



Coachella Valley Animal Campus

MINUTES

Animal Campus Commission

City of Indian Wells

Councilmember Ty Peabody
Chairman
Mayor Dana Reed
(Alternate)

City of Desert Hot Springs

Councilmember Joe McKee

City of Cathedral City

Councilmember Mark Carnevale
Vice-Chairman
Mayor Stan Henry
(Alternate)

City of Coachella

Councilmember Betty Sanchez
Vacant (Alternate)

City of Indio

Councilmember Lupe Ramos Watson
Councilmember Elain Holmes
(Alternate)
Scott Trujillo
(City Representative)

City of La Quinta

Councilmember Steve Sanchez
Councilmember Kathleen
Fitzpatrick (Alternate)

City of Palm Desert

Councilmember Kathleen Kelly
Mayor Pro Tem Susan Marie
Weber (Alternate)

Palm Springs

Animal Shelter

Craig Ewing – Director of
Operations

Friends of Palm Springs

Animal Shelter

Tamara Hedges- President
Ex- Officio

City of Rancho Mirage

Mayor G. Dana Hobart
Mayor Pro Tem Ted Weill
(Alternate)

County of Riverside

V. Manuel Perez, 4th District
Victoria Llort, Legislative Assistant
Marion Ashley, 5th District

Animal Samaritans

Len D. Betz, President
Ex-Officio
Tom Snyder, CEO

County Staff

Laurie Dozier

Thursday – September 20, 2018

9:30 a.m.

Commission Meeting

Coachella Valley Animal Campus

72050 Pet Land Place

Thousand Palms, CA 92276

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The Animal Campus Commission Meeting was called to order on Thursday, September 20, 2018 at 9:30 a.m. at the Coachella Valley Animal Campus, 72050 Pet Land Place, Thousand Palms, CA 92276, by Chairman Ty Peabody, Councilmember with the City of Indian Wells.

A roll call was conducted by the **Chairman**, and it was determined that there was a quorum. The following were present:

Members in Attendance:

Ty Peabody, City of Indian Wells
Joe McKee, Councilmember, City of Desert Hot Springs
Mark Carnevale, Councilmember, City of Cathedral City
Scott Trujillo, City Representative, City of Indio
Victoria Llort, Board Assistant, Riverside County
Steve Sanchez, Councilmember, City of La Quinta

Others in attendance:

Frank Corvino, Deputy Director, County Animal Services
Michelle Bergeron, Animal Samaritans
Tamara Hedges, President, Friends of Palm Springs Animal Shelter
Laurie Dozier, Executive Assistant, County Animal Services

3. FINALIZATION OF AGENDA:

The agenda was approved as submitted.

4. APPROVAL OF May 2018 MINUTES:

Minutes approved as submitted McKee/Carnevale m/s.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Janet McAfee (Loving All Animals):

The "Spay-Ghetti & No Balls" Pasta Dinner & Silent Auction will be held November 1, 2018, from 5pm-8pm, at the Palm Springs Air Museum. The cost is \$65 per person.

Kim Hardee:

The CAN clinic is offering rabies vaccines for \$1.00 to senior citizens. Request made to the cities to assist with senior transportation if possible. If your city is available to assist, please contact Kim.

- 6. CORRESPONDENCE:** Received a letter appointing the Assistant to the City Manager, Scott Trujillo to vote on behalf of Lupe Ramos Watson, Councilmember, for the City of Indio. Received a letter stating the delegate and alternate from the City of Rancho Mirage will not be in attendance due to a city meeting

7. ANIMAL CAMPUS COMMISSION MEMBERS AND DIRECTOR COMMENTS:

• **Joe McKee, City of Desert Hot Springs:**

The new Desert Hot Springs Animal Care and Control is a short term shelter. Pets are being returned to their owners, fewer animals are entering the shelter, licensing is up, euthanasia is down, and services are being provided seven days a week. They owe a huge debt to the rescues for their success. They are in the process of trying out a foster program as well.

8. RIVERSIDE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SERVICES:

- **Robert Miller, Director:** Not in attendance.

• **Frank Corvino, Deputy Director:**

Strategic goals announced for the Department. We will reach a 90% live release rate by 2023, if not sooner. We will display our "Tree of Life" boards at each shelter location and update our totals on a quarterly basis. Live release rates have been 15-20% higher than the original goal with the help of Palm Palm Springs, Best Friends and Animal Samaritans. Cat impounds have decreased. Best Friends is focused on the entire county, including dogs. During the Cranston and Holy Fires, staff were mobilized in 24 hour shifts. We participated at the EOC and Command Center, assisting with evacuation efforts. The department budget broke even last year, but this year there is a 4% cut across the board. It is a fiscal fight each year.

- **Dr. Allan Drusys, Chief Veterinarian:** Not in attendance.

• **John Welsh, Public Information Officer:**

During the Cranston and Holy Fires, San Jacinto Valley Animal Campus took in over 400+ evacuated animals. Once displaced constituents were permitted to re-enter their homes, teams transported their pets from the San Jacinto shelter to Temescal High School to be reunited. Owners were extremely grateful to the Department for transporting their pets back and not requiring them to drive to San Jacinto to be reunited. During the Clear the Shelters event on August 18th, we adopted out 325 animals. A two day event was held on September 8th and 9th by Best Friends, and 168 animals were adopted out. On September 23rd, a program with Hal Eisner will air on Fox11 News and Channel 13. Mr. Welsh is a featured guest discussing puppy mills and breeder bans. New legislation requires pet shops to only adopt out animals from rescues or shelters. John will distribute the link once it is available.

- 9. ANIMAL SAMARITANS (Tom Snyder, CEO):** Not in attendance.

10. PALM SPRINGS ANIMAL SHELTER (Director of Operations): Not in attendance.

Friends of Palm Springs Animal Shelter (Tamara Hedges, President):

Tamara is very excited about the Best Friends grant and the excellent work they have done. With the help of volunteers, the medical team of Palm Springs has exceeded their original goal of spay/neutering 1,200 cats, and completed 1,900 spay/neuters. They have committed to a new goal of 1,500 for this next year. This is made possible through grant money, TNR, Valley Wide Programs and encouraging people to adopt and not shop. Contract veterinarians are working on Saturdays as well.

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting is scheduled for November 8, 2018 at 9:30AM at the Coachella Valley Animal Campus: 72-050 Pet Land Place, Thousand Palms, CA 92276.

ADJOURNMENT The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.