

Annual Report FY 2020-2021

County of Monterey, Animal Control Program Advisory Board (ACPAB)

ORGANIZATION INFORMATION

Name of Organization: Animal Control Program Advisory Board

Mailing address: 160 Hitchcock Rd, Salinas, CA 93908

Supervisors Appointees (5):

District 1	Mike Richards, Chair
District 2	Darla Smith
District 3	Carla Stewart
District 4	Debra Long
District 5	David Alexander, Vice-Chair

Health Director's Appointees (4):

At Large - Veterinary Professional	Frank Kocher, DVM
At Large - (what constituency?)	Susan Salcedo
At Large 3	Vacant
At Large 4	Vacant

Ex-Officio Members (6):

Chief Animal Control Officer	Edward Moreno
Sheriff	Stephen Bernal
District Attorney	Jeannine Pacioni
Agricultural Commissioner	Henry Gonzales
Superior Court	Vacant
SPCA	Scott Deluchi

Type of Organization:

- ☐ Board
- ☐ Subject to Brown Act

Staff Contact

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Department: _____ Environmental/Animal Services

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STRATEGIC VISION:

- The strategic vision for the ACPAB is to guide the County on animal control issues and ensure that this is done in the most economical fashion for as many entities within the county as makes sense.

GOALS:

Short Term

1. Review and make recommendations to update the fee schedule.
2. Recommend and assist in the implementation of a County wide licensing program.
3. Implement a mandatory microchip ordinance.
4. Reinstitute the policy whereby Animal Control Officers (ACO's) enforce both State Laws and County Ordinances, including the issuance of citations.

Long Term

1. Make recommendations to increase the budget for the shelter so that staffing can be restored to a level comparable to the level of the 2009/2010 fiscal year. **This is the level that allows the shelter to be run efficiently and provide the level of care that the animals need.**
2. Aid the new Animal Services Operations Manager in implementing a Joint Powers **AUTHORITY** with the City of Salinas; in the interim, support an effort to have the Health Department control Animal Services directly.
 - Note: we define an **Authority** as an independent and separate entity operating within the County.
3. Present the case against Mandatory Spay / Neuter (MSN) to the BoS, in line with ASPCA policy; work on educating the public on this issue.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. Raised the awareness of the need for, and the availability of, low or no cost spay/neuter services in Monterey County, including the City of Salinas, by:
 - using ACPAB meetings as a platform for discussion and education.
 - highlighting organizations such as THE SNIP BUS.
 - directly informing individual members of the Board of Supervisors of the need for these services. (Note: The BOS subsequently voted to fund these mobile spay/neuter clinics).
2. Modified the ACPAB bylaws to:
 - ensure independence of ACPAB members from direct supervision or influence from a county department charged with oversight of Animal Services.
 - increase the number of areas of interest for the Director of Health's potential appointees (e.g. rescue organizations, non-profit organizations, AG industry, pet clubs, etc.)
 - allow the ACPAB to receive direct input from any county employee involved with animal services.
3. Recommended a change to the citation process to one in which the revenue generated goes directly into the Animal Services budget instead of the County General Fund. This process is unfinished at the writing of this report.
4. Continued to conduct business during the Covid19 pandemic through remote meetings conducted over the internet.
5. Experimented with changed meeting times to allow for more public participation.
6. As this report has not been produced on a regular basis, we also want to note our continued support of the Rooster Ordinance which was successfully drafted and approved by the BOS.

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FAILURES

1. Failed to gain an active role in the initial consolidation of the Salinas and County under the Joint Services Agreement between the parties).
2. Failed to ensure that board membership is maintained as members come to the end of their terms or resign.

POLICY ISSUES:

- The ACPAB continues to struggle with its perceived role and hence its effectiveness. The current board feels that it can provide more pro-active input, as opposed to mere oversight which makes the board less effective as an advocacy group for the county's animals.

FISCAL SUMMARY:

- The ACPAB is not independently financed by the County and functions on a voluntary basis.