



BOARD OF ANIMAL SERVICES COMMISSIONERS
CITY OF LOS ANGELES

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
Tuesday, June 8, 2021
9:30 A.M.

Dial (669) 900-6833 to Join the Meeting and use Webinar ID No. 938 6815 2657 and then Press #. Press # again when prompted for participant ID.

LARRY GROSS
President

OLIVIA E. GARCÍA
Vice-President

JILL COHEN
ALISA FINSTEN
JOSE SANDOVAL

In conformity with the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20 (March 17, 2020) and due to concerns over COVID-19, the Board of Animal Services Commission meeting will be conducted entirely telephonically and using Zoom software.

Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To make your request please call (213) 482-9558. To ensure availability, you are advised to make your request at least 72 hours prior to the meeting you wish to attend.

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

Members of the public who wish to offer public comment to the Board of Animal Services Commission should call (669) 900-6833 and use Webinar ID No. 938 6815 2657 and then press #. Press # again when prompted for participant ID. Instructions on how to sign up for public comment will be given to listeners at the start of the meeting.

I. 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)

Note: The Brown Act prohibits the Board and staff from discussing a 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 May 25, 2021

- 4. ORAL REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER**

- 5. COMMISSIONERS' ORAL REPORTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- 6. BOARD REPORTS**

- A. Oral Report by Dr. Jeremy Prupas on Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease (Information Item; Public comment limited to one minute per speaker)
- B. Oral Report on the Expanded Opening of the Shelters (Information Item; Public comment limited to one minute per speaker)

- 7. ADJOURNMENT**

Next Regular Meeting is scheduled for 9:30 a.m., June 22, 2021

AGENDAS - The Board of Animal Services Commissioners (Board) meets regularly every second (2nd) and fourth (4th) Tuesday of each month at 9:30 A.M. For the duration of the COVID-19 emergency, the Board will meet telephonically and using Zoom software in conformity with the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20 (March 17, 2020). 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 <https://www.laanimalservices.com/about-us-2/commission/#three>

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. Each speaker will be granted a maximum of two minutes and the presiding officer reserves the ability to extend or limit the time depending on the circumstances of the meeting.

Notice to Paid Representatives. If you are compensated to monitor, attend, or speak at this meeting, City law may require you to register as a lobbyist and report your activity. See Los Angeles Municipal Code §§ 48.01 *et seq.* More information is available at ethics.lacity.org/lobbying. For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or ethics.commission@lacity.org.

Time Limit for Speakers. Speakers addressing the Board will be limited to one (1) minute of speaking time for each agenda item except during the general public comment period, which is limited to two (2) minutes per speaker (For certain agenda items, speakers will have two (2) minutes each).

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
CITY OF LOS ANGELES**



**MINUTES
TUESDAY, May 25, 2021 at 9:30 AM**

VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING

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

Larry Gross, President
Olivia E. García, Vice President
Jill Cohen
Alisa Finsten
Jose Sandoval

Meeting called to order at 9:32 a.m. Commissioners present were Gross, García, Cohen, Finsten, and Sandoval. Also present from Los Angeles Animal Services (LAAS) was Interim General Manager (GM) Dana Brown, Assistant General Manager (AGM) Curtis Watts, Assistant General Manager (AGM) Annette Ramirez, Board Secretary Francine Acuña, and Deputy City Attorney Steve Houchin.

Commissioner Gross opened the meeting, introduced staff, provided an overview of the meeting agenda, and provided instructions to the public on how to make public comments for this virtual meeting.

I. REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment was made by:

- **Daniel Guss**- commented about the SpayDay LA event and suggested the press releases be sent out days before the event.
- **Heather Michaels** - encouraged the Board to consider suggestions made by the community during the selection process for a new GM.
- **Michelle Kelly** - spoke about the RHD V2 disease affecting domestic rabbits and highly encourages the Department to inform adopters about this virus and the vaccine that is available.
- **Gail Raff** - suggested the Department advertises the Commission meetings on social media platforms and asked for an update on the STAR funds.

- 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 was made by:

- **Heather Michaels - Encino Neighborhood Council** - spoke about the community impact statement submitted in regards to the reopening of the West Valley shelter and asked for an update.

3. COMMISSION BUSINESS

A. Approval of the Minutes for Meeting of May 11, 2021.

Commissioner García moved to approve the minutes for the meeting of May 11, 2021.

Commissioner Cohen seconded and the motion was approved by a vote of 5-0.

Ayes: Gross, García, Cohen, Finsten, and Sandoval.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

Public Comment:
None

4. ORAL REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

Interim GM Dana Brown discussed the following:

- Pet Food Pantry was held on May 16 and May 23. On May 16, there were 215 pets served at Chesterfield Square and 169 pets served at East Valley for a total of 384 pets served. On May 23, there were 197 pets served at Chesterfield Square and 194 pets served at East Valley for a total of 391 pets served.
- Provided answers to questions raised from the last Commission meeting over the Beverly Hills contract. Animals picked up in Beverly Hills are included in our intake. From May 2020 until April 2021, there were 64 animals impounded and 407 calls for service.
- Beginning June 1, the Department will be expanding our public services and will increase our hours of operation from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and will be closed on Mondays. The number of appointments will increase and we will begin allowing meet and greet appointments.
- The paper will be removed from the West Valley shelter and our website will be updated so that the public is aware of our expanded services.
- The Department teamed up with Paws for Life, Best Friends, and several additional rescue partners for our first air transport of the season. 135 kittens and 25 dogs were transported to Washington and Iowa to find their forever homes.
- LA Spay Day was held yesterday (May 24) and went very well. Four segments

were held with KTLA. Doc Halligan spoke about the importance of spay/neuter, the resources and programs LAAS offers, and was able to showcase some cats and dogs that are available for adoption.

Public Comment was made by:

- **Heather Michaels** - thanked the Department for the pet food pantry and asked for a schedule of the pet food pantry dates.
- **Jeff Mausner** - asked when the volunteers will be able to return to the shelters.

5. COMMISSIONERS' ORAL REPORTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Commissioner Gross:

- Update on RHD V2 rabbit virus.
- Add key leaders contact information on the Department's website

Commissioner Cohen:

- None.

Commissioner Finsten:

- None.

Commissioner García:

- None.

Commissioner Sandoval:

- None.

Public Comment:
None

6. BOARD REPORTS

A. Woofstat Report for April 2021 (Information Item)

Interim GM Dana Brown discussed the April Woofstat Report.

Public Comment was made by:

- **Heather Michaels** - suggested the Department conduct home checks on people seeking breeder licenses and spoke about the accessibility of the spay/neuter vouchers.

B. Phone Report Update (Information Item)

AGM Annette Ramirez provided an update on the Department's phone system.

Public Comment was made by:

- **Only** - spoke about cat adoptions and the difficulty of getting an appointment.
- **Heather Michaels** - asked for an update on the Vet care program and plans for returning to the shelters.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 10:36 a.m.