

MINUTES

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

Taylor City Hall Chambers, 400 Porter St, Taylor, TX
June 30, 2026, at 6:00 PM

Public in attendance:

Marissa Little, DVM; Susan Davis

Board members present:

Alexis Fine, Sandy Perio, Melanie Rathke, Thomas Rohlack, Becky Schultz, Nancy St. Peter, DVM, Genifer Trdvik, Diana Voytek, DeeDee Yelverton

Board members absent: None

Meeting called to order at 6:04 PM, and quorum declared.

INVOCATION did not occur.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: None

REGULAR AGENDA; REVIEW, DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ACTION

1. Meeting minutes from March 31, 2026, were reviewed and unanimously approved.

2. **Texas Spay & Neuter Program update**

Dr. Little gave totals for the second quarter: 107 COTAS, 143 Taylor citizens, 111 Other surrounding areas--Cameron, Bartlett, Rockdale, Thorndale, Thrall--for a total of 361 animals. She also presented further information about Texas Department of State Health Services' (DSHS) pilot program Texas Spay Neuter Program (TxSNP) and how the funding works. City of Taylor pays for City of Taylor Animal Shelter (COTAS), public-owned animals are "pay what you can," and State funds are used for spays/neuters on animals the private sector cannot afford. TxSNP also paid for all Taylor TNR surgeries this quarter.

3. **New World Screwworm update**

Sandy has had several meetings with city and county officials and local authorities. Shelter concern is for outdoor kennels once fall arrives, as during warm months we have fans and swamp coolers blowing and the flies don't fly in wind. However, all domestic dog and cat intakes are being thoroughly examined (orifices and wounds).

Betsy shared that Williamson County is currently watching for screwworm presence in any immediately-adjacent county (E.g., Travis) before implementing next measures. She is keeping city management informed of current news. City of Austin is working closely with WCRAS (Williamson County Regional Animal Shelter.) so Alexis said she will share any information she receives.

Dr Little noted several reasons the situation is problematic: Although the flies are larger and more identifiable, they will burrow up to 6" deep in wounds and orifices so maggots may not be visible. The maggots will only consume living flesh and will do so at such a fast rate and in such large numbers that the host animal can die very quickly. Also, if maggots are found they must be submitted to the State for confirmation, which could be a complex logistical challenge. Alexis said she could help if/when it comes to that.

Thomas asked if flea preventatives would work on the flies at all. Dr Little and Sandy confirmed there are indications Credelio and Capstar will work on killing the maggots once they bite into living flesh.

Right now it is recommended that only Animal Control pick up any sick, injured or deceased animal due to the possibility of the animal and surrounding area being contaminated.

4. Updates on facilities upgrades

The shade structure has been installed and personnel were able to divide one play yard into two shaded play yards. Pflugerville Pets Alive was thanked for the donation.

The city's ongoing wastewater line project required adjustments to the shelter's fencing boundaries, and the Public Works Director was able to allocate project funds—rather than shelter funds—to construct seven dog play yards from the limited spaces available.

Melanie asked if there was a timeline for when the sidewalk would be re-installed and Becky said no. The holdup is the government has to approve burrowing underneath the railroad tracks.

The American Legion donated leftover box fans from their fan drive.

5. Update on Texas Critter Crusaders (TCC) Trap, Neuter, Release Program

Despite having resources, TCC has lost one of their main trappers and is asking for trapping, transport, recovery and foster volunteers to keep up the momentum. Since last meeting (3 months) there have been 46 new requests for TNR from the community. This year to-date, they have done 94 TNRs plus 43 cats and kittens have been removed from colonies for adoption either through TCC at PetSense, Taylor Shelter, or WCRAS.

The shelter's TNR'd support cat and on-site pest control expert "Barron" became very sick with a kidney infection. Volunteer Dawn Jones paid for his medical treatment and he is back on the job.

6. Identify items for next meeting

- A. Animal control ordinances
- B. "Vet on Record" allowing shelter to order directly
- C. Dr. Little update on shelter treatment and surgery numbers

7. Set date of next meeting

Next meeting was set for Tuesday, September 29, 2026. Meeting may take place in the meeting room adjacent to council chambers.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:46 PM.