

Animal Shelter Board Meeting Minutes

10 Aug. 2021 @ 6:00 pm

Carter County Courthouse

The Animal Shelter Board met on 10 Aug. 2021 at the Carter County Courthouse

Chairman Mike Barnett asked for roll to be called. Members present was Chairman Mike Barnett, Dr. Bob Acuff, Sonja Culler, Mike Simerly, Wes Frazier. Members absent was Kelly Collins and Mayor Curt Alexander.

Chairman Mike Barnett asked for approval of minutes. Sonja Culler made a motion to accept minutes as presented for 13 July 2021. Motion was second by Dr. Bob Acuff. All members present voted Aye. Members absent from vote was Kelly Collins and Mayor Curt Alexander.

Chairman Mike Barnett made a motion to accept minutes as presented for the special called meeting held 27 July 2021. Motion was second by Sonja Culler. All present members voted Aye. Members absent was Kelly Collins and Mayor Curt Alexander.

Chairman Mike Barnett asked director Posada to give shelter updates. Director Shannon Posada gave some shelter numbers as followed:

July 2021

Cat intakes 63 and 4 Returned to Owner and 4 kittens returned from foster

Dog intakes 48 and 7 returned from foster 19 dogs Returned to Owner

Cats/ kittens adopted 47

Dogs/puppies adopted 35 plus 19 Returned to owner

Current shelter numbers

Cats/ kittens 125 & 12 in foster

Dogs/ puppies 54 including 7 on cruelty hold

ACO calls 48

Chairman Mike Barnett asked about concerns with Covid virus spreading, Covid cleaning and supplies. Director Posada stated she had ordered a cleaner from the veterinary supply company that the shelter staff uses daily for prevention of spreading the virus. Director Posada stated she has cat room cleaning staff and dog kennel & runs cleaning staff just in case of a possible exposure for staff members.

Chairman Mike Barnett asked if we had a sprayer like the other county offices. Commissioner Travis Hill stated he knew there had been money set aside for the backpack sprayers & cleaners. Mike Simerly said he would check with the city and city school system to see what may be available to help with spraying the shelter. Chairman Mike Barnett asked board members to agree to give shelter



Director Posada permission to close the shelter, alter hours of operation in the event of possible exposure or prevention of the virus. Chairman Mike Barnett asked for social media to be updated if the shelter altered hours or closed due to Covid. Sonja Culler stated no new plans have been adopted by the county as of yet.

Wes Frazier stated he has some people who would like to volunteer at the shelter but doesn't get off work until 5 pm daily. Board members discussed options to make the shelter available to those who wants to volunteer. Shelter director Posada agreed with the idea and said she would be happy to begin events to include volunteers who work later. Mike Simerly suggested a Live after 5 event to aid in volunteers being able to participate at the shelter. Chairman Mike Barnett asked for shelter staff to use caution on the side of the Covid virus spreading among staff and volunteers. Board members discussed ways to social distance and still volunteer.

Chairman Mike Barnett brought up discussion about budget issues. Chairman Mike Barnett explained his concerned about the shelter being in deficit of funding for much needed services. Chairman Mike Barnett explained his concern about the shelter being in deficit of funding for much needed services. Chairman Barnett stressed the concern of loosing employees due to lack of funding. Director Posada stated she is very concerned about loosing an employees due to lack of funding. Director Posada stated loosing employees would only be a trickle down effect. Director Posada said reducing employees would mean reducing intake numbers, care of animals, services, adoptions and collection of adoption fees due to reducing intake numbers. Several board members discussed the budget and prospects going forward. Dr. Bob Acuff stated the numbers Aaron Frazier presented at the budget meeting was not accurate. Dr. Bob Acuff stated on at least three occasions finance director Brad Burke had stated this year shelter budget was the lowest in three years minus ACO. Dr. Acuff stated to the board members that he would not tolerate any commissioner inappropriately speaking to any county employee. Director Posada stated this was the first meeting the shelter employee had attended in a while and was spoken to unprofessionally. Director Posada stated her staff had been put through a lot already. Chairman Mike Barnett said there is always causes and effects. Chairman Barnett stated the effects of not properly funding the shelter could be detrimental to our community in many different ways. Chairman Barnett stated the shelter can only maintain what the funding allows. Wes Frazier stated he had recently heard on the news of others shelters asking for help and supplies. Wes Frazier stated many are struggling. Director Posada stated several ways the shelter has participated in programs that has cut back on cost to the tax payers and free programs for the community. Director Posada stated a spay and neuter clinic at the shelter is the solution to solving the over population in which is costing increases.

Dr. Bob Acuff brought up the discussion of the donations to the shelter. Director Posada stated that she had asked Brad Burke for a report of the donation totals and a dollar amount had been transferred to the general fund. Director Posada also asked Brad Burke to provide the line items the donations are recorded. Several board members discussed the donations made to the shelter. Members agreed to see report from finance director and respond to the comptrollers office if necessary.

Board members had discussed budget in detail and made every attempt to find a way to keep all employees and cut the budget in other areas. The board members discussed so many different options and agreed the only

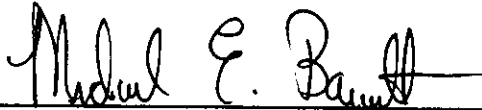
Logical option was to decrease employees. Sonja Culler stated she absolutely hated the thought of loosing any employees. All board members agreed with her. After much discussion, the only option to make up the dollar amount of money needed for the budget was to dismiss two full-time employees. Motion was made by Sonja Culler to dismiss two full-time employees. Motion was second by Chairman Mike Barnett. All present members voted Aye. Members absent was Kelly Collins and Mayor Curt Alexander.

Board members discussed employees to be dismissed. Board members agreed to dismiss employees upon performance and attendance due to funding being decreased. All board members was very disappointed in the decision that had to be made due to lack of funding.

Next meeting was scheduled 14 September 2021 @ 6pm.

Motion was made to adjourn by Mike Barnett

Approved
By _____

Handwritten signature of Michael E. Barnett in cursive script, written over a horizontal line.

