

Columbus Consolidated Government

**Minutes of a Special Called Meeting: Dangerous Dog Classification of the
Animal Control Advisory Board**

October 31, 2022

2:30 pm

Location of Meeting:

Public Works Driver's Training Room

602 – 11th Avenue Bldg E

Columbus, GA, 31901

Dangerous Dog Hearing

Present at Meeting:

Contreana Pearson

Jayne Dunn

Sabine Stull, Chairperson

Raymond Culpepper

Kristi Ludy

Channon Emery

Drale Short

Dr. Scott McDermott

Courtney Pierce

Julee Fryer

Absent from Meeting:

Dr. Jean Waguespack

Patricia Montgomery

A special called meeting for a dangerous dog hearing of the Animal Control Advisory Board of Columbus Consolidated Government was called to order at 2:46 pm on Monday, October 31, 2022, by the chairperson Sabine Stull.

Approval of the minutes from the board meetings on **09/13/2022**; Raymond Culpepper made a motion to approve the minutes and Courtney Pierce second the motion. *****ACTION TAKEN: ALL VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT APPROVAL MINUTES FROM BOARD MEETING 09.13.22**

Responding Animal Control Officer Andre Burks spoke to the Board and stated on 09/30/2022 he received a dispatched call in reference to 2 dogs that had left the property from 2901 W Britt David

Rd and bit a resident Garrett Jones of 2899 W Britt David Rd. The bite victim Garrett Jones stated, three dogs bit him. He later identified two, a beige female bulldog named 'Oni' and a male brown and white bulldog named 'Muttley' These two dogs were involved in the biting incident with two separate owners residing at the same resident of 2901 W Britt David Rd. The female bulldog Oni owner is Mathew Allen, and the female mixed bulldog owner is Victoria Way. Both dogs were impounded by Officer Burks and each dog owner was issued citations for city ordinance violations of Section 5-8 (rabies), Section 5-9 (city permit), Section 5-10a (unattended), and Section 5-10d3 (bite) of the Animal and Fowl Ordinance.

The bite victim Garrett Jones spoke with the Board members about the biting incident. Mr. Jones stated he was in his yard at 2899 W Britt David Rd and three dogs came off the property of 2901 W Britt David Rd and circled his truck. He states the dogs' bit him on and around his knee and his elbow which required sutures. Mr. Jones stated this is not the first time the dogs have gotten out and came into his yard. Mr. Jones showed the Board members a video from 8/14/22 whereas Mr. Allen's dogs came on to his property and were threatening him as he was cutting his front lawn.

Mr. Jones also had two witnesses present to speak to the Board. A Ms. Aguilar (girlfriend) stated she witnessed the dogs come off the property at 2901 W Britt David Rd and chase Mr. Jones and circled her vehicle prohibiting her from leaving the vehicle car. A Mr. Jack Owens (neighbor) stated, he has witnessed the dogs come off the property at 2901 W Britt David Rd running down the street and threatening neighbors.

1. 1st Hearing – Matthew Allen Dog Owner of Oni

Mr. Allen, dog owner of female beige mixed bulldog 'Oni', stated he was not home when the incident occurred but believes his dog Oni was let out the house by another dog 'Muttley' inside the house in which the other dogs followed off property. Mr. Allen stated, he has taken efforts to repair the hole in the fence. Mrs. Allen stated the dog Muttley would open the door by hitting the doorknob. . She stated she has replaced all the doorknobs to prevent this from occurring again. Mrs. Allen stated her dogs usually do not attack the neighbors and feels her dogs are being blamed.

2. 2nd Hearing—Victoria Way Dog Owner of Muttley

Ms. Way, owner the male brown and white dog named 'Muttley, stated she is the niece of Mr. Allen as was residing at 2901 W Britt David Rd with her dog Muttley. She stated her dog has never bitten anyone before and apologized for him leaving the property. She feels her dog was only following the other dogs and doesn't feel he should be classified because of this one incident. She wants the Board to know he will be housed at another location and will be strictly inside the house at all times. She state, she was not home when the incident occurred either.

Board Discussion: Dr. McDermott stated the dogs were off the property and have had previous unattended issues by neighbors with the same dogs. He feels this dog classification should be upheld. He also stated there should be more restrictions/consequences for dogs being housed inside the

house for classification purposes. Julee Fryer stated she was very concerned these dogs are near the Britt David Park and leaving the owner's property to threaten citizens. She would be very concerned about children being at the park.

******ACTION TAKEN: MOTION MADE BY DR. MCDERMOTT TO UPHOLD DANGEROUS DOG CLASSIFICATION ON BOTH DOGS, SABINE STULL 2ND MOTION, ALL VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT APPROVAL TO UPHOLD THE DANGEROUS CLASSIFICATION OF DOGS 'ON' AND 'MUTTLEY'.***

The meeting was adjourned at 400 pm by the chairperson, Sabine Stull. The next scheduled quarterly meeting is Tuesday, December 13, 2022, 5:30pm.

C: Clerk of Council, ACAB Members