

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

**Regular Meeting**

**Thursday**

**January 21, 2021**

**Members Present:**

Tom Westbrook, City of Ceres, Chair  
Jody Hayes, Stanislaus County - Absent  
Joe Lopez, City of Modesto - Left at 9:53 a.m.  
Merry Mayhew, City of Hughson  
Michael Pitcock, City of Waterford  
Ken Irwin, City of Patterson, Co-Chair – Left at 10:30 a.m.

**Staff Present:**

Annette Patton, Executive Director	Jewel Warr, - Stanislaus Co. Alt
Dennis Cordova, Operations Manager	Adrienne Rios, Confidential
Sweena Pannu, Deputy County Counsel	Monica Aleman, Business Mgr.

**Guests and Dignitaries:**

Melanie Scherer, Jessica Schleder.

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:01 a.m. by Chairman, Tom Westbrook.
2. **Roll call:** See above
3. **Public Comment:**

**Augusta Farley:** Fees and fines issue. Requesting the shelter draft policies and procedures on waiving fees and fines for low-income citizens.

**Mike Christian:** Requested and urged for more Board oversight of shelter operations, policies and procedure, and protocol.

**Nadia Borisova:** Red listed dogs in danger of euthanasia, which usually include senior dogs, dogs with medical concerns, and large breeds. Requested the shelter improve animal intake process, amend the color-coding system to allow adjustments, perform quality behavioral assessments.

**Nancy Hudspeth:** Expressed concerns with color coding system miscoding shelter animals based on their initial behavior upon arrival to the shelter. Is in support of getting quality photos and videos of shelter animals and leveraging volunteer help in this area.

**Mindy:** Submitted a request for the number of deceased animals' intake from 2017 – current back in December 2020 and has yet to receive a response.

**Nancy Klein:** Expressed that rescue volunteers receive minimal support from shelter staff for dogs on the red and yellow list. Mentioned that better communication is needed for community outreach and the shelter's monthly promotions.

**4. Minutes of Previous Meeting:**

- A. Approved the Agency Board Meeting Minutes of December 17, 2020. (Waterford/Patterson; 5/1)

**5. Correspondence:** None.

**6. New Business:**

- A. Recognition for Volunteer Laurie Daily-Johnston Annette recognized Ms. Laurie Daily-Johnston for her long-time contributions to animal welfare.
- B. Presentation by Jessica Schleder from Adoptimize and Discussion – Adoptimize is an application which automates animal photos and increases adoptions rates by improving the quality of animal pictures. Taking the shelter out of the shelter photo. Compatible with any other animal management system. Adoptimize only charges for positive outcomes. Goal is to get good photos online quickly of harder to adopt animals. There is also a free option in which Adoptimize collaborates with PAWP a telemedicine willing to sponsor SASA's adoptimize in exchange for opted in adopter contact information.
- C. Presentation by Melanie Scherer from SNIP and Discussion offers either free spay/neuter if the clinic is sponsored, if not, the fee is \$25. They also offer vaccines that cost \$11-\$20 each, which is dependent upon the location of the clinic and size of the donation, if applicable. Micro-chipping is \$20 - \$25. Seeking all cities within Stanislaus County to sponsor the low cost spay/neuter clinics. Proposed four 2-day clinics every five to six weeks \$3,500 per clinic for a total of \$14,000 (26-32 animals spayed/neutered each clinic; \$110 per animal). Proof of residency of a specific low-income zip codes. Provided an overview of SNIP's outreach efforts throughout different communities.
- D. Authorize the Executive Director to accept the Donation of a 2017 Ford Transit Van from the Best Friends Animal Society and to use this Van for the Agency's business needs. (Hughson/Stanislaus County; 5/1)
- E. Authorize the Executive Director to execute an Amendment to the Lease Agreement for Lander Veterinary Clinic for the Use of 3643 Cornucopia Way, extending the Lease period from March 1, 2018 to February 28, 2022. (Patterson/Waterford; 5/1)

**7. Committee Reports:** None.

**8. Informational:**

- A. Operations update: Dennis provided a high-level overview of the agency's monthly operational report.
- B. Financial update: Annette introduced Monica Aleman as SASA's new business manager. Ms. Patton informed the Board the number of issued dog licenses are lower than anticipated due to DocuPet's inability to perform canvassing during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- C. Executive Director Report: Annette shared the agency's focus for the upcoming year will be to increase pet reclaims ensuring more pets are returned to their owners. SASA is still recruiting for the County Veterinarian position. Ms. Patton mentioned the agency was featured in the Stanislaus magazine in the month of February for reaching a big milestone and clearing the shelter in 3 days at the onset of the pandemic.

**9. Member Referrals: None.**

**Adjourned Regular Meeting at 10:53 a.m.**

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