

MINUTES

CITY OF TAYLOR, TEXAS ANIMAL CONTROL APPEALS BOARD AND SHELTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Taylor City Hall Chambers, 400 Porter St, Taylor, TX
December 16, 2025, at 6:00 PM

Public in attendance:

Tyler Bybee*, Marissa Little, DVM

Board members present:

Alexis Fine, Sandy Perio, Melanie Rathke, Thomas Rohlack, Diana Voytek, DeeDee Yelverton.

*Tyler Bybee, although Managing Director of Community Services over the animal shelter, has not been officially installed on the Animal Control Appeals Board/Shelter Advisory Committee. Chairwoman Melanie Rathke oversaw the meeting.

Board members absent: Nancy St. Peter, DVM

Meeting called to order at 6:00 PM, and quorum declared.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION:

None

REGULAR AGENDA; REVIEW, DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ACTION

1. Meeting minutes from July 30th, 2025, were reviewed and unanimously approved.
2. **Discussion and possible action on using donated funds to purchase and install a shade structure over outdoor dog runs at the Animal Shelter.**

We were given a \$20,000 donation from Pflugerville Pets Alive under the condition we used the money for something the city wouldn't provide or was not in the original remodel plans. Until the issue of kennel cooling and heating is resolved, this is the next best thing and looks better than tacky shade sails. The board viewed a representative example of a commercial playground shade which would be professionally installed and would last 8-10 years. The plan is to install the structure to where it covers ½ each of two adjacent play yards and to be completed in January or February before the weather gets hot. Dee Dee moved to move ahead with the purchase and Thomas seconded. The project was unanimously approved.

3. **Update – Texas Critter Crusaders Trap, Neuter, Release Program**

To date, 334 community cats have been spayed/neutered and vaccinated. This is three times more than 2024. The end-of-year goal is 350. We are able to spay/neuter at 3# body weight but cannot vaccinate for Rabies until 3 months of age. Dr. Little advises it is more important to get the population under control than vaccinated, which can be done at foster homes or pre-adoption. We currently have 60 kittens in foster. Mandy Nogle is doing a great job of managing this aspect of the program. As kittens become tamed in foster they transition to the shelter for adoption.

4. **Update – Staffing/training**

The shelter is fully staffed. Mike will be going to "Basic Training" in February. Elona and Brandon will go for continuing education after that.

Dr. Little has moved her personal mobile operating unit into the fenced back lot so no longer uses our building for surgeries and shelter animal treatment. In return, she gives us five free spay/neuters per month. This enables her to offer special services to the public off site as well as at the shelter without disrupting shelter operations. She recently provided a "Name Your Own Price" spay and neuter day for people who have a hard time affording the surgery for their pets; they did 19 animals.

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Our second ACO Brandon White, is operating on the streets and focuses on community education, helping citizens with solutions for their pet issues, and issuing citations. He was recognized recently as having gone above and beyond to assist a citizen who had been bitten by a dog.

There is an issue with the dispatchers at the PD telling people who find animals after hours to "just turn them loose." Director Bybee and Sandy will work on some talking points for a more helpful response. A suggestion was made to see if any of our current volunteers might be willing to serve as an after-hours foster.

5. Set Date of next Meeting:

Director Bybee proposed quarterly meetings to be held the second Tuesday of March, June, September and December.. Next meeting set for Tuesday, March 10th, 2026

Meeting was adjourned at 7:04 PM.