

North Utah Valley Animal Services Special Service District
Board Meeting Minutes

August 28th, 2025
108 South 100 East, Pleasant Grove, Utah 84062

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

American Fork	Ryan Archuleta
Cedar Hills	Chandler Goodwin
Highland	Scott Smith
Lehi	Chad Ray
Lindon	Orlando Ruiz
Orem	Blake Fenn
Orem	Kris Pease
Utah County	Steve Alder
Utah County	Yvette Rice
Vineyard	Eric Ellis

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Eagle Mountain	Fionnuala Kofoed
Pleasant Grove	Carl Nielson
Saratoga Springs	Owen Jackson

OTHERS PRESENT

CEO/Director	Tug Gettling
Legal Counsel	Laramie Merritt
Minutes	Shaylee Wiser

OPEN THE MEETING

- Welcome and Introductions:** Yvette Rice started the meeting at 10:00 AM. She welcomed everybody and introduced Blake Fenn, who is the new board member for Orem.
- Prayer/Thought:** Prayer offered by Chad Ray.

WORK SESSION ITEMS

- No Items:**

PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

- No Items:**

GENERAL MEETING ITEMS

1. **Public Comment:** Karen McCoy spoke of the number of cats being euthanized, and encouraged the board to make a commitment to end the euthanizing of healthy cats, which includes policies the public can understand and support. She also mentioned having NUVAS redesign their website, and is frustrated with how long some of the changes she has suggested are taking. Kayla Lyman thanked the board members for their work and spoke of the benefits of social media to help NUVAS. She offered her support and is willing to help where needed. She mentioned that a foster program would be beneficial, especially for cats, to help with space in the shelter. Kayla also wants NUVAS to use whiteboards on the dog kennels, to record when they are taken out of their kennels and walked.

Laramie Merritt entered the room at 10:03 AM.

Scott Smith entered the room at 10:04 AM.

2. **Review and Approve Minutes from the July 31, 2025 Meeting:** Chandler Goodwin made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 31, 2025 Board Meeting, Scott Smith seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

3. **Financial Report:** Tug Gettling

- a. Check Register: Tug notes there are three bills for Mountain Alarm Fire & Security for July, which includes the yearly bill and the purchase and installation of new cameras. He also mentions the bill for Utah County Auditor, which is for insurance.
- b. Financial Report: Tug reports that 15% of the year has passed, although some of the expenses are showing above 15%. This is due to annual bills being paid in a lump sum. He has received 79% of the participation fees, with American Fork, Alpine, Highland, Cedar Fort, and Fairfield the only cities that still need to pay. Everything else is as expected. Tug goes on to talk about whether or not a full audit will need to be done, but reports that for the last two years, expenses have been just under \$1 Million, which means a full audit is not needed.

4. **Shelter Progress Report:** Tug Gettling

- a. Currently hiring two part-time Animal Care Attendants. August is usually a rough month because of employees going back to school or moving. There will be two applicants potentially starting in the next couple of weeks, if all goes well.
- b. Roof repair began August 4th. There have been several repairs on the Makeup Air Unit and Rooftop Units, which handle air conditioning for the building. Additionally, phone lines and security cameras were not working correctly, several printers and computers were down, and new computers have been purchased.
- c. Animal Numbers:
 - i. Roughly 60 dogs and 80 cats are currently in the shelter
 - ii. Eight dogs from a hoarding case were received recently
 - iii. 64% redemption rate for dogs in July, with an 89% live release rate
 - iv. 4% redemption rate for cats in July, with a 66% live release rate
- d. Events:
 - i. One company is sponsoring the adoption fees for seven dogs
 - ii. Children from the Slope School pulled weeds at NUVAS and met some of the dogs
 - iii. A Girl Scout Troop received a tour and they donated supplies
 - iv. An event at CAL Ranch is being planned
 - v. An event at a health fair is being planned
- e. Tug noted that NUVAS does have a whiteboard to track how often animals are getting out of their kennels. He thanked Kayla for the idea, and said it has already been in place for a while.
- f. NUVAS is currently working with 72 rescue groups, and they have helped out a lot recently.

- g. Tug discussed a few of the recent cases the shelter has handled: a missing catch pole, a few disputes with dog owners, a dog who went missing five years ago was reunited with their owners, and a Chihuahua that had been found tied in a plastic bag is now on the road to recovery.
- h. There have been more bats being tested for rabies this year compared to previous years. Tug explained the quarantine and rabies testing policies and how rabies affects an animal or a person. Rabies is still considered fatal, but he talked about a few instances where someone has survived treatment.
- i. NUVAS has a few animals that are on a court hold. They are waiting for an update from the officer to know if the cats can be released from the hold soon.
- j. Kris Pease asked about the likelihood of allowing volunteers to do social media for the shelter. Tug responded that there is already a staff member assigned to do social media, they just need to get it started. The last few months have been focused on training new employees in their positions, so starting social media is the next step. There have been issues with losing access to things started by volunteers in the past, so Tug is wanting to get safeguards and policies in place first, before considering volunteer access.

5. **Other Business:** Yvette thanked everyone for their time. She advised the next meeting will be September 25, 2025 at 10:00 AM at the Pleasant Grove Police Department.

6. **Adjourn:** Yvette adjourned the meeting at 10:48 AM.

CLOSED DOOR SESSION

1. **No Items**

Next Meeting: September 25, 2025 @ 10:00 AM