



**Jackie Rose**  
Director

**Donna Gillesby**  
Deputy Director

---

**Ventura County Animal Services Commission  
Regular Meeting  
Meeting Minutes November 12, 2020**

- 1. Call to Order at 9:05 a.m.**
- 2. Roll Call:**

**Members Present:** Commissioner Carmen Ramirez – City of Oxnard; Commissioner Jim Friedman – City of San Buenaventura; Commissioner Kevin Kildee – City of Camarillo; Chris Enegren – City of Moorpark; Commissioner Suza Francina – City of Ojai; and Commissioner DeeDee Cavanaugh – City of Simi Valley.

Absent: Supervisor Steve Bennett – County of Ventura Board of Supervisors; Commissioner Diane McCall – City of Fillmore; Commissioner Steven Gama – City of Port Hueneme.

**Staff present:** Jackie Rose – Director of Animal Services; Donna Gillesby – Animal Services; Phil Rarick – Animal Services; Monica Rodriguez – Animal Services; Randy Friedman – Animal Services; Roger Pichardo – City of Camarillo; Shaun Kroes – City of Moorpark; Edith Villalobos – City of Oxnard; Dale McAlpine – City of Oxnard Police Department; Alex Arnett – City of Oxnard; Mara Malch – City of Simi Valley.

- 3. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 4. Review/Reordering of the Agenda:** None.
- 5. Consent Calendar:**
  - A. Consider approval of the minutes of the regular Ventura County Animal Services Commission meeting of August 13, 2020

ACTION TAKEN: Director Rose reported that due to unexpected absence of recording secretary, Sandra Ropes, minutes are not available for review. Will bring minutes to next meeting in February 2021 for approval.
- 6. Presentations, Proclamations and Commendations.** None.
- 7. Public Comments:** Speaker: Susan Santa Maria
- 8. Business Items:**

A. Approve VCAS Commission Meeting Dates for 2021

VCAS Staff: Jackie Rose, Director

ACTION TAKEN: Motion made by Commissioner Freidman and seconded by Commissioner Francina. Unanimous agreement. Motion carried.

B. Receive Update on New Animal Services New Shelter

VCAS Staff: Jackie Rose, Director

ACTION TAKEN: Update received.

C. Receive Report: Euthanasia Process Decision Making

VCAS Staff: Jackie Rose, Director

ACTION TAKEN: Report received. Director Rose also provided limited information regarding a dog named "Axel", for which there were questions concerning the decision to euthanize him.

**9. Director's Report:**

- a. Provide update regarding current service deliver due to COVID-19 restrictions and presented information demonstrating that operational adjustments related to limiting the public for casual visits to the shelter has not had any significant negative impact on the number of animals being placed into new homes, transferred to other agencies, or reunited with their families.
- b. Reported that VCAS has been working closely with the veterinarians in the jurisdictions that have adopted the requirement for veterinarians to report rabies vaccinations to VCAS. Preliminary data shows increasing compliance with this new mandate. VCAS will continue to work with veterinarians who have not yet fully complied.
- c. Reported that VCAS launched its new website on August 26, 2020 and thanked Randy Friedman, VCAS Marketing and Media Manager, for his hard work on this project.
- d. Reported that VCAS deployed two animal control officers to Butte County in September for two weeks to provide Mutual Aid Assistance during the fires.
- e. Reported that VCAS has been working on enhancing strategies for spay/neuter enforcement and education in the jurisdictions that mandate spay/neuter by ordinance (City of Port Hueneme, City of Ojai, and Unincorporated Ventura County). Will provide a full report on these activities at the next meeting in February 2021.
- f. Reported that VCAS submitted a grant to the PETCO Foundation for \$50,000 to support the Pet Retention Program and is awaiting notification if funding will be awarded.

**10. Commissioner Comments:**

- a. Commissioner Kildee and Commission Friedman recommended that the information from the Euthanasia Presentation be made available to the public.
- b. Commissioner Cavanaugh positively commented on the Euthanasia Report and thanked the Director for a thorough review of this information.
- c. Commissioner Friedman requested for Staff to provide a written report to be sent to Commissioners regarding the concerns expressed during the public comment section of meeting.
- d. Commissioner Francina positively commented on the Euthanasia Report and thanked the Director for the information provided regarding "Axel".
- e. Commissioner Francina questioned as to how to make spay/neuter surgeries affordable for the masses so that there is no reason not to sterilize pets. She also questioned whether anyone knew of statutes that preclude pet owners from being discriminated against for housing

**11. Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 10:48 a.m.

**Next meeting schedule for: Thursday, February 11, 2021, 9:00 a.m.**