

Columbus Consolidated Government

Minutes of a Quarterly Scheduled

Animal Control Advisory Board

January 18, 2024

3:00 pm

**Location of Meeting:**

Public Works Bldg.  
602 -11<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Columbus, GA, 31901

**Present at Meeting:**

Drale Short  
Canita Johnson  
Courtney Pierce, Chairperson  
Raymond Culpepper  
Sabine Stull  
Julee Fryer  
Lori Turner  
Nancy Anderson

**Absent from Meeting:**

Dr. Jean Waguespack  
Dr. McDermott  
Kristi Ludy  
Channon Emery

The meeting was called to order by Courtney Pierce, Chairperson at 3:00 pm.

Courtney Pierce introduced new board member Nancy Anderson.

Approval of minutes from 06/13/2023 meeting. Courtney Pierce made a motion to approve minutes and Raymond Culpepper second the motion. All present voting board members approved. **\*\*\*ACTION TAKEN: MINUTES FROM 06/13/2023 ACAB MEETING APPROVED BY ALL VOTING MEMBERS\*\*\***

Raymond Culpepper stated Channon Emery wanted to amend the minutes 06/13/2023 to include the discussion about the euthansia procedures at Animal Control. Julee Fryer made a motion to approve the amendment of the minutes and Raymond Culpepper second the motion. **\*\*\*ACTION TAKEN: MINUTES FROM 06/13/2023 ACAB MEETING AMENDED TO INCLUDE EUTHANSIA DISCUSSION APPROVED BY ALL VOTING MEMBERS\*\*\***

Monthly Reports August 2023 – November 2023. Raymond Culpepper inquired about an unattended dollar amount. Canita Johnson explained unattended charges are roaming dogs, citizens given citations reflects that dollar amount on reports. Raymond Culpepper inquired about “Others” fine amount in the monthly reports. Canita Johnson explained, these are cruelty, hindrance, contempt of court, etc fines which the Judge sets the dollar amount.

Raymond Culpepper inquired how Animal Control Officers are doing follow ups. Canita Johnson stated they are doing follow ups for cleanliness of pens, improperly tethered dogs, etc. Animal Control Officers usually give citizens 7 to 10 days to correct the violation before follow-up. Courtney Pierce commented PAWS/Humane works with Animal Control to help citizens with supplies needed.

Courtney Pierce discussed tentative dates for 2024 schedule quarterly Animal Control Advisory Board meetings which will be March 14, June 20, September 19, and December 19. Time and location are to be determined. Jule Fryer made a motion to approve the dates and Lori Turner second the motion. **\*\*\* ACTION APPROVED BY ALL VOTING MEMBERS\*\*\***

Courtney Pierce stated her term is up as chairperson and the board needed to elect a new chairperson. This meeting. Courtney Pierce nominated Julee Fryer, Raymond Culpepper second the motion, **\*\*\* ACTION APPROVED BY ALL VOTING MEMBERS\*\*\***

Canita Johnson updated the board members, with suggested changes to the Bylaws for the board:

- Add unexcused absences for board members.
- Chairperson appoints Co-Chairperson
- Meetings changed to quarterly instead of two.
- The Public Agenda added to include 5 minutes per person speaking.
- Sign In Sheet provided with agenda, any conflict-of-interest, board member dismisses themselves from that voting item.
- Code of Conduct added.

Canita Johnson went over the 2025 Budget requests for Animal Control:

(6) Animal Control Officers	Cruelty Investigator	(2) Maintenance Workers
Assistant Manager	Public Relation Coordinator	(5 ½) Kennel Staff
Full Time Veterinarian	Veterinarian Tech	(2) Co-Volunteer Coordinators
Animal Software	Increase Overtime Line	Uniform Line Increase
Surgical Suite	Micro Chip Fund	

Raymond Culpepper stated Channon Emery was concerned about the euthanization, inquired if animals are sedated first. Canita Johnson stated tranquilizer for euthanization procedure according to Dr. Hall is optional. Raymond Culpepper asked about the Parvo protocol. Canita Johnson stated the puppies are kept separate within isolation runs. Drale Short stated cases of parvo are reported to the Georgia Department of Agriculture.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:58 pm. The next scheduled quarterly meeting is March 14, 2024, at 3:30pm.

C: Clerk of Council, ACAB Members