



# TULARE COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2024  
MEETING**

<b>Meeting Called to Order:</b>	1:08 pm by Patrick Hamblin
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ATTENDANCE
<b>PRESENT:</b> BJ Motko, Candace Harrington, Carrie Morales, Damaris Menchaca, Donna Sims, Gina Rizza, Mary Dieterle, Matthew Corso, Oma Mansfield, Patrick Hamblin
<b>ALTERNATES PRESENT:</b>
<b>EXCUSED ABSENCE:</b> Amy Shuklian, Tracy Everett, Tricia Stever Blattler
<b>UNEXCUSED ABSENCE:</b> Michael Cortez
<b>GUESTS PRESENT:</b> Mary Jungwirth, Diana Mendez

PUBLIC COMMENT
None

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>AGENDA</b> / <input type="checkbox"/> <b>DISCUSSION: Review and Approval of minutes from Meeting on December 14, 2023</b>			
None			
<b>Motion:</b>	<i>Approve the minutes of the Advisory Committee Meeting on December 14, 2023</i>		
<b>1<sup>st</sup>:</b>	BJ Motko	<b>2<sup>nd</sup>:</b>	Mary Dieterle
<b>Vote</b>	<b>Yes:</b> Unanimous	<b>No:</b>	

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>AGENDA</b> / <input type="checkbox"/> <b>DISCUSSION: Election of Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Secretary</b>			
Patrick mentioned that they would carry over the election of the Vice-Chairperson to the next meeting. In April there will be more members present.			
<b>Motion 1:</b>	<i>To elect Tricia Stever Blattler as Secretary</i>		
<b>1<sup>st</sup>:</b>	Candace Harrington	<b>2<sup>nd</sup>:</b>	Oma Mansfield
<b>Vote</b>	<b>Yes:</b> Unanimous	<b>No:</b>	
<b>Motion 2:</b>	<i>To elect Patrick Hamlin as Chairperson</i>		
<b>1<sup>st</sup>:</b>	BJ Motko	<b>2<sup>nd</sup>:</b>	Oma Mansfield
<b>Vote</b>	<b>Yes:</b> Unanimous	<b>No:</b>	

<input type="checkbox"/> <b>AGENDA</b> / <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>DISCUSSION: Comments from Advisory Committee Members</b>			
Did a round-robin with all the members who were present. BJ mentioned that their summit was rescheduled to May 15 <sup>th</sup> due to conflicts. The new members introduced themselves.			

<input type="checkbox"/> <b>AGENDA</b> / <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>DISCUSSION: Update from Animal Services on Activities of Tulare County Animal Services</b>			
<p>Cassie was in training. Patrick mentioned some statistics. In 2023, there were 2,248 cat surgeries and 1,031 dog surgeries. 3,472 vaccines were given. In 2023, there were 301 cat adoptions, 588 dog adoptions, 2 other adoptions, and 891 total adoptions. 2,055 animals went to rescues. There were 6,799 calls for service. Double this number for the number of phone calls with two staff answering them. In January, there were 422 animals coming in, 73 adoptions, 199 transferred to rescues, and 625 calls for service.</p> <p>The 100,000 Cal Animal Grant was approved. On Jan 25-26, there were 100 feral cat surgeries that were free to the public. Have another clinic on Feb 29-Mar 1 with San Francisco SPCA. Fixing dogs on a case-by-case basis. With the grant, we are offsetting adoption fees and reconnecting animals with their owners and fixing them.</p>			



## TULARE COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES

Have some open positions: veterinary technician, coordinator, technician/dispatcher. Opportunity to move up. Have several extra help people. The return to owner total is not a high number. Gina mentioned that the staff are always pleasant when she calls.

Focus on adoptions in the clinic. The \$20 adoptions are working. Not changing the incoming number of animals and the shelter is still at capacity. Donna asked about vehicles. We have submitted the Board Agenda Item for the one-time funding. Just waiting for a date. BJ asked about doing something as a committee to show appreciation for the staff's hard work. A committee to support staff.

AGENDA /  DISCUSSION: **Update from Ag Advisory Committee**

None

AGENDA /  DISCUSSION: **Update from Ad-Hoc Committees**

**Membership:** None.

**By-Laws:** Nothing yet. Will get for the April meeting.

**Community Outreach:** Not met yet. Waiting for the outreach coordinator to start.

**Budgetary Challenges:** Getting ready for the next fiscal year. Just wrapping up midyear and are ready to meet now.

**New Committees:** Discussion on staff morale. Talked about bringing food and starting with Valentine's Day.

**Motion:** *Create a Recognition and Retention (R&R) Ad-Hoc Committee*

<b>1<sup>st</sup>:</b>	Mary Dieterle	<b>2<sup>nd</sup>:</b>	?
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<b>Vote</b>	<b>Yes:</b> Unanimous	<b>No:</b>	
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AGENDA /  DISCUSSION: **Suggestions of Committee Alternates**

Explained the process to the new members. Matthew is nominating Rebecca Corso as his alternate and Candace is nominating Lena Cooper as her alternate.

AGENDA /  DISCUSSION: **Additional Comments**

Oma asked Matthew about his organization. He talked about how they help veterans, the service work they do, and the dog training which takes 6 month to a year and they usually help 25-40 dogs a year. Talked about animal recertification. There is no charge for veterans and low cost for others. They start assessing dogs at 1 year old up to 3 years old.

AGENDA /  DISCUSSION: **Adjourn meeting @ 1:58 pm**

**Motion:** *Adjourn Meeting @ 2:22 pm by Patrick Hamblin*

<b>1<sup>st</sup>:</b>	Oma Mansfield	<b>2<sup>nd</sup>:</b>	Gina Rizza
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<b>Vote</b>	<b>Yes:</b> No vote	<b>No:</b>	
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