

**CITY OF COSTA MESA
ANIMAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES: January 24, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER: The Animal Services Committee meeting was called to order by Chair Walls at 5:30 p.m. on January 24, 2024.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Becca Walls, Vice Chair Angela Minjares, Committee Members Lisa A. Harker, and Christina Poulos, Calvin Alvarez, Diana Gardiner, and Jennifer Tanaka.

Absent: None

Staff Present: Jessica Torrejon, Recreation Coordinator; D. Cattouse, Animal Control Supervisor; Lieutenant S. Selinske, Animal Services Manager

Liaisons Present: None

Let the record show that Committee Member Diana Gardiner and Calvin Alvarez arrived to the Committee meeting at 5:34 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chair Walls opened Public Comments.

Lisa Price introduced herself and Priceless Pet Rescue as the interim provider for the City's shelter services.

COMMITTEE MEMBER AND LIAISON COMMENTS

Animal Control Officer, Doris Cattouse introduced herself as the new Animal Control Supervisor and introduced Animal Control Officer Laura Reeker to the committee.

ACO Reeker introduced herself to the committee.

Lt. Selinske reintroduced herself to the committee.

Committee Member Calvin Alvarez introduced himself to the committee. Expressed excitement to be a part of the committee and is looking forward to provide the committee with input and a different perspective.

All other Committee members introduced themselves.

Chair Walls called Mayor Stephens at 5:33pm, to ask if he had any updates for the committee.

Mayor Stephens did not have any updates, but aside he would stay on the call for the remainder of the meeting.

1. APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 25,2023 2023 MEETING MINUTES

MOTION/SECOND: Chair Walls motioned to approve the October 25, 2023 meeting minutes. / Second by Vice Chair Angela. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Chair Walls, Vice Chair Minjares, Committee Members Gardiner, Poulos, Harker Alvarez, and Tanaka.

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion Carries: 7-0

2. OLD BUSINESS

- a. None

3. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Request for proposal for Animal Services Update

Ms. Torrejon presented the Animal Care Services Staff Report to the committee.

Ms. Cattouse updated the committee and informed the RFP is under review and expected to go to Council in March.

Ms. Torrejon provided an update on the ongoing RFP process. She informed the committee that shelter fees are currently pending the completion of the RFP as they need to be agreed upon by the provider and the City.

Chair Walls asked for shelter fees to be posted for the public when available on City website as well as on the Provider's website.

Lt. Selinske informed the Committee that fees cannot be posted until the RFP goes to Council and the fees are approved. A social media post will be created for those fees when they are available.

Committee Member Tanaka asked about Priceless Pet Rescues amendment contract. Asked about Newport Mesa Animal Hospital.

Ms. Torrejon informed Ms. Tanaka the City entered a temporary shelter services contract with Priceless Pets and they have an agreement with Newport Mesa Animal Hospital to assist them with some of their shelter medical services.

Committee member Poulos asked for clear explanation for what is needed to pick up a pet from the shelter.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Torrejon opened Public Comments.

Chair Walls closed Public comments after seeing no hands raised.

4. MONTHLY REPORTS

a. Animal Care Services Staff Report

Ms. Torrejon presented the Animal Care Services Staff Report to the committee.

Ms. Torrejon updated the Committee on the final transfer of all remaining shelter animals from Newport Center Animal Hospital to Priceless Pet Rescue. She informed the committee it went smoothly.

Ms. Torrejon informed the committee on the upcoming animal services event, Spring Bark Bash scheduled for April 13, 2024 at TeWinkle Park.

Ms. Cattouse updated the committee on the onboarding of new Animal Control personnel and that Animal Control Services are hoping to be extended to 7-days a week.

Lt. Selinske updated the committee about the department working on filling ACO Cattouse's animal control spot and the ongoing recruitment to fill the other position for Animal Services.

Vice Chair Minjares asked about the 23 impounded cats in the December stats.

Ms. Cattouse updated the committee that there was a house with cats that were abandoned and taken to shelter.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Walls adjourned the meeting at 5:56 p.m. Next meeting is scheduled for February 28, 2024, 5:30pm at the Norma Hertzog Community Center.