

DURHAM COUNTY

Animal Welfare Advisory Committee

July 22, 2025

7:00 PM

[Virtual Meeting – Zoom]

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/14tTIVbzCJX812gDKSiqd0Z3549H6PhUA/edit?usp=sharing&oid=117073423474958212282&rtpof=true&sd=true>

Present / Roll Call:

Committee Members:

- Ashley Banes - Sherriff designated DVM - Chair - **PRESENT**
- Madeleine Jones – Board of County Commissioners – at-large – Vice Chair - **PRESENT**
- Shenell Little – Public Health Dept – Secretary - **PRESENT**
- Emily Wahl – Sherriff at-large DVM – Assistant Secretary - **PRESENT**
- Jenny Campbell – APS - **ABSENT**
- Attorney Raye Cameron – District Attorney's Office - **ABSENT**
- Georgette Ray - Sherrif - **ABSENT**
- Melody Moore – Board of County Commissioners – at-large - **ABSENT**

Non-voting Members:

- Nida Allam - County Commissioner/BoCC liaison - **PRESENT**
- Shafonda Allen – APS appointee - **PRESENT**
- Mark Manning – Sheriff appointee - **PRESENT**
- Makeda Black – Public Health appointee – **PRESENT**

Committee legal advisor/liaison

- Kierra Simmons – County Attorney's Office – **PRESENT**

Item I – Introductory Remarks, establish a quorum

Introductory remarks by Dr. Banes, unable to establish a quorum

Shenell gave summary of Ride along with Animal Control in June

Item II - Approval of Minutes

Approval of May meeting minutes will be done on the next meeting

Dr. Banes asks what the contributing factors of the increase of animals in the shelter are. Shafonda answers with lack of housing, vet care, having a contracted mobile van due to the increase population in the county.

Item III – Animal Services Report

Captain Mark Manning states the following:

- 7 vacancies currently; 2 on medical leave; 1 out in July on medical leave
- June had more than 1,000 calls.
- 18 minutes for calls; 7 community; 195 incident reports
- 132 impounds to include bats, birds, geese, racoon, 11 returned dogs due to microchips, 44 dogs based upon stray; 61 cats nuisance; 43 animal bites, 6 bats tested for rabies all negative
- In house clinic vaccinated 104 in June
- 72 warnings
- 5 civil penalties= \$1700
- 41 animal abuse, all unfounded

Item IV – Shelter Report

- Shafonda Allen reports there is an increase in intake; May 445; 60% stray 34% euthanized; 213 dogs 20 guinea pigs 28 others; June 461; 198 dogs; 247 cats; 16 others 65% strays; 23% surrendered
- 37% adopted out; 8% at rescue homes; 5% disposal; 40% euthanized
- Animal shelter is an open admission facility; surrendered animals for euthanized due to sick, old, hit, or injured
- Shafonda reports that large dogs and pit mix are hard to house and the cats are the new dog
- They have the love and tag em program spay/neuter 100 in June; educational events as well
- Leah Santelli reports 1,045 for FY 25; food to Salvation Army in the amount of 8,490 lbs. of food and litter; completing another delivery this week
- Continue to be a resource for the community with adoption specials

Item V – Old Business

- Nida Allam- states the county is moving forward with construction of the new Animal Shelter
- Sarah McDonald asks the shelter if they get donations from Chewy; Shafonda responds with the shelter is a Hills Shelter and the food comes from Hill; cuts down on GI issues and has a contract with Hill; any other donated food go to the community

- Sarah R. asks, is there a timeline for the new shelter; Nida A. states not yet; approval of the design first then back to the Board with charges; Shafonda states 3-5 years before completed

Item VI – New Business

- Shafonda concerned with the cost of Spay/neutered for dangerous animals
- Dr. Banes asks about Veterinary Social Worker to include DSS
- Ask about in person meetings or keep virtual for now
- Ways to keep ecosystem funds in the ecosystem
- Parks and recreation projects; dog level water fountains; need to be submitted before budget meeting or can this be in a grant application
- Amenities on trails
- Public agility playground for dogs

- **Item VII – Public Comments**

No public comments

Adjourn

Move to adjourn by Dr. Banes; Seconded by Jones

Meeting ended at 8:17pm