



Forsyth County Animal Services Advisory Board

November 18, 2021

6:00 - 7:30 PM
5570 Sturmer Park Circle
Winston-Salem, NC 27105

Priscilla Ivester, Chair
Chad Griffin, Vice Chair
Amy Pugh, DVM
Cristina Griffin
P.J. Lofland
Joseph Chrobak
Erin Turner
Rick Borucki
Bill Cowan

Members Present

Priscilla Ivester PJ Lofland Rick Borucki
Bill Cowan Joseph Chrobak Erin Turner

Staff Present

Capt. V. Loveland
Tonya Ward

CALL TO ORDER

- The Advisory Board meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Priscilla Ivester.
- Approval of meeting minutes September 16, 2021
MOTION: Bill Cowan made a motion to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by PJ Lofland and the minutes were approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- As the meeting was held with restrictions, there was no public comment.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Statewide Rabies Database**
Captain Loveland advised the Board that he has had several virtual meetings with Dr. Norris, head of the NC Dept. of Agriculture and Dr. Williams from Public Health. They feel it would be a good idea to have a statewide database but, of course, there are many factors involved such as who would maintain it and, what would be the cost. The Veterinary Board is hesitant but not against the idea, they do have concerns regarding the cost to vets. Captain Loveland said he could work with County IT and if a solution can be reached on some issues and the process works in Forsyth County it could be offered to the state. There was some discussion of the challenges involved.
- **Status Update on FCC 6-57**
Captain Loveland asked if anyone from the Board has spoken with Damon Sanders-Pratt since the last meeting regarding this topic and Priscilla Ivester replied that no one but her understanding was that it was to be discussed during the Commissioners Winter Workshop. There was further discussion of the status.

NEW BUSINESS

- ***Case Update***

Captain Loveland stated that he wanted to make the Board aware of an ongoing case on which has received media attention. He advised the Board that he has met with public officials and explained that Animal Services responded to every call we received regarding that location. Some of these calls were placed anonymously with no witness statements. He went on to explain that, when this occurs, if the officer does not observe the offense take place they cannot pursue charges. There was further discussion of the case and community expectations.

- ***Presentation: Hunters' Role in Wildlife Conservation by Bill Cowan***

Bill Cowan showed the Board a video regarding conservation and how hunters contribute to it. He discussed the topics presented within as well as others from his own wealth of knowledge on the subject. He said he is a member of a nationwide group which provides scholarships and plants seeds for wildlife among other things. He stated that hunting was originally a necessity for food but some animals almost became extinct and regulation was needed. Limits and seasons were put into place, these restrictions are science-based. Hunting is available for all. He provided a handout which elaborated on some topics he discussed such as how hunting is beneficial to managing wildlife populations and the fact that many hunters donate to programs which feed others.

- ***Hearing Tribunals***

The docket and members for the Tribunal Hearings scheduled for December 16th were discussed. Staff said that Chad Griffin had agreed to serve this date via email, Erin Turner and Rick Borucki said they were also available.

ADJOURN

MOTION: With no further business Priscilla Ivester asked for a motion to adjourn. Rick Borucki made the motion, which was seconded by Erin Turner. Priscilla Ivester adjourned the meeting at 7:32 pm.