



Forsyth County Animal Services Advisory Board

May 19, 2022

6:00 - 7:30 PM
5570 Sturmer Park Circle
Winston-Salem, NC 27105

Priscilla Ivester, Chair
Chad Griffin, Vice Chair
Amy Pugh, DVM
Cristina Griffin
P.J. Lofland
Joseph Chrobak
Erin Turner
Rick Borucki
Bill Cowan
George Francisco

Members Present

Priscilla Ivester George Francisco
Bill Cowan Christina Griffin
Chad Griffin Joseph Chrobak

Rick Borucki
Amy Pugh
Erin Turner

PJ Lofland
Michelle Connelly

Staff Present

Capt. V. Loveland
Tonya Ward

CALL TO ORDER

- The Advisory Board meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm by Priscilla Ivester.
- Approval of meeting minutes March 17, 2022
MOTION: Chad Griffin made a motion to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Rick Borucki. Priscilla Ivester said she had something she wished to discuss regarding the minutes. She was concerned that a statement she had made regarding domestic animals being killed by coyotes was not included in the minutes. Captain Loveland pointed out that, without addresses where these incidents allegedly took place, FCSO cannot confirm that this is accurate. There was discussion of social media posts from individuals who stated this had happened. Captain Loveland reminded the Board to let anyone they come in contact with know they need to report things such as this to FCSO so that it is documented. There was discussion of a way to add her comment to the minutes and language was agreed upon. Priscilla Ivester then called for a motion to approve the amended minutes. Bill Cowan made the motion and it was seconded by Michelle Connelly. The amended minutes were approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- There was no public comment.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Statewide Rabies Database**
Chad Griffin said he has been trying to set up a meeting with Joyce Krawiec but she has been very busy. He said he would do his best to meet with her prior to the next Advisory Board meeting.

- ***Citizen Survey***

Bill Cowan brought up the survey and it was discussed. Captain Loveland said the survey had been presented to the Commissioners at their Winter Workshop. There was discussion of the numbers and small representative sample and the difficulty of submitting the survey online which may have caused less participation.

NEW BUSINESS

- ***Voting for Chair and Vice Chair***

There was discussion of voting being held in the past in May. Deputy County Manager Damon Sanders-Pratt was present. Both he and Captain Loveland discussed the merits of moving the vote until after new appointments are made, which would generally be the July meeting. This was regarded as a good option. Chad Griffin made a motion to approve this and it was seconded by Bill Cowan. The Board voted unanimously to move voting to after new appointments beginning at the July meeting.

- ***Open Board Positions***

The Board then discussed which positions would be open and which members could apply for re-appointment. There was discussion of whether there was a way to remove members who did not show up for meetings as this has happened in the past. Damon Sanders-Pratt said he is aware that the Commissioners are very careful about removing Board members from any board and perhaps the By-Laws could be amended to address this. Captain Loveland asked what method of notifying members would be best and Damon Sanders-Pratt replied that a certified letter might be best. There was discussion of the term "reasonable effort" to contact someone. Chad Griffin asked if there was a time line and there was discussion of the current By-Laws statement which mentions missing two meetings without notice. Bill Cowan said there also needs to be response time allowed after a letter is mailed. Captain Loveland said he would draft a letter.

- ***Amending Advisory Board By-Laws***

The previous topic continued into amending the By-Laws for open positions as well as other issues. Captain Loveland presented an updated copy of the By-Laws to the Board. Many of the changes were simply changing the previous designation of "Animal Control" to "Animal Services" and "Director" to "Division Commander" as well as documenting that Animal Services is a division of the Forsyth County Sheriff's Office. There were also a few wording changes regarding appeals, specifically the Dangerous Dog regulations which were approved by the Commissioners earlier this year. Chad Griffin made a motion that all of the changes be approved, it was seconded by Rick Borucki and the changes were approved unanimously.

- ***2022-2023 FCSO Fiscal Budget Request***

Captain Loveland spoke to the Board regarding the County Budget for Fiscal Year 2022-2023. He let them know that, after pet licensing was abolished earlier this year, there was discussion of the elimination of two positions at Animal Services. These consist of one full time and one part time position and were added after the contract with Datamax ended in 2020. He explained that he has compiled documentation justifying why Animal Services still requires these two positions, including entering rabies information and renewing participation in the NC Debt Setoff program to collect unpaid citation monies. Captain Loveland asked the Board if they would email or call the Commissioners to voice support for the positions being retained by Animal Services. There was discussion of when the budget meetings would be taking place.

- ***Rabies Clinics 2022***

The second 2022 Rabies Clinic will be held on Saturday, June 25th. This will be a drive-up clinic as has been done the past two years very successfully.

- ***Hearing Tribunals***

The docket and members for the Tribunal Hearings scheduled for June 16th were discussed. Chad Griffin, Bill Cowan, and Michelle Connelly said they were available.

- ***Officer Ride Along Opportunities***

Captain Loveland reminded the Board that, if they would like to ride along with an officer, the best days are during the middle of the week when more staff is available based on scheduling. Several Board members expressed interest.

ADJOURN

MOTION: With no further business Priscilla Ivester asked for a motion to adjourn. PJ Lofland made the motion, which was seconded by Chad Griffin. Priscilla Ivester adjourned the meeting at 6:54 pm.