



BOARD OF ANIMAL SERVICES COMMISSIONERS

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

Tuesday, August 10, 2010

10:00 A.M.

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

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Melanie Ramsayer, President

Irene Ponce, Vice-President

Tariq Khero

Kathleen Riordan

Ruthanne Secunda

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. COMMISSION BUSINESS**

- A. Annual Election of Commission Officers for 2010-2011
- B. Approval of the Commission Meeting Minutes for July 13 and July 27, 2010
- C. Oral Report by the Commissioners on Meetings and Events attended

**2. GENERAL MANAGER RECOMMENDS FOR BOARD ACTION**

- A. None

### **3. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- A. Fund Raising (**Continued from the February 9th, February 23rd, March 23rd, April 27th, and May 11, May 25 and June 22, July 13, and July 27, 2010, Commission Meetings**)

Discussion and input from the public on effective and efficient ideas for raising money to supplement funding for Department core responsibilities of greatest financial need, and direction to staff relative to ideas presented.

- B. Spay/Neuter Activity – Status Report on Implementation of Recommendations by the Spay and Neuter Advisory Committee.
- C. Report on Expenditures from the Animal Welfare Trust Fund 859 for the 2009-2010 Fiscal Year

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

### **5. 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.**

### **6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- A. Additions to, and prioritizing the list of pending reports and future agenda items.

### **7. ADJOURNMENT**

Next Commission Meeting is scheduled for 10:00 A.M., August 27, 2010, 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>

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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 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

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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, 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.



CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
**L A ANIMAL SERVICES**



Date: August 10, 2010  
To: Board of Animal Services Commissioners  
From: Kathleen J. Davis, Interim General Manager  
Subject: Spay/Neuter Activity – Status Report

The Spay/Neuter Advisory Committee, established by Council in connection with the landmark mandatory spay/neuter ordinance in the City, completed its Final Report on October 31, 2009. In the months leading up to completion of the Report, management staff from the Department of Animal Services benefited by participating in the deliberations of the Committee. Since that date, the Department has been able to make some progress in regard to the concerns and ideas raised in the Committee process.

Key activity in areas that were important elements of the Committee's recommendations is summarized below. Additional information and program expansion may be requested by the Board for further discussion at subsequent meetings.

"Pits and Pals" Spay/Neuter Community Days: Accomplished more than 1200 free spay/neuter surgeries to income-qualified pet owners in high intake zip codes. The costs were covered by donations. Our next day is scheduled for August 14, 2010.

Fourth City Spay/Neuter Clinic: The Spay/Neuter Clinic at the East Valley Animal Care Center, operated by Clinico, is now open. That leaves only North Central and West Valley animal care centers as public centers with clinics but without a full-time contract vendor doing spay/neuter surgeries. The Department is making alternative use of these facilities; see below.

North Central's Pre-Spay/Neuter Program: Relief Veterinarians (part time veterinarians who do not receive City benefits) work three days a week at North Central's clinic doing spay/neuter surgeries for pets in advance of their adoption. This lowers costs for spay/neuter and for transporting pets, and increases adoption rates as potential pet owners are able to take their new pets directly home. This pilot program started recently and if successful, we will ask to hire additional relief veterinarians.

In-house Spay/Neuter Surgeries on the Increase: For the first six months of this year, our full-time care center veterinary staff completed 1,046 spay/neuter surgeries, despite furloughs and a robust regular workload. The spay/neuter clinic at West Valley is being used to do in-house spay/neuter surgeries there.

Targeting the Pit Bull Population: Another pilot program approved by the Commission in July will launch in the Fall of 2010. The Heigl Foundation will partner with us to target pit bulls for spay/neuter surgery in high intake zip codes - the program may be called "Pits by Zips". The proposal includes a \$50,000 donation from the Heigl Foundation leveraged with \$30,000 from our spay/neuter fund to gain 1,000 pit bull spay/neuter surgeries. We are negotiating with Found Animals Foundation and COPS for a similar test program in the South LA area.

Media Outreach Promoting Spay/Neuter: Media outreach includes Channel 18, the largest television channel dedicated to Asian programming. Our staff and one of our veterinarians who is fluent in Mandarin are working with them on features about responsible pet ownership, including spay/neuter, and adoptions. Our adoption and spay/neuter messages are now seen regularly on five television channels, including Univision, and on two radio stations, including one in Spanish.

Community Education on Spay/Neuter: We have a prepared power point presentation as well as brochures and other collateral materials that our Officers use to promote spay/neuter at community meetings, currently an average of 3-4 meetings a month. Efforts to increase the numbers of these meetings are hampered by low staffing of officers due to retirements, attrition, and the hiring freeze. Re-instatement of the Reserve Animal Control Officer program tentatively slated to start in November ultimately could provide more resources in this area.

Breeder's Permit Fee: The fee is being increased to \$235. The change is pending an ordinance from the City Attorney.

Data Management of Spay/Neuter Statistics: We have launched a new on-line voucher distribution system that is a first phase of a program that will provide a database of information and management of veterinarian billing. The new application will provide statistics about who is receiving help, where the help is used, and how to improve the reach of the dollars in the program.