

**THE GOVERNING BOARD
OF THE JOINT POWERS AGENCY OF THE
STANISLAUS ANIMAL SERVICES AGENCY (SASA)**
Meeting Minutes

Regular Meeting

Thursday

August 20, 2020

Members Present:

Tom Westbrook, City of Ceres - Chair
Jody Hayes, Stanislaus County
Joe Lopez, City of Modesto
Ken Irwin, City of Patterson
Michael Pitcock, City of Waterford
Merry Mayhew, City of Hughson

Staff Present:

Annette Patton, Executive Director
Martha Ruano, Business Manager
Daniel Solish, Deputy County Counsel

Jewel Warr, - Stanislaus Co. Alt
Kashmir Gill, Auditor Controller
Adrienne Rios, Confidential

Guests and Dignitaries:

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m. by Tom Westbrook, Chair.
2. **Roll call:** See above
3. **Presentation:** Annette presented the agency's annual report for fiscal year 2019-2020.
4. **Public Comment:**

Susan Wallace discussed concerns related to a legal case involving the dog Turbo and the shelter's coding system upon animal intake, protocol when taking animals out to the shelter's play yard, and the process of Turbo's euthanasia.

Michael Christian shared concern of the agency's Brown Act compliance and the timely posting of meeting agendas. He also shared his experience and interactions with shelter staff. Expressed his support of extending shelter hours to be open 7 days a week.

August Farley suggested the agency share where pet food is being donated by posting the information on the agency's website to assist community needing pet food. Spoke about the evacuation in the Diablo Grande area, the possibility of an influx of animal intake at the shelter and encouraged coordination of local agencies to assist if possible. Ms. Farley also encouraged the community to seek out other resources prior to considering owner requested euthanasia. She also expressed concerns with the agency's current fees and fines.

Caryn Fugatt applauded the agency's efforts and success on the increase of live release rates of shelter animals. Ms. Fugatt spoke to the legal case involving Turbo the dog and the events surrounding the outcome of the case.

Nadia Borisova expressed her concerns involving the legal case of Turbo the dog. Recommended more outreach and promotion of shelter animals with medical and behavioral issues. She also mentioned the establishment of the Turbo Memorial fund in which funds raised will help animals needing additional attention.

Barb Hedberg spoke about the legal case involving Turbo.

Nancy Klein commented on the intended use and importance of the web rescue tool. Productive intake regarding owner surrender new appointment online system. Requested to increase the amount of days the shelter works with rescues from 5 days to 6 days per week to reduce the amount of time animals spend at the shelter. Need to offer rescues availability on Sundays.

5. Minutes of Previous Meeting:

- A. Approval of the Agency Board Meeting Minutes of June 18, 2020.
(Patterson/Waterford – 6/0)

6. Correspondence: None

7. New Business:

- A. Acceptance of the 2018-2019 Stanislaus Animal Services Financial Statements. (Waterford/Patterson - 6/0)
- B. Approve the True-Up of Fiscal Year 2019-2020. (Stanislaus County/Waterford – 6/0)
- C. Authorize the Executive Director to Negotiate and Execute an Amendment to the Promissory Note and Defer a portion of the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Debt Service Payment for the Thomas W. Mayfield Regional Animal Services Center. Proposal for City of Modesto to skip the 2020-2021 Debt Service payment in the amount of \$170,000. The impact to City of Modesto would be an increase to the outstanding principal balance of \$2.7 to \$2.8 million due to the loss of interest Stanislaus County will incur. Promissory Note was structured with fixed payments by each of the partners, however, the interest rate varies each fiscal year leaving a balloon payment at the end of the loan. (Waterford/Stanislaus County 6/0)
- D. Annette provided an overview of the agency's progress of the assessment performed by Maddie's Shelter Medicine Program, University of Florida.

8. Committee Reports: None

9. Informational:

- A. Financial Update: The board had no questions or comments regarding July's financial report.
- B. Operations update, July 2020: The board had no questions or comments regarding this report.
- C. Executive Director Report: Annette provided an update on the agency's efforts to become a Tier 3 County to expand live release rates and will model Los Angeles County's approach. Ms. Patton expressed plans to seek a sponsor for a microchip program. She also discussed disaster planning and coordination with Red Cross offering clarification on the formal process in which the agency can offer assistance during a disaster.

10. Member Referrals: None

Adjourned Regular Meeting at 11:28 a.m.

ATTESTED: ADRIENNE RIOS, Clerk
of the Governing Board
of the Joint Powers Agency
of the Stanislaus Animal Services Agency
State of California