



## Animal Campus Commission



### City of Cathedral City

Councilmember Stan Henry

### City of Coachella

Councilmember Steven Hernandez  
Noelia Chapa (Alternate)



### City of Desert Hot Springs

Councilmember Adam Sanchez

### City of Indian Wells

Mayor Mary Roche  
Vice-Chair



### City of La Quinta

Mayor Pro-Tem Kristy Franklin  
Chair

### City of Palm Desert

Frankie Riddle



### City of Rancho Mirage

Councilmember G. Dana Hobart

### County of Riverside

John J. Benoit, 4<sup>th</sup> District  
Marion Ashley, 5<sup>th</sup> District

### Animal Samaritans

Betty Maytag, President  
Ex-Officio



### County Staff

Carol-Ann Myers  
Interim Executive Assistant



# Coachella Valley Animal Campus

## COMMISSION MINUTES

THURSDAY, May 09, 2013

9:30 a.m.

Commission Meeting

Coachella Valley Animal Campus

72-050 Pet Land Place

Thousand Palms, CA 92276

### 1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Kristy Franklin, Mayor Pro-Tem, City of La Quinta called this meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

#### Members in Attendance:

Councilmember Stan Henry, City of Cathedral City  
Mayor Pro-Tem Kristy Franklin, City of La Quinta  
Mayor Mary Roche, City of Indian Wells  
Councilmember Dana Hobart, City of Rancho Mirage  
Betty Maytag, President Ex-Officio, Animal Samaritans  
Frankie Riddle, City of Palm Desert

#### Others in attendance:

Lieutenant Earl Moss, City of Cathedral City (**authorized to vote**)  
Noelia Chapa, City of Coachella (**authorized to vote**)  
Fred Saunders, Executive Director of Animal Samaritans  
Michelle Bergeron, Animal Samaritans  
Frankie Riddle, City of Palm Desert  
Janet McAfee, Loving All Animals  
Kim McWhorter, County Animal Services  
Rob Miller, County Animal Services  
Frank Corvino, County Animal Services  
Carol-Ann Myers, County Animal Services

### 2. FINALIZATION OF AGENDA

Agenda was approved as submitted.

### 3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

### 4. ANIMAL CAMPUS COMMISSION MEMBERS AND DIRECTOR COMMENTS

Councilmember Dana Hobart inquired about a Volunteer Coordinator position for the Coachella Valley Animal Campus. Per Rob Miller, County Animal Services is currently in contract negotiations with the City of Indio, if the contract is obtained it would hopefully lead to filling of a new Volunteer Coordinator position.

**72-050 Pet Land Place Thousand Palms, CA 92276**

# Coachella Valley Animal Campus

## 5. CORRESPONDENCE

None

## 6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Item 8 on March minutes- June event should be scheduled for Minutes: m/s Roche/ riddle

## 7. COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES-

John Welsh, Public Information Chief-

REARS, an emergency response team of certified volunteers, responded to the fire that took place in Banning where two horses were rescued.

Animal Control Staff found a young boy's missing service dog and returned it to the family. The person who had the dog was allegedly trying to sell it when it was found.

Four outreach journeys took place in Oasis and North shore where 80 spay/neuter surgeries and vaccinations took place. Photos of the outreach are available on County Animal Services' Facebook page.

Rob Miller-Director

DAS received over 1300 emails for the dog Banjo a poodle terrier mix that was left tied to railroad tracks in Mecca on April 2, 2013. Email inquiries stretched all the way to Puerto Rico and England. Banjo has not been adopted yet; however staff of Coachella Valley is currently reviewing emails in order to make a selection and staff is assisting with fostering Banjo.

Over 100 surgeries were done in the outreach that took place in Mountain View and surrounding desert cities. 200 animals were transported through the START program (Shelter Transport Animal Rescue Team) to the Pacific Northwest. START is a new organization about 2 years old that assists with adoption outreach and spay/neuter. The animals are primarily transported by land and typically smaller dogs are selected in order to be able to transport more as well as smaller dog breeds are not as common in the Pacific Northwest region.

Currently DAS is in negotiation with the City of Indio which will lead to the filling of critical positions. Also DAS is working with a non-profit organization to possibly start a capital campaign in order to raise money and build an Interactive Educational Center. DAS has engaged the Economic Development Agency for Riverside County and are moving forward with securing leased commercial space in order to build an offsite adoption center which will be operated by a non-profit organization.

Facilities: A fundraising campaign has not been started. All city contracts pay into an operations and maintenance fund that the Department maintains in order to maintain the facilities. Enough money is in this fund in order to start re-epoxying the kennel floors.

The Board of Supervisors has approved to move forward on drafting the Spay and Neuter Ordinance for pit-bull breed dogs.

**8. ANIMAL SAMARITANS & ADOPTION ALLIANCE UPDATE-**

Fred Saunders, Executive Director

Fred Saunders called on Michelle Bergeron to speak on behalf of the Adoption Alliance program. In March over 200 animals were rescued. The majority of these animals rescued were from orphan litters of puppies and kittens. Since 2011 over 3600 were rescued with a majority of them coming from the Thousands Palms Shelter. Fred Saunders and Michelle Bergeron recognized CVAC's staff for their assistance with the program.

Animal Samaritans shared photos with County Animal Control of "Capone"; a German shepherd who suffered head trauma and is now healed and with a German shepherd rescue in San Diego.

Betty Maytag, President Ex Officio-

Betty Maytag asked for a donation from each City in order to develop a reward system for those who report animal abuse. Betty Maytag believes this will be a strong incentive for those involved in animal cruelty to report such abuse. The reward system will allow for those who report to remain anonymous. Councilmember Stan Henry suggested partnering with Crime Stoppers, which is a program already in place that currently assists with reporting non-animal related crimes. Crime Stoppers can be utilized as an avenue to launch the idea of developing a reward system for those who report animal related crimes.

**9. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next meeting is July 11, 2013 at CVAG

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

Chairwoman Kristy Franklin, Mayor Pro-Tem, City of La Quinta adjourned the meeting at 10:38 a.m.