

ANIMAL SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, November 14th, 2024 - 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Animal Services Conference Room (space limited)

511 W 3900 S, Salt Lake City, UT 84123

Meeting Recording Link:

<https://slco.webex.com/slco/ldr.php?RCID=f9a6bc35e76277fd534f39fcc5382bc2>

MEETING MINUTES

Members Present:

Arlyn Bradshaw – SLCO Council
Gary Bowen – Emigration Canyon
Alan Peterson – Kearns
Kevin Severson – Copperton
Scott Baird – SLCO Mayor
Audrey Pierce – Magna
Holly Smith - Holladay

Jeff Bossard – Brighton
Grant Crowell – Bluffdale
Rita Lund – Millcreek
Brian Wright – Murray
Linda Price – White City
Juli Ulvestad – Industry Expert

Members Absent:

Dustin Gettel – Midvale

Carmen Bailey – Salt Lake City

Non-Members Present:

Carrie Sibert – SLCO Animal Services
Talia Butler – SLCO Animal Services

Karl Carpenter – SLCO Animal Services
Larry Suggars – Salt Lake City Resident

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL – Dustin Gettel, Chair

Arlyn Bradshaw called meeting to order and excused Dustin Gettel and Carmen Bailey from this meeting. Carrie Sibert noted those in attendance.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT – Please state name & jurisdiction.

Larry Suggars explained that he owns chicken and asked the committee to clarify why permit fees are required for chickens and requested a senior discount if fees are required. Larry explained that he receives senior discount for dogs and cats but not for chickens.

Arlyn asked Animal Services staff to explain who governs the fee.

Talia Butler explained that the fee schedule is set by Salt Lake County Council and all contracted cities agree in their contracts to follow that fee schedule.

Discussion on domestic fowl permit, ordinances, and cost were reviewed in agenda item 4.1.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

3.1. Approval of 7-18-24 Meeting Minutes

Linda Price motioned, Scott Baird seconded, all say aye.

4. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS

4.1. Senior Discount for Residential Permits, Talia Butler, Division Director

Talia explained that domestic fowl permits are a land use exception and is why they are permitted in residential zones. Talia explained that the reason for the fee is there is work that goes into that such as

inspections to ensure the land use is correct and ordinance regulations are followed, disease monitoring for zoonotic diseases associated with domestic fowl, nuisance regulation, and care and maintenance for the animals.

Talia explained revenue vs county cost based on 2023 permit statistics (audio issues during this discussion) Salt Lake County animal services made about \$12,000 in revenue from residential permit fees. Animal Services has 1 employee that processes the permit and conducts inspections so with compensation and operation costs it costs the county about \$70,000. So, Animal Services does not make a profit from permits but are still required to go out and inspect. The money made goes toward paying for the employee to manage the permits.

Talia explained that previously a potential senior discount was presented. Currently Animal Services does not track if the applicant is a senior so it is unclear if there would be a financial impact if one is in place, but Animal Services is not opposed to doing one as there are many residents in the community such as homeless populations that may benefit from discounted or waived fees. Talia explained we'd like the committee's opinion and feedback on this.

Arlyn asked if the permit fee is on an annual basis, Karl Carpenter said yes, it's an annual fee.

Larry Suggars requested to comment, Arlyn allowed for a brief comment. Larry explained that he has never seen anyone come out to inspect. Talia explained that upon initial application for a permit an inspection is done, afterwards inspections are done randomly and/or when a complaint or concern has been received.

Arlyn asked if Animal Services had a recommendation on what a senior discount would look like. Scott Baird explained that he is not opposed to exploring a discount but did not want to make a decision on making a change to the fee schedule at this meeting. Scott suggested researching what other county agencies and municipalities are doing first before deciding.

Alan Peterson requested to ask Larry a few questions regarding his chickens and if there have been any complaints from his neighborhood. Larry explained he hasn't received any complaints and clarified the breeds and egg laying status amongst his chickens and regards them as his pets.

Arlyn asked Animal Services to conduct research and come back to the next meeting with a proposal on if a change would be warranted. Including options for seniors and a decreased rate options after the initial permit fee.

4.2. Outdated City Animal Control Related Ordinances, Carrie Sibert, Office Manager & Karl Carpenter, Field Manager

- **Fee schedule, Penalties, Contradictions**

Carrie Sibert and Karl Carpenter explained that Animal Services wanted to bring this topic to the committee's attention as outdated ordinances have impacted enforcement in recent cases. Some outdated ordinances have conflicting fees listed that differ from the agreed upon county fee schedule, updated portions of ordinances may cause contradictions to other parts of the ordinance, etc. This has caused some confusion when Officers are trying to enforce as well as confusion and upset from residents. Karl asked that if the county's fee schedule can be made available to residents to avoid upset and confusion.

Gary asked if former metro townships that have now become cities are following the county ordinance.

Carrie explained that currently all the former townships are following Salt Lake County's title 8 ordinance.

Talia explained that Animal Services has 16 Officers that are enforcing ordinances in all contracted jurisdictions. For the most part the ordinances are very similar but there are some details that are different. Talia recommended that if all the jurisdictions could align the ordinances and allow for area specific exceptions it would make enforcement easier and would prevent confusion. Talia also explained that if they were unified if a change is needed in the ordinance, it would make it easier than changing each individual one.

Gary Bowen agreed to a unified overarching ordinance. Arlyn suggested asking the civil attorney to review all the ordinances related to Animal Services in each contracted jurisdiction and identify differences to make

it easier for municipalities to review and discuss potentially aligning and exceptions they prefer.

Majority of committee members agree with Arlyn's recommendation. Grant explained that it has been a while since Bluffdale has reconciled their ordinances, have recently adopted a fee schedule for civil enforcement, and there some differences and preferences that are specific to certain areas so it may be a daunting task that may be difficult to achieve.

Talia explained that Animal Services' hope is that jurisdictions can state in their animal ordinance that they follow Salt Lake County's title 8 either whole heartedly or that they follow with the following exceptions where each area can list out their specific preferences, but the bulk of the ordinance is unified amongst all. So, jurisdictions can still control over what is important to their area. Talia explained that this will streamline field operations when handling calls. Karl explained that it all provides more equity to residents no matter which contracted jurisdiction they live in.

43. Animal Control Enforcement & Local Laws, Talia Butler, Division Director & Karl Carpenter, Field Manager

Talia explained that recently Animal Services has recently encountered cases in residential areas regarding steel jaw traps. Animal Services and cities have been prevented from taking action as the state law governing steel jaw traps supersedes all local jurisdictions. Animal Services would like to take this to legislation to seek to reverse the portion regarding local jurisdiction's control so cities can control whether it is allowed. State law allows for steel jaw traps and has no restrictions on certain animal species.

Talia explained a recent case in Millcreek involving a resident that trapped 2 raccoons in his yard using steel jaw traps and a neighbor that witnessed and intervened and caused some neighbor disputes. Talia asked if Animal Services can get the committees support for this change in legislation.

Members discussed the proposed change vs the current state law. Holly Smith asked if there is a current bill sponsor or if Animal Services has a potential sponsor. Talia explained they discussed it with Senator Plumb and that we are aware Mayor Silvestrini was concerned about the recent case and that the Humane Society was also interested as well. Rita stated she will check with Mayor Silvestrini on if he has spoken to anyone. Scott stated him and Talia will meet to discuss legislative issues that we will get involved in. Juli Ulvestad stated she'd also like to schedule a meeting with Animal Services to discuss this as well as they are also strongly interested in the change.

Arlyn asked if there are any objections from the committee related to the legislation. Kevin Severson objected to the change unless each jurisdiction is allowed to decide their preference.

Arlyn requested a motion by the committee to support the legislation change to the state law regarding local jurisdiction control over use of steel jaw traps. Rita Lund motioned; Jeff Bossard seconded. All say aye.

Karl Carpenter explained that they have encountered some difficulties in recent cases that Animal Services is investigating regarding issues like nuisances and similar complaints. In the recent cases citizens have filed complaints in their neighborhood to Animals Services and at times city officials as they feel like it's not getting resolved. Karl explained that we are only able to work within what the ordinances allow. Talia explained that there are challenging calls such as barking dogs and running at large (where an additional offense does not take place) cases that cause the most disruption in neighborhoods. With these cases we do issue civil and criminal penalties, however when the criminal penalties get to court and face a judge, often, these offenses do not determine if the animal is to be removed from a home, so the issue never gets resolved in the complainant's perspective. The judge may penalize the owner but it's not likely that they will move to have the animal removed from their possession.

Talia explained that they just wanted to give the committee a perspective on cases like these as animals are considered property so Animal Services is not able to remove an animal permanently without a court order. Animal Services can impound the animal, but the owner is able to redeem the animal. Talia explained that due to this there is frustration amongst all parties involved and the hope is that this awareness can allow the cities to understand that there is enforcement in these cases, but they are challenging and involve a slower

process.

Members agreed and discussed cases like these that they have seen in their area.

4.4. Park Signage & Dog Walkers, Talia Butler, Division Director

Talia presented examples of various current park signage for dogs identifying the vast differences amongst them. Talia researched articles explaining best practices for signage regarding dogs in parks and provided example recommendations based on these best practices. Talia asked that if any area is working on signage to involve us so we can work on creating better signage to help curb dog issues in parks.

Members discussed the examples and the recommendations.

Examples will be provided to committee to take back to their jurisdiction.

4.5. Division Updates, Talia Butler, Division Director

Talia went over current events and programming such as the Giving Tuesday fundraiser, Humane Education program, and Book Buddies reading program. Talia also explained the importance of microchipping and how residents can get their pets microchipped for free.

Alan asked is there are any updates on the new building project. Talia explained that it is still in the County's funding, currently there are some other projects the county is reviewing so we are still hopeful it will move forward.

Juli asked what the status is on the mobile unit program. Carrie explained that the program has launched and almost every Monday it is traveling to a new jurisdiction. Each surgery day allows for 20 appointments for dogs and cats. Carrie stated that as of 11/11/24 the mobile unit has done about 77 sterilizations and its been about a 50/50 split in clientele from within Animal Services' contracted jurisdictions and non-contracted jurisdictions. Talia and Carrie also explained that it has been an extremely popular as there is a high need.

5. MEMBER REPORTS

5.1. Updates from member's jurisdictions that may impact Animal Services.

- Alan Peterson – Kearns – None
- Grant Crowell – Bluffdale – Grant explained that they have a dog park coming soon and are meeting with Animal Services to discuss the new civil violation ordinance.
- Rita Lund – Millcreek – None
- Dustin Gettel – Midvale – N/A
- Carmen Bailey – Salt LakeCity – N/A
- Holly Smith – City of Holladay – Holly explained that Holladay is working on a comprehensive rewrite of their ordinances, they may not be able to get to Animal Services until a future date. Holly also asked if a license is required for a free microchip. Carrie explained that it is not required to receive the microchip, but we do try to educate them, and our field department will work with them to get into compliance.

Arlyn suggested that it would be nice to have licensing on site for the mobile unit clinics. Carrie explained that she has been coordinating with the appropriate animal control agencies for each clinic inviting them to be present at pick up for licensing.

Rita asked if the mobile unit services have been offered to unhoused individuals. Carrie explained that we received requests from unhoused individuals, their representatives/case workers and as long as we can prove their residency within the county through a residence/shelter that they frequent we have been able to provide them with mobile unit services.

- Lt. Brian Wright – Murray - None
- Kevin Severson – Copperton - None
- Jeff Bossard – Brighton – Jeff explained that their community is upset as the National Forest Service has allowed moose hunting by bow in their area and recently one was hunted in front of the fire station.
- Linda Price – White City – Linda explained they have been having issues with 2 dogs in their area that are aggressive but haven't attacked, Animal Services has been involved and the complainant posted the situation on social media. Linda thanked Karl for his recent help with this case. The case is currently

with the courts.

- Audrey Pierce – Magna – Audrey liked the idea of addressing the park signage as they’ve had dogs running loose in the parks and when the resident spoke with an Officer they also stated the signage wasn’t clear. So she is happy that is being looked into for all areas.
- Gary Bowen – Emigration Canyon – Gary asked when the mobile unit will be in Emigration Canyon. Carrie explained we have hosted one clinic up there already as we tried to visit before the snow hit. Carrie sent the clinic information to Emigration and Jennifer Hawkes was going to share it. Carrie explained the mobile unit will be doing a loop around the valley so she will be sure to notify jurisdiction on when it will be in their area.
- Scott Baird – Salt Lake County Mayor - None
- Arlyn Bradshaw – Salt Lake County Council – Arlyn explained the county is in the budget process. The budget will be finalized the 26th and official adoption and public hearing of the budget will be December 10th.
- Juli Ulvestad – Industry Expert – Juli explained that the American Animal Hospital Association recommended adding leptospirosis be added to core vaccines for dogs. Humane Society has added that. So far the American Veterinary Association hasn’t added the recommendation but may add it to follow AAHA. Juli asked if that is something Animal Services is considering adding it, Talia stated that she will discuss it with the Animal Services Veterinarian.
- Juli also explained that they are seeing a lot of parvo cases. She explained that they haven’t done any combined effort in mapping of cases to proactively vaccinate at-risk dogs in the community. They have vaccinated in high density housing. Juli asked if we are doing any mapping of parvo and added she’d also like to see it with panleukopenia cases in cats as well. Talia explained we aren’t mapping but feels it’s a great idea and can discuss it their future meeting along with legislation.

6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURN

DOG PARK RULES

- 1 Use park at your own risk. Please use common sense.
- 2 Please do not ignore your dogs, pay attention!!
- 3 Dogs must be leashed when entering and exiting the park.
- 4 Dog waste must be cleaned up immediately.
- 5 Owners must be within the dog park and supervising their dog with leash readily available.
- 6 Aggressive dogs must be removed immediately.
- 7 Children under 13 must have parental supervision.
- 8 No dogs without people, no people without dogs.
- 9 If your dog gets into a fight, exchange contact info and leave the park. You are responsible for any injury caused by your dog. Dog owners are responsible for the behavior of their dogs.
- 10 Dogs must be licensed and immunized.
- 11 No spike or prong collars, however all dogs must wear a collar or harness.
- 12 Have fun with your dog. Create a bond for life!

DOG PARK RULES

Prohibited:

- Human and dog treats
- Dogs in Heat
- Sick dogs
- Aggressive dogs or humans
- Puppies under 4 months of age

ATTENTION DOG OWNERS
Please Pick Up After Your Dog
Thank You
ATTENTION DOGS
Grrrr, Ruff, Ruff
Woof, Good Dog







**All Dogs Must
Remain On Leash
Please Clean Up
After Your Pet**

- Includes image
- Less than 15 words
- Includes must, shall, law, etc.
- Street sign style

GIVINGTUESDAY



Giving Tuesday Challenge

Help Change the Life of an Injured Pet



Help us give injured pets the second chance they deserve. Your support heals, restores, and saves lives. To donate please visit:

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Book Buddies

Children Read to Cats & Kittens!

Salt Lake County Animal Services

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