resources to make a PSA using the city's media department promoting the "Stand like a tree" response to unknown dogs. Data will be studied to determine if the programs have reduced the number of bites in the targeted areas and will hopefully lead to additional funding for this type of program to reach more children.

The revised animal ordinance will be submitted to the citizen committee in the near future for review and additional recommendations. Public input will then be solicited in some form. The ordinance will then be presented to the City Council in late June or early July.

With all business be concluded, the Dr. Callan made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Tom Rigsby and adjourned at 3:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Jack Callan, Chairman  
Christy Frost, Recording Secretary

Date minutes approved:

Respectfully submitted.

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

Date minutes approved: 4/14/08

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