



Municipality of Anchorage
Animal Control Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
September 25, 2025



1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Raylene Griffith.

Board Members Present:

Raylene Griffith, Matt Hall, Tim Ebben, Samantha Fierro, Cathy Foerster, Sandy Potter and Pam Schamber

Board Members Absent:

None

Staff Present:

Valarie Clark and Debbie Burks – Anchorage Health Department (AHD)
Logan Robinson and Joel Jorgensen – Animal Licensing and Placement Services (ALPS).

2. **Minutes from August 28, 2025:**

Cathy Foerster moved to approve the minutes. Matthew Hall seconded. Motion carried.

3. **Requested Presentations:**

None

4. **Committee Reports :**

Title 17 - Sgt. Matthew Hall

- Title 17 Committee did not meet this month in preparation for public testimony on proposed changes to Titles 8 and 17 tonight.

5. **Standing Reports:**

Anchorage Animal Care Control (AACC) Monthly Reporting and Public Outreach

Logan Robinson, Assistant Shelter Manager & Joel Jorgenson, Outreach & Programs

- Anchorage Animal Care & Control is the largest animal shelter in Alaska and serves as a model for other communities.
- Programs such as Tails on Trails and regular dog playgroups improve animal behavior, make pets more adoptable, and reduce shelter stays. The Tails on Trails program continues to grow, with 50–100 new applications received in the past month. Participation may decrease in winter, but a strong volunteer base helps sustain the program.

- Tails on Trails is promoted through social media, a weekly radio segment, and community events such as Petco, Alaskan Mill & Feed, and the Rock Gym. Many participants have adopted dogs after joining the program, further reducing shelter stays.
- Partnerships with Best Friends Animal Society provides training, support, and grants to improve animal care, expand play yards, and support the Dogs Playing for Life program, which helps prevent kennel regression and enhances animal well-being.
- Best Friends has offered to promote the shelter's work nationally to highlight Alaska's progress in animal welfare, and public engagement through volunteers, fosters, rescues, and social media remains vital to the shelter's success.
- Volunteers assist with transporting dogs during playgroups, and the long-term goal is to make the program volunteer-led.
- Public engagement through volunteers, fosters, rescues, and community support remains vital to the shelter's continued success.
- Staff are preparing for winter outreach planning.

6. AHD Staff Reports:

Valarie Clark

- The evaluation committee completed its review and submitted scores and comments to the purchasing department.
- The contract process is now in the request-to-negotiate stage but is paused until the administration finalizes the new budget.
- Negotiations are expected to begin once the budget is approved, likely around the time Tamiah returns to the office in the next few weeks.
- The goal is to have the new contract in place by January if the schedule remains on track.
- The AHD Director requested that the board take a vote to continue public testimony at the October meeting to ensure broad public participation.
- Two dog traps have been ordered and should be here in the next few weeks.

7. Old Business

None

8. New Business

Cathy Foerster moved to extend the public testimony on proposed changes to Titles 8 and 17 to the October 23, 2025 meeting. Matthew Hall seconded. Motion carried.

9. Persons to be Heard on Meeting Topics:

- Public Testimony on changes to Title 8 and 17:
 - Susan Seltzer
 - Cynthia White
 - Mark V. Nordman
 - Marilyn Hauser

- Kim Wells

10. Informational Items:

- a. The next Title 17 Review Committee will be held Thursday, November 13, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at Anchorage Animal Care and Control.
- b. Due to holiday, the next Animal Control Advisory Board meeting will be held Thursday, December 4, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at Anchorage Animal Care and Control or call-in to 907-343-6060**

- 11. Adjournment:** Cathy Foerster moved to adjourn; Raylene Griffith seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:31 P.M.