



Municipality of Anchorage  
**Animal Control Advisory Board**  
Meeting Minutes  
September 26, 2024



1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Cathy Foerster

**Members Present:**

Pamela Schamber, Raylene Griffith, Cathy Foerster, Matthew Hall and Timothy Ebben

**Members Absent:**

Sandy Potter and Jessie Janowski

**Staff Present:**

Tamiah Liebersbach, Debbie Burks – AHD

Melissa Summerfield, Logan Robinson, Joel Jorgensen, Eric Jonsen, Bernard Chastain—ALPS.

2. **Minutes from Aug 22, 2024:**

Minutes reviewed, approved.

3. **Requested Presentations:**

None.

4. **Persons to be Heard:**

None.

5. **Standing Reports:**

**Anchorage Animal Care Control (AACC) Monthly Report and Public Outreach**

**Melissa Summerfield Reported:**

- AACC has been busy as Summer is wrapping up.
- Cruelty cases are moving forward. There have been several court dates over the past month.
- We currently have two dogs under protective custody. We have sent the updated cost of care to the owner's attorney, informing them of the financial obligation. Our hope is that this will encourage the owner to release the dogs to us, allowing us to move forward.

- Unfortunately, we are currently dealing with a couple of hoarding cases. One case in particular required a previous response, and we will be going back out next week. We anticipate bringing in anywhere from 15 to 30 cats from that property. However, thanks to our recent cat adoption event, where 27 cats were successfully adopted, we now have the space at the shelter to manage this intake.

## **Bernard Chastain – New Security Director for Denali Universal Services (DUS)**

### **Introduction:**

- Hired as the new Security Director for DUS in early June.
- Retired from the state troopers after 26 years of service, finishing career as a colonel in the wildlife division. Has extensive experience in law enforcement across various parts of the state.
- The AACC contract with DUS is one of several security-related contracts Mr. Chastain manages.

### **Joel Jorgensen Reported:**

- Approved by the warden to participate in the prison program in Seward for dogs needing more work on behavioral issues.
- Working to connect with the Fairbanks Animal Shelter and the Seward Animal Shelter to extend network.

## **6. Committee Reports:**

### **Title 17: Sgt. Matthew Hall Reported:**

- Considering changing Title 17 language to require facility licenses for veterinary clinic who are boarding animals for other than medical care.

## **7. AHD Staff Reports:**

### **Tamiah Liebersbach - Reported:**

- Board Openings: ACAB still has two open board seats.
- Update on the weather safety tool. The Assembly Information Memorandum (AIM) was presented to the assembly this week and was approved without any discussion or questions.
- Working with our civil legal team on the horse case and will proceed with a civil lawsuit to recover the cost of care for the horses. This will allow us to test the ability to use state law as a municipality.
- The mayor's municipal budget will be released at the start of October.
- Will be applying for a grant through the ASPCA for spay/neuter and vaccination funding.

## **8. Old Business:**

None.

**9. New Business:**

None.

**10. Persons to be Heard on Meeting Topics:**

**Samantha Fierro** – Volunteer - Clear Creek Cat Rescue

- I am a volunteer for Clear Creek Cat Rescue. So not only am I here because I do a lot for Clear Creek Cat Rescue, but I also trap and rescue a lot of cats in the community. And I've been starting to work with you guys a little bit more.
- We trap feral cats. We have the barn program. We've been placing barn cats like crazy this summer.
- We operate from Houston all the way down to Homer.

**11. Informational Items:**

- a. The next Title 17 Review Committee meeting will be held Thursday, October 10, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at Anchorage Animal Care and Control.
- b. The next Animal Control Advisory Board meeting will be held Thursday, October 24, 2024, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Anchorage Animal Care and Control.

**12. Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn. Adjourned at 6:40 p.m.