



BOARD OF ANIMAL SERVICES COMMISSIONERS
CITY OF LOS ANGELES

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
Tuesday, November 27, 2018
9:00 A.M.

LOS ANGELES CITY HALL, ROOM 1060
200 NORTH SPRING STREET
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

LARRY GROSS
President

OLIVIA E. GARCÍA
Vice-President

ALISA FINSTEN
JOSE SANDOVAL
ROGER WOLFSON

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) 482-9558.

Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de hacer pedido con 24 horas de anticipo al (213) 482-9558.

I. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS

1. **Dangerous Animal Case: DA 181221 SLA**

Appellant(s): Jovita Rivas

South Los Angeles Animal Services Center: Lieutenant John Cessna

Complaining Witness: Ricardo Mesquite

Dangerous Animal Case: DA 181384 WLA

Appellant(s): Elizabeth Gadzimugometovas

West Los Angeles Animal Services Center: Acting Lieutenant Yvonne Rodriguez

Complaining Witness: LAPD Officer S. Torres

II. REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING

- 1. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD** - (Comments from the public on items of public interest within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction that are not on the Agenda; two minutes per speaker.)

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. NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL COMMENTS** - (Discussion with Neighborhood Council representatives on Neighborhood Council Resolutions or Community Impact Statements filed with the City Clerk which relate to any agenda item listed or being considered on this agenda for the Board of Animal Services Commissioners)

3. COMMISSION BUSINESS

- A. Approval of Minutes for the Meeting of November 13, 2018 (Action Item; Public comment limited to one minute per speaker).

- 4. ORAL REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER** (Public comment limited to one minute per speaker).

- 5. COMMISSIONERS' ORAL REPORTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS** (Public comment limited to one minute per speaker).

6. BOARD REPORTS

- A. Discussion on the Use of Spay and Neuter Vouchers (Public comment limited to one minute per speaker).

- B. Discussion on Department of Animal Services Staffing Levels (Public comment limited to one minute per speaker).

7. ADJOURNMENT

Next Regular Meeting is scheduled for 7:00 P.M. December 11, 2018, at Ramona Hall, 4580 N. Figueroa Street, Los Angeles, California 90065.

AGENDAS - The Board of Animal Services Commissioners (Board) meets regularly every second (2nd) and fourth (4th) Tuesday of each month at 9:00 A.M. Regular Meetings are held at City Hall, 200 North Spring Street, Room 1060, in Los Angeles, CA 90012. Evening Meetings are held in various locations throughout the City, from 7:00 to approximately 9:30 P.M. 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, 6th Floor, Suite 600, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Board Agendas may also be viewed on the 2nd 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 comments and concerns on matters placed on the agenda. (For certain agenda items, speakers will have two (2) minutes.)

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 during general public comment period which is limited to two (2) minutes per speaker. (For certain agenda items, speakers will have two (2) minutes each.). 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.

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, 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**

LARRY GROSS
PRESIDENT

OLIVIA E. GARCIA
VICE PRESIDENT

COMMISSIONERS

ALISA FINSTEN

JOSE SANDOVAL

ROGER WOLFSON

City of Los Angeles

CALIFORNIA



ERIC GARCETTI
MAYOR

**DEPARTMENT OF
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ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER
Lifesaving

DR. JEREMY PRUPAS
CHIEF VETERINARIAN

NOTIFICATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPEAL HEARINGS

To Be Held:

Tuesday, November 27, 2018, at 9:00 A.M.

City Hall

200 North Spring Street, 10th Floor, Room 1060

Los Angeles, CA 90012

(Entrance on Main Street)

This serves as formal notice pursuant to Section § 53.18(q) 4 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) to the following parties and witnesses in the appeal(s) listed below:

- 1. Dangerous Animal Case: DA 181221 SLA**
Appellant(s): Jovita Rivas
South Los Angeles Animal Services Center: Lieutenant John Cessna
Complaining Witness: Ricardo Mesquite
- 2. Dangerous Animal Case: DA 181384 WLA**
Appellant(s): Elizabeth Gadzimugometovas
West Los Angeles Animal Services Center: Acting Lieutenant Yvonne Rodriguez
Complaining Witness: LAPD Officer S. Torres

These hearings will not be rescheduled, except for good cause.

As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and, upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services and activities. 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 additional information, please refer to the Board's "Rules and Procedures for Appeals", or contact the Department of Animal Services at (213) 482-9558, or visit the Department's website: <http://www.laanimalservices.com/>. Written statements are to be submitted to the Commission seven days prior and, if in excess of 50 pages, seven hard copies must be provided. You may submit your statement (50 pages or less) via email to: ani.commission@lacity.org.

Para información en español, llame al (213) 482-9558.

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AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Visit our website at www.LAAnimalServices.com



BOARD OF ANIMAL SERVICES COMMISSIONERS
CITY OF LOS ANGELES



MINUTES

TUESDAY, November 13, 2018 at 9:00 AM

LOS ANGELES CITY HALL, ROOM 1060
200 N. SPRING STREET
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

Audio MP-3 Recording is available at www.laanimalservices.com

Larry Gross, President
Olivia E. García, Vice President
Jose Sandoval
Alisa Finsten
Roger Wolfson

Meeting called to order at 9:13 a.m. Commissioners present were García, Gross and Sandoval. Also present from Los Angeles Animal Services (LAAS) was General Manager (GM) Brenda Barnette, Assistant General Manager (AGM), Tammy Watson, Commission Executive Assistant, LaTonya Dean and Assistant City Attorney (ACA) Dov Lesel.

Commissioner Gross opened the meeting, introduced staff and provided an overview of the meeting agenda.

I. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS

1. Dangerous Animal Case: DA 181301 EV

Appellant(s): Lindsey Mallon and Ammanda Belcich
East Valley Animal Services Center: Lieutenant Jose Gonzalez
Complaining Witness: Ana Rankin-Keyes and Dennis Keyes

The Board discussed the merits of the appeal, the evidence provided to the Hearing Examiner, and the grounds supporting the General Manager's determination. The Board found that the evidence supports the decision of the General Manager's determination.

Commissioner Gross made a motion to uphold the decision of the General Manager. **Commissioner García** seconded and the motion was approved by a vote of 3-0.

Ayes: García, Gross and Sandoval

Noes: None.

Absent: Finsten and Wolfson

Public Comment:
None.

2. Dangerous Animal Case: DA 183501 NC

Appellant(s): Kasey Brown
North Central Animal Services Center: Lieutenant Angela Hooks
Complaining Witness: Eulalia Mateo

The Board discussed the merits of the appeal, the evidence provided to the Hearing Examiner, and the grounds supporting the General Manager's determination.

Commissioner Gross made a motion to uphold the decision of the General Manager. **Commissioner García** seconded the motion and **Commissioner Sandoval** abstained. The motion passed by a vote of 2-1-0 as an abstention is considered an 'aye' vote for City Boards.

Ayes: Gross and García
Noes: None.
Abstain: Sandoval
Absent: Finsten and Wolfson

Public Comment:
None.

II. REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

2. NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL COMMENTS - (Discussion with Neighborhood Council representatives on Neighborhood Council Resolutions or Community Impact Statements filed with the City Clerk which relate to any agenda item listed or being considered on this agenda for the Board of Animal Services Commissioners)

Public Comment:
None.

3. COMMISSION BUSINESS

A. Approval of the Minutes for Meeting of October 23, 2018.

Public Comment:
None.

Commissioner Sandoval moved to approve the minutes of October 23, 2018. **Commissioner García** seconded and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote of 3-0.

Ayes: García, Gross and Sandoval
Noes: None.
Absent: Finsten and Wolfson

B. Approval of 2019 Board Meeting Schedule.

Public Comment:
None.

Commissioner Sandoval moved to approve the 2019 Board meeting schedule. **Commissioner García** seconded and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote of 3-0.

Ayes: García, Gross and Sandoval

Noes: None.

Absent: Finsten and Wolfson

4. ORAL REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

GM Barnette discussed the following:

- Staff has been working diligently on the budget packet. **GM Barnette** described the next steps in the budget submittal process.
- The Board approved a mutual aid agreement with Los Angeles County Animal Care and Control (County) and since the start of the Woolsey wildfire, LAAS has provided animal evacuation service.
- The help LAAS has received from the community has been amazing. There have been 214 animals fostered and 285 adoptions took place over the weekend to make space for the animals taken in (because of the fires). LAAS has received a large number of donations from the rescue community and the public. Some specific groups that made a huge impact through donations, fostering or pulls include Best Friends, Annenberg Petspace, Stray Cat Alliance, Stand up for Pits, Angel City Pit Bulls, L.A Rescue Now, Pet Adoption Fund, Hope for Paws, I Stand With My Pack, Rover Rescue, Vanderpump Dog Rescue and Kitten Rescue Los Angeles
- West Valley Animal Services Center is caring for 21 dogs, 2 horses, 2 goats and 18 cats as a result of the evacuations. While East Valley Animal Services Center is caring for 6 cats that were transported in a Mighty Mover and West Los Angeles Animal Services Center is taking care of 2 dogs and 16 chickens.
- LAAS is on standby in case the County needs our staff to go to their facilities to provide pet care. LAAS is currently tracking what services we are providing in the effort. **Commissioner Gross** asked if given the fact this (wildfires) has become the new norm and it is likely that staff will need to respond to events such as these in the future, if we can factor this into our budget request for additional staff. **GM Barnette** responded that we were definitely trying to show the needs we have and we are also trying to do as much as we can in this budget cycle such as fill the Animal Control Officer positions. Additionally, we have been studying what other cities are doing to see how that may assist us with our budget preparations. We definitely are making a push for more staffing.

Public Comment:
None.

5. COMMISSIONERS' ORAL REPORTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Commissioner Sandoval: Requested a report on the spay and neuter self affidavit forms. He wanted to know how many had been used and if staff had been trained to give them out the proper way.

Commissioner García: Passed

Commissioner Gross: Wanted to bring attention to an article that had recently came out in the Capital and Main newspaper, which focused on the work performed by Downtown Dogs Rescue. Also, on behalf of the Board he sent out his heartfelt concerns to all those impacted by the fires.

Public Comment:
None.

6. Board Reports

- A. Proposed Modifications to the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) Sections 53.15.2 and 53.17 – Address Requirements Relative to the Issuance of Licenses.

Commissioner Gross asked if safeguards would be put in place to ensure that there is not a misuse of these changes by breeders that may not want to be identified. He also asked if homeless individuals would be allowed to breed. **GM Barnette** responded that staff would be working with the City Attorney and could look into an addition that would state anyone using this type of address criteria must alter their dog and is not eligible for a breeders permit unless this will cause a potential liability. **ACA Lesel** stated that he would research to find out if a mandatory spay and neuter requirement could be added. He also noted other issues with the potential changes to the LAMC Code sections that would need to be addressed.

Public Comment:
None.

Commissioner García moved to approve the proposed modifications to Sections 53.15.2 and 53.17 of the LAMC that would allow homeless individuals the opportunity to meet alternative contact information requirements to obtain an animal license and authorize staff to submit proposed modifications to LAMC Sections 53.15.2 and 53.17 to the City council for consideration. **Commissioner Sandoval** seconded and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote of 3-0.

Ayes: García, Gross and Sandoval

Noes: None.

Absent: Finsten and Wolfson

7. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting ended at 10:26 a.m.