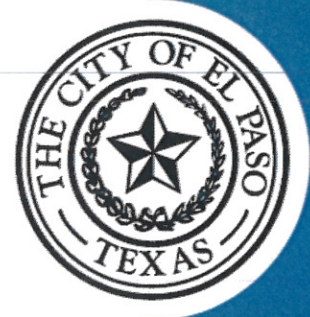




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**Animal Shelter Advisory Committee
Minutes
August 13, 2014**

1. A meeting of the Animal Shelter Advisory Committee was held at the Conference Room at the Animal Services Shelter and was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Dr. Roger Freund, Chairman.

Board Member A.S.A.C.	Present	Absent
Peggy Edman	X	
Dr. Roger Freund	X	
Patricia Gonzalez		X
Betty Hoover	X	
Linda Krasowski	X	
Marcia Margherio	X	
Robert Melson	X	
Rep. Ann Morgan-Lilly	X	
Regina Wagner		X

Environmental Services staff present: Dr, Marilyn Christensen, Luis Rios, Larry Brunt, Rose Janice, Maribel Karisch

Public present: List of attendees available upon request.

2. Discussion and action on the approval of ASAC July 9, 2014 minutes.

Committee members were asked if there were any questions or revisions.

Motion made by Robert Melson and seconded by Betty Hoover to accept the July 9, 2014 minutes.

Ayes: Peggy Edman, Betty Hoover, Robert Melson, Linda Krasowski, Dr. Roger Freund, Ann Morgan-Lilly, Marcia Margherio

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Oscar Leaser

City Council

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Ann Morgan Lilly

District 2

Larry Romero

District 3

Emma Acosta

District 4

Carl L. Robinson

District 5

Dr. Michiel R. Noe

District 6

Eddie Holguin Jr.

District 7

Lily Limón

District 8

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Interim City Manager

Sean P. McGlynn

Ellen A. Smyth, Director

Environmental Services Department

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Nays: None.

3. Discussion and action on Sub-committees' reports:

- a. Free Roaming Cats – Chairperson Regina Wagner was not present

Motion: No action taken.

- b. Public Education, Outreach and Responsible Pet Ownership Chairperson, Patricia Gonzalez was not present

Motion: No action taken.

4. Old Business

- a. Discussion and action on the status of the Lower Valley Spay & Neuter Clinic. Larry Brunt advised that a meeting will be held on Monday with Engineering and Finance. The purpose of the meeting is to get the bids started, costs settled and proceed with the project. Dr. Freund added that at one point we were looking at September and now we are looking at the end of the year. Larry Brunt advised that they have been held up by finance, but action should be evident in September.

Motion: No action taken.

- b. Discussion and action on the Educational Media Campaign.
Dr. Christensen mentioned that Kurt Fenstermacher said that he didn't expect to have this item repeated.

Motion: No action taken.

- c. Hand out of budget for discussion at July meeting. Dr. Christensen

advised that Kurt Fenstermacher has nothing new to report other than the proposal has not been passed. Dr. Freund asked whether the budget has been proposed yet.

Motion: No action taken.

- d. Rescue Group/Shelters to discuss their organization. Dawn from Great Dane Rescue. Dawn passed a pamphlet about what it is to live large. They are trying to educate everyone about what this breed is all about. Dawn mentioned that in 2002 they fostered for Animal Rescue League and then decided to make a difference in these dogs lives. In 2006 Great Dane Rescue received their 501 certificate and then in 2008 they took over a shelter with 22 dogs. Six years later, they still have six dogs that have not been adopted. In 2013 Great Dane Rescue decided to become a foster based rescue group. Out of 124 adoptions, 36 were Great Danes. Dawn added that they are doing what they can with Great Danes. She also mentioned that since the beginning of 2014, they have had 61 dogs and out of the 54 adoptions, 20 were Great Danes and 11 were Mastiffs. Dawn added that they are trying to do the best they can and save what they can. Great Dane Rescue presently has 33 dogs in their care with 7 being fostered by a family. She advised that she has a goal to raise \$10,000 to spay & neuter any dog at no charge on National Spay & Neuter Day 2015. Marcia Margherio asked about how many of Great Danes' adoptions are because of the internet. Dawn advised that most of them.

Motion: No action taken

- e. Status update on tracking tool Linda K. introduced and Dr. Freund accepted. Marcia Margherio asked about the tracking tool log that Linda Krasowski had introduced to the committee and commented that she hadn't heard anything. Dr. Freund explained that he's been tracking items in the old business section of the agenda and once an item is resolved, it will be removed. Linda Krasow-

ski added that the actual use of the tracking log isn't just to put the topics of the agenda, but to see where the committee is with an item, is it still an open item and what is due for the next meeting. Linda advised that the tracking tool should be included in the presentations every month. Peggy Edman explained that the log will be able to keep track of specific business such as the alcohol based sanitizer the log would track if anyone from Animal Services has done research on this item Dr. Freund added that he misunderstood and will be happy to start using the log.

Motion: No action taken

5. Discussion and recommendation on use of alcohol based hand sanitizer in Animal Services as recommended by standard guidelines for veterinarians and animal shelters. Linda Krasowski explained the importance of using alcohol based sanitizer because alcohol kills most all bacteria and many studies have shown it to be the most effective product for use in all healthcare facilities to prevent the spread of pathogens. Current use of quaternary ammonium compounds and the origin of their purchase were discussed. The product is less effective and has risk factors associated with it. Bob Melson asked what the practical use of an alcohol hand sanitizer in the shelter was, and Linda Krasowski explained the process of hand hygiene as the most effective way to prevent transmission of pathogenic organisms from the Animal Services staff to the animals in residence. Use of an alcohol based hand sanitizer is very effective in infection prevention. Dispensers for the sanitizer are supplied by the product manufacturer at no additional expense. Ms. Krasowski asked that the shelter discontinue use of the quaternary ammonium compound sanitizer and replace it with alcohol based hand sanitizer. She advised that studies have shown that sanitizers can cause asthma, resistance to organisms because the ones that aren't killed on the hands can become resistant. The sanitizer can also cause allergic reactions, but she hasn't seen anyone. The only reason the non-alcohol sanitizers were used was because people claimed irritation by alcohol. She added that she had seen dermatitis by soaps being used, not alcohol. The alcohol based sanitizers are being used to disinfect in hospital and is CDC recommended and it's a cheap product. Linda Krasowski asked who was it that decided to buy the product that is currently used at Animal Services. Dr. Christensen replied that it was probably the purchasing committee and that no one at the shelter had any say in it. Linda also wants answers as to

what are the qualifications of the person(s) buying a product that is not CDC recommended. She added that it's a concern if the health department is using a product that is not CDC endorsed. Dr. Christensen added that she was one of the original founding people of the zoonotic committee that created the white paper and was adopted by CDC. She advised that when using sanitizers they won't go through anything organic or oil-based. She passed a copy of company stats to Linda Krasowski and explained that the bottom line is that when the company gets their stats, they tell us about the 99% kill rate, but their testing is done on non-porous substrates which are not what our hands are. Many pediatricians are recommending that children not use alcohol based sanitizer because they can be poisoned by it and teenagers are distilling it. She added that the sanitizer is put out there for public use and not the staff. It's not done in lieu of hand washing, but as a supplement for parents concerned for cleanliness. Dr. Christensen added that she has nothing against changing hand sanitizers. Linda Krasowski advised that the product currently being used is not a bad product and is good for other things however for hand sanitizers, alcohol is shown to be the most effective product. Bob Melson added that the alcohol is used in medical facilities where there's a need to reduce infection but what's the practical measure. Linda Krasowski explained that the main concern is to decrease the number of viable organisms that are on the hands, transmitted from one surface, animal or patient. The only way to do it is to get rid of the organisms from the hands. This is the way to catch disease.

Motion: Linda Krasowski made the motion that the committee recommend that Animal Services asks the procurement committee of whoever it is that buys this to investigate and consider purchasing the alcohol based hand sanitizer. Seconded by Marcia Margherio

Ayes: Dr. Freund, Betty Hover, Robert Melson, Ann Morgan-Lilly, Peggy Edman, Linda Krasowski, Marcia Margherio

6. Discussion on the follow up comprehensive review from the Nov. 2013 discussion on The 2006 No Kill document implementation results. Marcia Margherio mentioned that the committee should take a look at the progress and give a hand for doing some good obviously in 2014. The euthanasia rate for the last eight months in 2014 is at 55% and the

live release rate is at 32% which is pretty close to Mr. Rios's report. She added that in comparing 2014 to the past three years, there has been improvement. In 2011, the euthanasia rate was at 77%, in 2012, it was 76% and in 2013 it was 66%. There has been improvement in euthanasia. In considering the save rate, there is a lot of work that needs to be done. When communities talk about No-Kill, they look at the save rate percentage. A community needs to save 90% of animals to be No-Kill. She advised that once the animals are at the shelter, that not enough is being done to get them out. There has to be more concentration on increasing the save rate numbers, she added. Marcia also inquired about different data, such as what is working at Animal services so that it can continue, what's not, so that there can be a different approach. As far as the intakes, where are these animals coming in from, why are these animals being euthanized and what percentage, whether these animals are owner surrender, etc. Dr. Freund added that these are very good points and if there was data to confirm that out of 55%, half of those animals are owner surrenders and not just because these animals can't be adopted out, that's something to look at. Marcia also mentioned that there has to be a consideration of whether they are dogs or cats and how is that making a difference with the TNR program. She asked whether it was possible to get more specific data as far as the intakes and euthanasia. Dr. Christensen advised that it is possible, but there is not an option of breaking it down. Information on owner release euthanasia might be attainable and cat vs. dog should be easy to pull up. Marcia added that as far as the euthanasia rate, how are the shelter adoptions going to increase? By increasing return to owners, owner retentions, foster homes or transfers, she advised. She also added that more lives are saved by reducing the intakes than increasing adoptions. Marcia commented on a comment that Dr. Freund made in the July minutes. She expressed that on the thought of having to wait for 2-3 years to make improvements is depressing. Dr. Freund responded by saying that if we look back at previous years, it's a big difference. Something is being done now. Marcia added that ASAC needs to work with Animal Services to work up some kind of proposal to develop programs into services to reduce euthanasia and increase adoptions and not to push them out in the future. Dr. Freund added that he doesn't know that writing on a piece of paper and telling Animal Services that they need to reduce the euthanasia rate will decrease the euthanasia rate. Robert Melson added that there has to be a plan or goal to be achieved. Betty Hoover advised that Marcia Margherio bring a list of three items to next month's meeting. Peggy Edman added to include Animal Services to bring their ideas as well. Dr. Christensen agreed. Dr. Freund advised Marcia to bring

three items for discussion to next month's meeting.

Motion: No action taken

7. Discussion on Animal Services Statistics. Marcia Margherio mentioned that according to the last two months, it seems that the euthanasia rate is inching up a little. Dr. Freund asked if there any questions. Marcia inquired about the adoptions, transfers and asked Betty Hoover for list of all rescue groups. Betty Hoover advised that she will get a revised list for next month's meeting. Linda Krasowski added that she would like for Dr. Christensen to give a monthly update of what is going on with Animal Services. Linda also asked about the update status of the infectious disease report. Dr. Christensen advised that it's number 18 from the list of reports that IT is currently working on. She also mentioned that the medical reports, that Dr. Page gets, are lined up. We were given the program ACCELA and it's a difficult program. The staff is currently entering sick or injured in ACCELA for those animals that can be visually determined. We still need to develop a section for reasons for euthanasia. Dr. Freund added that ACCELA was designed for properties and it is a very difficult program.

Motion: No action taken

8. Call to Public (30)
 - a. Dawn from Great Dane Rescue commented that she liked what Dr. Christensen had mentioned about the spay & neuter vouchers not being able to be given away even at \$70.00. She added that they won't be able to get rid of them even if there were \$30.00 or \$15.00. There's need to be money allocated to a van or clinic for free spaying and neutering. Larry Brunt added that Animal Services is having a difficult time getting rid of 188 vouchers with 90 of them being voided due to the recipient not wanting or unable to pay \$8.00 for a vaccine. Dawn mentioned that the spay and neuter van has been one of the best programs we have had. The van was conducting 20 to 25 surgeries a day and turning peoples away at 4 in the morning. She also mentioned rabies sweeps and added that 90% of owner surrenders were not current with vaccinations. Betty Hoover with Humane Society

added that she's had 80%-85% of owner surrenders that were not current. Dr. Christensen advised that Animal Services offered a \$24.00 micro- chipping clinic in June. This included microchip, vaccination and registration for \$24.00. She added that 300 animals were micro-chipped, vaccinated and registered and would like to have this done once a month.

Motion: No action taken

9. Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:30 P.M. by Robert Melson and seconded by Betty Hoover.

Prepared by: Maribel Karisch

Approved A.S.A.C Chairperson _____