

## Animal Services Advisory Board

August 28, 2014

The Abilene Animal Services Advisory Board held a regular meeting on August 28, 2014 in the Public Works Conference room in City Hall.

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

Members present were: Aaron Vannoy, Dr. Callan and Megan Santee. Also present were Charla Thomas, legal representative, Melissa O'Neill, Taylor/Jones Humane Society and Christy Frost, recording secretary. Absent members were Leah Herron and Tom Rigsby.

The minutes of the December 19, 2013 meeting were presented by the chairman, Dr. Callan. After review, Mr. Rigsby made the motion to accept, seconded by Megan Santee, approved by acclimation.

Aaron presented the Manager's report comparing data from July 2013 and July 2014:

1. Live animal intakes decreased 50 from July 2013 and July 2014 .
2. Animals being reclaimed by the owners show an decrease, even though identified animals have increased.
3. Euthanasia numbers have decreased especially in the Time and Space category, while Sick and Injured have increased.
4. Adoption have decreased by from 2938 in July of 2013 to 2244 in July of 2014. Average length of stay is currently 11.5 days, with an average of 7.2 days before an animal is adopted.

The Don Faulkner Constr. has begun the addition of the southwest wing that was funded with CIP funds and an additional \$33,300 from Rescue the Animals. The original plans allowed for outside kennels only on the east side of the wing, RTA funds will allow for outside kennels on the west side also. A "Meet and Greet" room and dog wash area will also be included in the construction. This wing will be designated the "intake" wing where most new arrivals will be held to assess physical condition. Kennel partitions in this wing will be solid block walls which will help with preventing the spread of disease. Completion date is estimated to be November 1, 2014.

The revised ordinance should be presented to City Council by January, 2015. Some suggested changes include a limit on the number of animals allowed per household. Dr. Callan asked if there would be exceptions allowed for unweaned puppies and kittens, Aaron stated that was planned. New ordinance would not require the surrender of current animals, ordinance compliance would be allowed through attrition. An ordinance addressing chicken and rooster ownership, allowing humane live traps only and clarification of requirements for tethering dogs are also being proposed. Dr. Callan asked if council is likely to approve all changes as a whole, Aaron said he thought there would be some revisions and there is the possibility of only certain section being approved and added to the current ordinance.

The Fiscal Year 2015 has one more hearing scheduled before the City Council can approve. Animal Services is scheduled to receive funding for two additional employees; a shelter attendant and dispatcher. Vaccination funds have been requested to cover the expense of vaccinations given to all animal one year and younger. Current vaccinations are purchased from donation funds received.

During the Bond Committee meeting Aaron proposed bond funds to provide asbestos remediation throughout the shelter, repair of shelter foundation causing separation between walls and foundation and wall junctions and increased lighting in the kennel areas for staff and citizen safety and animals may be seen better by guests..

With no further business on the agenda, Dr. Callan adjourned the meeting at 4:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Dr. Jack Callan, Chairman  
Christy Frost, Recording Secretary

Date minutes approved: 10-23-14