



**REVISED**

BOARD OF ANIMAL SERVICES COMMISSIONERS  
CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
Tuesday, June 12, 2012  
10:00 A.M.

**Los Angeles City Hall  
200 North Spring Street  
Room 1060  
Los Angeles, California 90012**

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JIM JENSVOLD  
TARIQ A. KHERO  
LISA McCURDY  
KATHLEEN RIORDAN  
ALANA YAÑEZ

Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability, you are advised to make your request at least 72 hours prior to the meeting you wish to attend. For information please call (213) 482-9501.

Si require servicios de traduccion, favor de notificar la oficina con 24 horas por anticipado.

**COMMISSION MEETING**

**1. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD** - (Comments from the public on items of public interest within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction and on items not on the Agenda.)

**Public Comments:** The Brown Act prohibits the Board and staff from responding to the speakers' comments. Some of the matters raised in public comment may appear on a future agenda.

**2. COMMISSION BUSINESS**

- A. Election of Commission President and Vice President for 2012/2013
- B. Approval of the Minutes for the May 22, and June 12, 2012 Meetings

### **3. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- A. Information to the Board regarding the Hiring of a Veterinarian to Review and Monitor Circus Elephants

The Department will be hiring a veterinarian who is an elephant expert, utilizing no more than \$3,700 from the Animal Welfare Trust Fund, to inspect the elephants that are part of the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus.

### **4. GENERAL MANAGER RECOMMENDS FOR BOARD ACTION**

- A. Bequest from the Estate of Marie Elizabeth Tyner.

That the Board accept bequest of \$41,841.36, from the Estate of Marie Elizabeth Tyner on behalf of the Department of Animal Services (Department), subject to approval of the gift by the Mayor and City Council, and subject to minor changes in the amount as may be dispersed by the estate.

### **5. ORAL REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER**

Next Commission Meeting is scheduled for 10:00 A.M, July 24, 2012, at Los Angeles City Hall, Room 1060, 200 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, California 90012

**AGENDAS** - The Board of Animal Services Commissioners (Board) meets regularly every second (2<sup>nd</sup>) and fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) Tuesday of each month at 10:00 A.M. Regular Meetings are held at City Hall, 200 North Spring Street, Room 1060, in Los Angeles, CA 90012. The agendas for Board meetings contain a brief general description of those items to be considered at the meetings. Board Agendas are available at the Department of Animal Services (Department), Administrative Division, 221 North Figueroa Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Board Agendas may also be viewed on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Public Bulletin Board in City Hall East, 200 North Main Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Internet users may also access copies of present and prior agenda items, copies of the Board Calendar, MP-3 audio files of meetings as well as electronic copies of approved minutes on the Department's World Wide Web Home Page site at <http://www.laanimalservices.com/CommissionAgendas.htm>

Three (3) members of the Board constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Some items on the Agenda may be approved without any discussion.

The Board Secretary will announce the items to be considered by the Board. The Board will hear the presentation on the topic and gather additional information from Department Staff. Once presentations have finished, the Board President will ask if any Board Member or member of the public wishes to speak on one or more of these items. Each speaker called before the Commission will have one (1) minute to express their

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comments and concerns on matters placed on the agenda.

**PUBLIC INPUT AT BOARD MEETINGS – Public Participation on Agenda Items.**

Members of the public will have an opportunity to address the Board on agenda items after the item is called and before the Board takes action on the item, unless the opportunity for public participation on the item was previously provided to all interested members of the public at a public meeting of a Committee of the Board and the item has not substantially changed since the Committee heard the item. When speaking to an agenda item other than during Public Comment (see Public Comment below), the speaker shall limit his or her comments to the specific item under consideration (California Government Code, Section 54954.3).

**Public Comment.** The Board will provide an opportunity for public comment at every regular meeting of the Board. Members of the public may address the Board on any items within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board as part of Public Comment.

**Speaker Cards.** Members of the public wishing to speak are to fill out one speaker card for each agenda item on which they wish to speak and present it to the Board secretary before the item is called.

**Time Limit for Speakers.** Speakers addressing the Board will be limited to one (1) minute of speaking time for each agenda item except in public comment which is limited to three (3) minutes. The Chairperson, with the approval of a majority of the Board, may for good cause extend any speaker's time by increments of up to one (1) minute. Total speaker time on any agenda item will be limited to ten (10) minutes per item and fifteen (15) minutes for Public Comment, unless extended as above.

**Brown Act.** These rules shall be interpreted in a manner that is consistent with the Ralph M. Brown Act, California Government Code Section § 54950 et seq.

**STANDARDS OF CONDUCT.** Speakers are expected to behave in an orderly manner and to refrain from personal attacks or use of profanity or language that may incite violence.

All persons present at Board meetings are expected to behave in an orderly manner and to refrain from disrupting the meeting, interfering with the rights of others to address the Board and/or interfering with the conduct of business by the Board.

In the event that any speaker does not comply with the foregoing requirements, or if a speaker does not address the specific item under consideration, the speaker may be ruled out of order, their speaking time forfeited and the Chairperson may call upon the next speaker.

The Board, by majority vote, may order the removal from the meeting of any speaker or audience member continuing to behave in a disruptive manner after being warned by the Chairperson regarding their behavior. Section 403 of the California Penal Code states as follows: "Every person who, without authority of law, willfully disturbs or breaks up any assembly or meeting that is not unlawful in its character, other than an assembly or meeting referred to in Section 302 of the Penal Code or Section 18340 of the Elections Code, is guilty of a misdemeanor".

**VOTING AND DISPOSITION OF ITEMS** – Most items require a majority vote of the entire membership of the Board (3 members). When debate on an item is completed,

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the Board President will instruct the Secretary to "call the roll". Every member present must vote for or against each item; abstentions are not permitted unless there is a Conflict of Interest for which the Board member is obliged to abstain from voting. The Secretary will announce the votes on each item. Any member of the Board may move to "reconsider" any vote on any item on the agenda, except to adjourn, suspend the Rules, or where an intervening event has deprived the Board of jurisdiction, providing that said member originally voted on the prevailing side of the item. The motion to "reconsider" shall only be in order once during the meeting, and once during the next regular meeting. The member requesting reconsideration shall identify for all members present the Agenda number and subject matter previously voted upon. A motion to reconsider is not debatable and shall require an affirmative vote of three members of the Board.

When the Board has failed by sufficient votes to approve or reject an item, and has not lost jurisdiction over the matter, or has not caused it to be continued beyond the next regular meeting, the issue is again placed on the next agenda for the following meeting for the purpose of allowing the Board to again vote on the matter.

**BOARD OF  
ANIMAL SERVICES  
COMMISSIONERS**

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# City of Los Angeles

CALIFORNIA



**ANTONIO R. VILLARAIGOSA  
MAYOR**

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**BRENDA F. BARNETTE**  
GENERAL MANAGER

**JOHN D. CHAVEZ**  
ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER

**DR. JEREMY PRUPAS**  
CHIEF VETERINARIAN

## Report to the Board of Animal Services Commissioners

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**DATE:** July 9, 2012

**TO:** Board of Animal Services Commissioners

**FROM:** Brenda F. Barnette, General Manager

**SUBJECT: INFORMATION TO THE BOARD REGARDING THE HIRING OF A  
VETERINARIAN TO REVIEW AND MONITOR CIRCUS ELEPHANTS**

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### SUMMARY

The Department will be hiring a veterinarian who is an elephant expert, utilizing no more than \$3,700 from the Animal Welfare Trust Fund, to inspect the elephants that are part of the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus. Time is of the essence because the circus starts its seven-day engagement on July 11, 2012, the day after the July 10, 2012 Board meeting.

### BACKGROUND

In 2011, the Mayor met with Animal Services and People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) to discuss the condition of elephants in circuses. It was agreed that a veterinarian with elephant expertise inspect the elephants that were part of Ringling Bros. PETA paid for this medical expense. The Department subsequently committed to the Mayor to refine the inspection protocol and continue the inspection process in future years irrespective of outside funding.

This year, our Department tried to obtain the services of the same veterinarian, and asked another elephant expert, but neither was available. However, Philip K. Ensley, DVM, of Colorado was recommended by one of these veterinarians and he has agreed to participate.

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Dr. Ensley's Elephant Inspection Procedure Guidelines document is attached. This inspection is being performed on July 10, 2012, in the early morning.

The Department will pay for Dr. Ensley's flight, ground transportation, per diem and hotel. Billable hours are expected to be around 25 hours at \$75 per hour. Total costs are estimated at \$3700.

The General Manager is authorized to spend up to \$5000 in Animal Welfare Trust Funds. The Animal Welfare Trust Fund can be used to augment established programs other than those involving pet sterilization and may be used for services in support of those programs. The current balance is \$544,000.

Attachment

## **Elephant Inspection Procedure Guidelines and Tasks to be Accomplished**

1. Learn the elephants' loading time at prior performance venue, and subsequent transit time to Los Angeles.
2. Review a copy of each elephant's medical records for the previous two years prior to their arrival in Los Angeles.
3. Record unloading time in Los Angeles.
4. Observe unloading process in Los Angeles.
5. Record the names of each elephant, provided by the handlers, or a knowledgeable employee as they are unloaded, and which car they occupied during transit.
6. Inspect rail transport cars following the unloading process to include measuring the rail car space available for the elephants.
7. There should be competent video recording of the elephants' walking from rail cars to the venue location. The order of, or names of, the elephants as they are walked must be documented.
8. Observation of the elephants during "bedding down" procedures for the evening.
9. Inspection of the elephants at a time convenient for the elephants and handlers the following day should include a review of the elephants' current health certificates, having each elephant brought up to a rope line to inspect front and rear, and left and right sides to include each foot, sole, and nails.
10. Following the inspection and review of the medical records, videos, and conferring with the duty veterinarian, if travelling with the elephants, or the veterinary technician on duty, a determination can be made if any of the elephants are having medical problems that would preclude performing or would require a recommendation for limited performance activities.
11. View the first performance.
12. View the elephants while tethered for a two hour period during the evening following their first performance.
13. View two additional performances the following day.
14. Discuss observations and likely findings with Ms. Brenda Barnette.
15. Submit a timely final written report of observations and findings to Ms. Barnette.
16. The inspection procedure will require permission to make photographs.