

ANIMAL SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, November 6th, 2025 - 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Meeting Recording Link:

<https://slco.webex.com/slco/ldr.php?RCID=72b73ee83aed7a693a04cb5e4c0a5f5c>

MEETING MINUTES

Members in Attendance:

Dustin Gettel – Midvale
Kevin Severson – Copperton
Alan Peterson – Kearns
Audrey Pierce – Magna
Gary Bowen – Emigration Canyon
Brian Wright – Murray
Jeff Bossard – Brighton

Stephanie Carlson (alternate) – Holladay
Rita Lund – Millcreek
Toby Hazelbaker – Salt Lake City
Grant Crowell – Bluffdale
Dea Theodore – Salt Lake County Council
Scott Baird – Salt Lake County Mayor

Members Absent:

Holly Smith – Holladay

Linda Price – White City

Non-Members in Attendance:

Patrick Theobold – Best Friends Animal Society
Carrie Sibert – Salt Lake County Animal Services

Talia Butler – Salt Lake County Animal Services
Jami Johanson – Salt Lake County Animal Services

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

Dustin Gettel went through roll call and welcomed Patrick Theobold.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT (2-minute limit) – Please state name & jurisdiction.

None

3. CONSENT AGENDA

3.1. Approval of 7-31-25 Meeting Minutes

Kevin Severson motioned, Alan Peterson seconded. All say aye.

4. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS

4.1. 2026 Meeting Schedule, Carrie Sibert, Office Manager

Carrie Sibert went over the proposed schedule for 2026. No concerns from members.

4.2. County Budget, Talia Butler, Division Director

Talia Butler went over Animal Services budget requests. All requests had passed the mayor's approval and have moved on for the county council to review and potentially approve. Requests include capital projects that are scheduled to be completed and extension of mobile unit funding for 2026. Talia explained they will present the request to the county council in the next coming weeks.

4.3. 2025 Event Recap, Jami Johanson, Associate Division Director

Jami Johanson went over the 2025 events including outcomes of Petapalooza and the Spaghetti fundraising gala. Jami also explained we have a grand opening with fun events scheduled as our adoption suite remodel in the front lobby is complete. Jami explained that Giving Tuesday is another fundraising event coming up that will raise money for our injured animal fund.

Jami explained that we are partnering with the Sheriff's office and the county jail to relaunch our participation with the SHED program that works with prisoners to offer services that assist the shelter and enriches the prisoners. Talia explained that one of the goals of this program is that the prisoners can also receive training with us in the animal trades for potential future careers.

4.4. Legislation, Talia Butler, Division Director

Talia explained we have 2 bills we are working on in the 2026 legislation session including a bill that will classify Animal Control Officers that are not under a police/sheriff agency as first responders. The second bill will address the issues of court holds regarding animals. The bill allows for a quick determination within the 1st hearing to be made regarding animal placed on court holds and prevent animals from being forced to be held in the shelter for extensive periods. Talia explained issues we encounter in the current process and used a current case we handled where the dog was forced to be held at the shelter for over 3 years due to the lengthy court process and the owner failing to show up to scheduled appearances that delayed decisions. Members discussed hardships and the effects on the animal with the current process and the differences between common court cases and protective custody cases.

4.5. Division Updates, Talia Butler, Division Director & Jami Johanson, Associate Division Director

Talia and Carrie went over recent updates including revamping our internal emergency notification process which notifies the cities we serve on emergency cases that we have handled. Animal Services will be scheduling meetings with each city to exchange contact information and go over how emergency cases are handled and received. Dustin suggested Animal Services attend council workshops to go over the emergency process.

Carrie Sibert explained that the current master contract with the USDA for the urban wildlife program is set to expire on 12/31/25. Carrie reached out to the USDA for a renewal, and it was in the process of getting drafted however with the federal shutdown the USDA administration staff have been furloughed so there may be a delay in getting it processed and approved before the deadline. Carrie explained that while the admin staff are furloughed it seems the trapping staff for the program are still active and assisting citizens. Audrey Pierce explained that with legislation for the urban interface involves agencies like fire officials but is unsure if animal agencies are included so she'd like to provide contacts to ensure animal agencies are included. Carrie clarified that if there is a situation involving wildlife Animal Services does not have jurisdiction over wildlife other than limited cases that involve a potential rabies exposure. If assistance from DWR is requested, we can offer limited assistance but typically services are limited to domesticated animals.

Talia explained that Animal Services is participating in an upcoming live enactment Active Shooter training with the Sheriff's department. This training will provide a training for staff on what to do if we encounter a real active shooter situation. Talia extended an invitation to members if they'd like to attend. Members expressed interest in attending and experiences with similar trainings.

5. MEMBER REPORTS

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

- Alan Peterson – Kearns – **None**
- Grant Crowell – Bluffdale – **None**
- Rita Lund – Millcreek - **None**
- Dustin Gettel – Midvale – Dustin explained his positive experience on a ride along with one of our Animal Services Officers and recommended members to go on a ride along. Dustin expressed appreciation to Animal Services.
- Toby Hazelbacker – Salt Lake City – Toby explained they are encountering issues with off leash dogs in some of SLC's parks and would like to discuss park patrols with our Animal Services.

Control Officers as they've received complaints from constituents. Carrie stated she will reach out to Toby to schedule a meeting. Talia and Carrie explained that we can put in some park patrols and the current hardships with handling park issues involving animals.

Toby also explained that SLC has set up a community corner where service providers can offer supplies and resources for citizens that need assistance. Providers can sign up through Salt Lake City's Heart team. Talia explained we do have supplies that we can provide for this program.

- Holly Smith – City of Holladay – None
- Lt. Brian Wright – Murray - None
- Kevin Severson – Copperton – Kevin explained that a resident recently had their pet attacked by a cougar and are encountering issues with deer populations and seeking assistance from deer mitigation programs.
Kevin also explained that his term is expiring so this will be his last meeting. Kevin expressed appreciation for Animal Services and working with Carrie.
- Jeff Bossard – Brighton - None
- Linda Price – White City – N/A
- Audrey Pierce – Magna – None, Audrey also expressed appreciation for working with Carrie.
- Gary Bowen – Emigration Canyon – Gary also expressed appreciation and Talia's explanation for the legislation and mentioned he is going to invite Senator Plumb to the next council meeting.
- Scott Baird – Salt Lake County Mayor - None
- Dea Theodore – Salt Lake County Council – Dea explained she attended Spayghetti and expressed appreciation for Animal Services work.
- Vacant – Industry Expert – Patrick Theobold has submitted an application to be appointed as the committee's industry expert. Carrie explained that is it currently in the process seeking approval. Talia and Jami expressed appreciation for Patrick's work on recent and past events. Patrick went over his experience in the animal industry and mentioned Best Friends is planning on relaunching the Super Adoption event in Spring. Dustin also expressed appreciation for Juli Ulvestad's work as industry expert for the committee.

6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Open Meetings act training
- Chair and Vice Chair vote

ADJOURN

ANIMAL SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

2026 MEETING SCHEDULE

Pursuant to section 52-4-202 of the Utah Code, Salt Lake County Animal Services hereby gives notice that the Salt Lake County Animal Services Advisory Committee will hold its regular meetings for the 2025 calendar year on the following dates (Please Note: This schedule is subject to change):

- Thursday January 29th, 2026
- Thursday April 30th, 2026
- Thursday July 30th, 2026
- Thursday November 19th, 2026

Meeting location and times:

Salt Lake County Animal Services Conference Room

511 West 3900 South

Salt Lake City, UT 84123

11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Or electronically via WebEx

IN ADDITION to holding the above regularly scheduled meetings, the Advisory Committee may call and hold special meetings as permitted under and in accordance with Section 17-53-205, Utah Code Annotated, 1953, as amended. The Advisory Committee may also call and hold emergency meetings when, because of unforeseen circumstances, it is necessary to consider matters of emergency or urgent nature, as permitted, under and in accordance with Subsection 52-4-202 of the Open and Public Meetings Law, Title 52, Chapter 4, Utah Code Annotated, 1953, as amended.



- ADOPTABLE PETS
- PET PHOTOS
- PET PSYCHIC
- 50 PLUS VENDORS
- 16 SHELTER/RESCUE ORGS



78 Dogs & 49 Cats
= 127 Pets Adopted



SEP 12 & 13

SPAGHETTI

& No Balls Gala

RAISED OVER \$122,000



TITLE SPAWNSOR: Willard L. Eccles
Foundation