



El Paso Animal Services

MAYOR

Renard U. Johnson

Animal Shelter Advisory Committee

Minutes

May 14, 2025

CITY COUNCIL

District 1

Alejandra Chávez

District 2

Dr. Josh Acevedo

District 3

Deanna M. Rocha

District 4

Cynthia Boyar Trejo

District 5

Ivan Niño

District 6

Art Fierro

District 7

Lily Limón

District 8

Chris Canales

CITY MANAGER

Dionne Mack

Call to Order- Establish Quorum

A meeting of the Animal Shelter Advisory Committee was held virtually. The meeting was called to order by Chair Chris Canales at 6:01 PM.

Board Members	Present	Absent
Laura Sanchez	X	
Silvia Serna	X	
Sandra DiFrancesco	X	
Vacant		
Alejandra Valdez		X
Barbara Candelaria	X	
Mary Bardouche	X	
Elvira Stephanie Frias	X	
Raquel Ellis	X	
Tess Passero	X	
Chris Canales	X	

Animal Services staff present: Terry Kebschull, Adan Parra, Maria Arciniega, Michele Anderson, Gina Ramirez, Veronica Frescas, Michael Wachsmann, Anthony Chacon

1. Approval of Minutes

Discussion and action on approval of minutes for April 9, 2025

Mary Bardouche moved to approve the April 9, 2025 minutes; Silvia Serna seconded; all members voted in favor; none opposed and motion passed unanimously

2. Reports of Officers, Staff and Subcommittees.

A. Chair Report

Chris Canales gave a brief update on the presentation of the 2024 ASAC Annual Report on May 13, 2025 and added that City Council was very receptive. He also mentioned that he would send out the link of the meeting to the committee

Terry Kebschull- Director

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915.212.7297 | EPAS@elpasotexas.gov



DELIVERING EXCEPTIONAL SERVICES



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members. Chris also elaborated on the progress of the pet pantry project that is hoped will be a huge relief for the shelter.

B. El Paso Animal Services April update and statistics

Terry Keschull presented the April statistics. Report is attached.

Sandy DiFrancesco inquired about the increase in transports this year compared to last year. Terry explained that the difference in the number of transports was due to more partnerships and the need of more animals in northern communities. He also added that Kyla, Rescue and Transport Coordinator, has been doing a great job. EPAS had one transport this month and plans on having one or two flights a month.

Mary Bardouche requested an elaboration on the 106 animals that were euthanized for infectious disease, behavior, and foster trauma in April. Terry explained that the animals euthanized for infectious disease were for upper respiratory infections, parvo, panleukopenia, and distemper after they did not respond to treatment. The behavior euthanasia was mostly due to aggressive animals not safe to be released back to the community, and the foster trauma was a dog that escaped and was hit by a vehicle.

Laura Sanchez mentioned that she works with an organization in Oregon and asked whether a committee member is allowed to recommend and/or find organizations to help transfer animals. The information can be sent to EPAS so that someone can reach out and find out what their capabilities are, Terry added.

Tess Passero inquired about possibly of making the EPAS website more user friendly to help make search functions easier for the general public. Terry explained the website is generated by a third party, with information from PetPoint and other resources, but he will see what can be done. Tess also inquired to see if a pre-adoption system could be implemented, like tablets with information or a video on the foster/adoption process while the customer is waiting Terry added that EPAS is currently talking about making some recordings on behavior, so maybe those suggestions could be incorporated as well. Tess added that she will definitely help in finding the iPads or possibly getting donations.

Barbara Candelaria elaborated on the video idea, and expressed that due to the long wait times, it would be great to put them on the lobby monitors while the customers are waiting. The videos could also provide information on Rescue Runners, vaccinations, pet pantry, donations, and good stories of the animals that have been adopted from Animal Service. Barbara also informed everyone that last year (2024), the PetSmart in North Hills had the most

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El Paso Animal Services adoptions for the whole United States, and gave thanks to Animal Services for constantly keeping the kennels full

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3. Call to the Public

None

4. Adjournment

Silvia Serna moved to adjourn; Mary Bardouche seconded, all members voted in favor; none opposed, and motion passed unanimously; the meeting adjourned at 6:46PM.

Prepared by: Maribel Karisch & Maria Arciniega

Approved by A.S.A.C Chairman:


Chris Canales

Terry Kebschull- Director

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