



Municipality of Anchorage  
**Animal Control Advisory Board**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**May 24, 2018**



1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 5:33 p.m. by Ms. Hamer. A quorum was present. The Chair welcomed Ashley Harmon to her first meeting.

**Members Present:** Allegra Hamer, Chair; Christine Roalofs, Vice Chair; Jennifer Spencer, Jay Jackson, Michelle Sinnott, Tim Ebben, Mitzi Bolanos; Ashley Harmon

**Members Absent:** Cathy Foerster

**Staff Present:** Michael Tierney, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS); Judy Atkins, DHHS; Myra Wilson, Animal Licensing and Placement Services (ALPS)

2. **Minutes from the April 26, 2018 Meeting:**  
Ms. Sinnott made a motion to approve the minutes. Motion was seconded by Ms. Jackson. The minutes were approved as written.
3. **Requested Presentations:** None.
4. **Persons to be Heard:** None.
5. **Standing Reports:**

**Anchorage Animal Care and Control (AACC) Monthly Report and Public Outreach**

Dr. Wilson reported on April 2018.

A total of 407 animals were received during April compared to 381 animals received during April 2017. The total number of animals received year-to-date as of the end of April is 1,356. The April cat claim rate was 18% and the cat adoption rate was 70%. The April dog claim rate was 77% and the dog adoption rate was 79%. During the month of April there were 472 dog licenses sold and the total number of dog licenses sold year-to-date was 1,792. The total number of requests for service during April was 487. The total number of requests for service was 1,485 year-to-date. There were 7 classifications made during April. The total number of Notice of Violations (NOVs) issued during April was 130 and a total of 317 for the year. There were 45 animal bites during April compared to 59 during April 2017. A total of 163 animal bites year-to-date. Dr. Wilson clarified this is only bites to humans and does not include animal-on-animal bites.

Ms. Jackson pointed out that when an animal bites a human or kills another animal and is classified the animal is required to be on a muzzle. She asked if that would apply to a cat and not just dogs. Dr. Wilson stated that while classifications are predominately dogs,

there is currently a cat at Animal Control that escaped from the owner's apartment and went into a neighboring apartment and killed two parakeets. If claimed the cat would be subject to all the restrictions of a classified animal, in this case a level four, and if the owner want to have the animal reclassified after the required minimum period of time, the animal would have to have completed obedience school. There has been only one other cat classified during Dr. Wilson tenure and that was a cat classified as a level one for continually chasing a dog. Any owner can appeal a classification decision.

No media requests for April 2018.

Outreach Events during April 2018:

- Held annual Pet Health Day (4/2/2018)
- Staffed a table at literacy event held on the UAA campus to promote Animal Shelter Reading program.

Shelter Tours and School Presentations during April 2018:

- Presented dog bite prevention to 100 students at Birchwood ABC Elementary in one day.
- Presented dog bite prevention to 154 students at Oceanview Elementary over two days.
- A total of 876 students for the month.
- Two shelter tours in April.

Facebook for 2018:

- Facebook Followers – 12,786 as of 4/30/2018.
- 18% engagement rate.
- Top posts for this month featured “thank you” from the public for Animal Control assisting APD and AFD in response to a fire, a kennel technician delivering donated cat toys, and staff member Myra with foster kittens.

## **6. Committee Reports:**

- a. Off-Leash Dog Area Committee – (Cathy Foerster)** – no report.
- b. Title 17 Review Committee – (Mitzi Bolanos)** – Awaiting legal review.

## **7. DHHS Staff Reports:**

Michael Tierney, DHHS Administration, said that he is pleased all nine board positions are filled and explained that term expiration dates are set so three members expire each year to. There is a very good mix of committee members. The Mushing License (AO 2917-87) which was approved last year is now codified in Title 17. Michael will use the updated Title 17 to present the new proposed changes and submit for legal review. He will be meeting with the Ombudsman to discuss animal classifications processes and procedures.

8. **Old Business:** none

9. **New Business:** none

10. **Informational Items:**

- a. Next Regular Meeting – The next regular board meeting will be held Thursday, June 28, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. in the classroom at the Animal Care and Control Center located at 4711 Elmore Road.

11. **Adjournment:** Ms. Harmon made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Mr. Ebben. With no objections the meeting adjourned at 6:02 p.m.