

**City of Wylie, Texas
Animal Shelter Advisory Board
Rules of Procedure**



1. Statement

- 1.1. It is hereby declared that appointment to the Animal Control Advisory Board is a distinct honor and the trust imposed in the appointee involves the corresponding obligation of the appointee to serve the community by regular attendance and participation in the proceedings of the body.

2. Creation and Membership

- 2.1. The Animal Shelter Advisory Board was established by City Ordinance No. 2003-11, and serves at the will of the City Council.
- 2.2. The Board shall consist of seven (7) regular members who will serve for terms of two (2) years. A Board member shall generally be limited to three two-year terms, with the exception of the Animal Shelter Manager who shall be a permanent member of the board per Ordinance 2020-01. Initial board member terms are amended per Ordinance 2023-10. The Board shall consist of one licensed veterinarian, one member of the City Council of the City of Wylie, Texas, The Animal Services Manager of the City of Wylie, Texas (whose duties include the daily operation of the Wylie Animal Shelter), one representative from an animal welfare organization, and three (3) residents of the City of Wylie, Texas.
- 2.3. In accordance with State law, the Board members are required to complete Open Meetings training and receive a Certificate of Completion within the first ninety (90) days of first year appointment. This may be taken online via the Office of Attorney General's website (www.oag.state.tx.us). The Office of the Attorney General offers free video training courses to ensure that all elected and appointed government officials have a good command of both open records and open meetings laws.

3. Officers

- 3.1. The Board shall, at the first meeting after July 1st (and at such other times as these offices may become vacant), select from among its members a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson to serve for a period of one (1) year.
- 3.2. In the absence of both the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson during a meeting, the remaining Board members shall elect an Acting Chairperson.

4. Officer's Duties

- 4.1. The Chairperson shall preside over all meetings and briefing sessions, and perform all duties as required by law.

- 4.2. The Vice-Chairperson shall assume all duties of the Chairperson in the absence of the Chairperson.

5. Powers and Duties of the Board

- 5.1. The Animal Shelter Advisory Board shall act in an advisory capacity to Wylie staff and the City Council in any matter pertaining to compliance with Chapter 823, Health and Safety Code.
- 5.2. The Board shall perform all duties as prescribed by State statutes and the City's Code of Ordinance Chapter 18. The City Council has final authority in these matters, but should seek recommendations from the Animal Shelter Advisory Board prior to making final decisions.
- 5.3. The Board shall work with the Animal Services Manager (or designee) on various policy concerns and issues regarding Wylie Animal Services.
- 5.4. The Board shall make recommendations for changes to Chapter 18 of the City Code of Ordinances and/or policies as it relates to compliance with Chapter 823, Health and Safety Code when deemed appropriate.
- 5.5. The Board shall maintain contact with the stakeholder groups from which its members are appointed in working with the Animal Services Manager and staff.
- 5.6. The Board shall work with the Animal Services Manager and designated staff collaboratively to ensure best-in-class quality animal services with the city of Wylie..
- 5.7. The Board shall perform all other duties as the City Council may direct.

6. Orientation Training

- 6.1. Upon his or her appointment to the Board, all new members shall attend an orientation presented by City Staff to familiarize the board members with the operation of Municipal Government, the department organization and policies, and the operating procedures of the Animal Shelter Advisory Board.

7. Rules of Order

- 7.1. The Chairperson shall rule on all points of order.
- 7.2. The Board members may overrule the Chairperson on points of order by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of members present.
- 7.3. Any provisions of these rules not governed by City Ordinance may be temporarily suspended by a favorable two-thirds (2/3) vote of all members of the Board, whose vote shall be entered upon the minutes.

8. Quorum

- 8.1. A quorum shall consist of four (4) members.
- 8.2. No matters may be handled without the presence of a quorum.
- 8.3. No action of the Board shall be valid or binding unless adopted by the affirmative vote of a majority of those Board members present and voting.

9. Agendas

- 9.1. An agenda shall be prepared by the Animal Services Manager or his/her designee for each meeting of the Animal Services Advisory Board. A copy of the agenda shall be posted in the Municipal Complex as required by law, as well as on the website.
- 9.2. There shall be attached to each agenda item, a report of matters pending further action by the Commission.
- 9.3. All regular and special meetings shall follow, as closely as possible, the printed agenda. The agenda should include, but is not limited to the following;
 - a. Ratification of Minutes;
 - b. Citizens' participation on items not on the agenda;
 - c. Executive Session, as needed;
 - d. Consent agenda;
 - e. Items for individual consideration;
 - f. Breaks at the discretion of the Chairperson;
 - g. Commissioners or Staff comments on general business;
 - h. Adjournment.
- 9.4. Agendas may be amended by the Chairperson as to order of items, but not as to content, unless overruled by a majority of the members present.

10. Minutes of Meetings

- 10.1. Minutes of all regular and special meetings shall be kept by the Secretary, designated by the Animal Services Manager, and are subject to amendment and ratification by the Board at the next regular meeting.
- 10.2. The minutes of the Board's proceeding shall show the overall vote, or if absent or failing to vote, shall reflect that fact.

11. Regular meetings

- 11.1. The Animal Shelter Advisory Board shall meet at least three (3) times per year and any additional meetings as may be called.
- 11.2. Any Board member missing three (3) consecutive regularly scheduled meetings without prior notification to Staff and/or a valid reason, which may include family emergency, illness, or other reasonable cause, may be subject to dismissal from the Board by the City Council.
- 11.3. All meetings shall be held in full compliance with the provision of state law, ordinances of the City, and these rules of procedure.

12. Special Meetings

- 12.1. Special meetings may be called by the Chairperson, or at the request of two (2) or more members, or may be scheduled by a majority of the Board at any previous meeting. The time and place of the special meeting shall be determined by the convening authority.
- 12.2. All members must be notified of any special meeting by giving written notice to all members by an email address of record at least seventy-two (72) hours before the meeting, and the notice must specify the purpose of the meeting.
- 12.3. Special meetings must be posted in accordance with the open meetings act.

13. Addressing the Board

- 13.1. Persons desiring to address the Board shall complete a "Request to Speak" card and submit the card to the Secretary.
- 13.2. The Secretary will sort the speaker cards by agenda item and deliver them to the Chairperson.
- 13.3. The Chairperson will refer to the speaker cards for comments on items not on the printed agenda, and individual agenda item comments.
- 13.4. Persons who note on a speaker card their desire to address the Board will be called to the podium by the Chairperson at the appropriate time and will follow the guidelines of Ordinance 2019-29 as outlined below when addressing the Board;
 - a. Approach the podium, state their name and address and whether or not they are representing a person, group, or organization;
 - b. Speak so that all present in the room may hear clearly;
 - c. Address all statements and questions to the Chairperson;

- d. Be courteous in language and deportment;
 - e. Be concise and focused in their Comments;
 - f. Group comments should not exceed 6 minutes, individual comments should not exceed 3 minutes unless an interpreter is needed, in which case 6 minutes is allowed.
- 13.5. The Chairperson may interrupt an individual to redirect or terminate remarks when they are not relevant to the matter before the Board, or when the Chairperson determines the remarks to be out of order.

14. City Staff Responsibilities

- 14.1. The Animal Services Manager or designee shall be responsible for providing the Board with the necessary professional, technical, and clerical services, including:
- a. Prepare and submit the agenda with staff reports and any special items as directed by the Chairperson;
 - b. Coordinate the services of all City Staff and other sources of public information for and on behalf of the Board;
 - c. Maintain a true copy of all Board proceedings;
 - d. Maintain all Board records;

15. Written Request Required

- 15.1. Every proposal submitted for Board action shall be made in accordance with approved application procedures from the appropriate Ordinance or Regulations.
- 15.2. The proposal shall be complete in all respects before being accepted for filing and Board consideration.

16. Conflict of Interest Rules

- 16.1. Conflict of Interest. Should any member of the Board feel he/she has a conflict of interest with an agenda item before the Board, they should openly declare so at the introduction of the item. They are thereby prohibited from discussing, participating in, or voting on the item in question. They shall also fill out a Conflict of Interest form and file it with the Secretary.
- 16.2. Abstention. Should any member of the Board choose to abstain from voting on any question before the Board where no declared conflict of interest exists, their vote shall be recorded as an affirmative vote in the official minutes.

17. Motions

- 16.3. A motion may be made by any member. A second to the motion shall be required before an item is put to a vote.
- 16.4. All votes shall be by a simple majority of members present, except as otherwise stated in these rules of procedure.
- 16.5. When fewer than all the members are present for voting and when all motions for a given application fail to carry by a majority vote, consideration of the application shall be continued under this rule to the next regular meeting, to the extent allowed by law. Failure of the Board to secure a majority concurring vote at said next regular meeting shall be recorded in the minutes as a denial of the proposal under the rule.
- 16.6. When a vote is required by state law or other requirement, and fewer than all members are present, and a simple majority is not reached, the vote shall be recorded as a denial.

17. Repealing Clause

- 17.1. All previously adopted Rules of Procedure of the Animal Shelter Advisory Board are hereby expressly repealed.

18. Suspension of Rules of Procedure

- 18.1. Any one or all of these rules of procedure may be suspended in order to allow a particular consideration of a matter, provided that it does not violate the state law or home rule charter, and provided that not less than two-thirds Board members vote in favor of such suspension. Where any rule embodies a provision of state law, identically or in substance, such rule may not be suspended.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE ANIMAL SHELTER ADVISORY BOARD OF THE CITY OF WYLIE THIS _____ day of _____ 2023.

Brad Abraham, Chairman

Amber Porter, Vice-Chairman

Filed in the Office of the City Secretary this _____ day of _____, 2023

Stephanie Storm, City Secretary
City of Wylie, Texas