

# DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SERVICES

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## Advisory Committee Meeting Meetings

Date: April 9, 2018

Call to Order: 6:30 PM

### Members Present:

Ms. Amanda Rocker, Chair  
Mr. Gary Evans, Vice-Chair  
Ms. Maryanne Fasbender  
Ms. Toni O'Neil  
Dr. Robert Sheegog  
Ms. Susan Tuman

### Members Absent:

Mr. Ronnie Cox

### Guests Present:

Ms. Chandra Baillargeon, Program Coordinator  
Mr. Richard Gabbert, Animal Control Manager  
Mr. Howard Martin, Director  
Mr. Ryan Schmidheiser, Animal Control Officer  
Ms. Vikki Irving, President of Friends of Animal Services

Ms. Rocker called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Ms. Rocker motioned to approve the agenda; Mr. Evans seconded. All were in favor.

Ms. Rocker requested approval of the February minutes, motion was approved by all committee members.

Mr. Howard Martin presented the shelter report. Onslow County Animal Services has started a new spay/neuter policy, all adoptable animals will be spayed or neutered prior to leaving the shelter. This will make adopting an animal from the shelter much easier for the adopter. The Animal Shelter is being proactive with this new policy allowing us to cut down on unwanted litters in the community. This will also relieve our staff from having to reach out to adopters that do not comply with their adoption contract.

Onslow County Animal Services is currently in the process of preparing our 2018-2019 budget. We are in the first phase of budget meetings. Currently we have five Animals Control Officers on staff and one Animal Control Supervisor. We have requested three new Animal Control Officer positions. One of these positions will be an Animal Cruelty Bite Investigator. We have seen an upswing in the number of bite cases over the last several months. The shelter has also requested two rear mount chassis for transporting animals. This would allow a safer means of transportation for the animals, and a safer working environment for staff. Four feral cat enclosures have also been requested in the budget. These cat enclosures would provide a safer environment for housing feral cats.

The Advisory Committee members said they were in support of the budget.

Onslow County Animal Services has welcomed our new Veterinarian Technician, Brittany O'neal. Brittany came to us from the Wake County Animal Shelter. Brittany has a great deal of shelter medicine experience, and we are happy to have her onboard.

The shelter is currently working on a grant with Toyota that would match adoptions sponsored by Stevenson Toyota, up to \$10,000.00.

The Shelter has a Stevenson sponsored adoption event coming up, as well as, our annual three-day PetSmart adoption event. This year our three- day event will be held at the Yopp Rd. PetSmart location. The closeness of this location makes transporting animals easier on the animals and the staff.

Ms. Vikki Irving represented Friends of Animal Services. Friends of Animal Services will be hosting their first Ales for Tails event. We are also looking at the possibility of a grant that would help with free or low-cost spay/neuter options for animals in Onslow County. Friends of Animal Services would also like to look at the possibility of sponsoring dental care for senior shelter animals adopted out of, or housed at the shelter.

Unfinished business: There was no unfinished business.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Ms. Rocker motioned to adjourn the meeting; all committee members were in favor.

The time was approximately 7:00 pm

The next meeting is scheduled for 6:30 pm on Monday, June 11, 2018.