# MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COLLIER COUNTY DOMESTIC ANIMAL SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD

Naples, Florida, July 18, 2023

LET IT BE REMEMBERED that the Collier County Domestic Animal Services Advisory Board, in and for the County of Collier, having conducted business herein, met on this date at 4 p.m. in **REGULAR SESSION** in Administrative Building F, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Collier County Government Center, Naples, Florida, with the following members present:

CHAIRMAN: Jim Rich

VICE CHAIRMAN: Meredith McLean

SECRETARY: Sue Law

Michele Antonia (Excused)

Kelly Hyland

Dr. Robert March

Cpl. Sherry Rego (absent)

ALSO PRESENT: Marcy Perry, Director, Domestic Animal Services Cindy Delgado, Administrative Assistant, DAS

Tanya Williams, County Public Services Department Head

Any persons in need of the verbatim record of the meeting may request a copy of the audio recording from Domestic Animal Services.

#### I. Call to Order

**Chairman Rich** called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m. Everyone was on the dais, except Sherry, and there's one dismissal.

## II. Roll Call - Establish a Quorum

A quorum of five was established.

## III. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Rich said he wanted to acknowledge Al Schantzen, a famous DAS volunteer who has been working at DAS for a long time now and has been very instrumental in many of the new things going on there and he fixes things if they need it. He's a tremendous asset. A few months ago, he recommended that we start doing the Pledge of Allegiance at this meeting and we started that at the last meeting, but unfortunately, he wasn't there. You are here today, so can you do us the honor of leading us today? Everyone please stand, face the flag and put your hand over your heart.

[The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.]

## IV. Approval of Agenda

Dr. March made a motion to approve the agenda. Secretary Law seconded it. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

## V. Approval of Minutes

A. January 17, 2023

**Chairman Rich** said the first version was difficult to read, so it was redone by our current minutes-taker and we decided to wait until this meeting to approve it.

Dr. March made a motion to approve the January 17, 2023, meeting minutes. Secretary Law seconded it. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

#### B. April 12, 2023

Ms. Hyland made a motion to approve the April 12, 2023, meeting minutes. Dr. March seconded it. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

## VI. Leadership Report [Marcy Perry, DAS Director]

Ms. Perry reported on some process improvements and updates:

- <u>Field Section</u>. Every time we submit violations to the Special Magistrate, there's a notice of hearing form that goes out to everyone with a violation. She worked with the database system to automate it. Effective last week, the form is in DAS's computer database.
- The reason that's important is she received a few questions mid-year asking about pending violations that didn't make it to the Special Magistrate, so Code Enforcement staff had to go into a Word document and hand type it all, which resulted in them limiting us to 30 violations monthly. As a result of automating

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this, we've been able to get caught up on some of the backlog the problem created. Starting on August 4, they're going to be using the automated form.

- It's as simple as running a report. For example, if we get a report request for how many adoptions we did this month, you put a start and end date and it will come up with a report. Same thing for hearings. Just put in a start and end date and it creates a report.
- We have a new Special Magistrate, Patrick Neale, who is a few months in and has
  different requirements than the previous Special Magistrate. As a result, beginning
  in August, Domestic Animal Services officers will attend the hearings and testify.
  In the past, the Field Operations Manager testified. The Special Magistrate
  considers that hearsay and dismissed some of our violations.
- Now we're preparing our officers to go into the hearings to testify about the
  photographs they took and videos they've seen so we can prevent that from
  occurring.
- There was a recent article about a Naples Park man arrested and charged with animal abuse. We worked on that case with the Sheriff's Department in 2020 and he was just arrested. It was a small dog that unfortunately had to be euthanized.
- She wants to bring more of those cases to this board. They take time to go through the system until an arrest can be made. As a result, she can't talk about it or go into detail.
- We have several criminal cases we're working on with the Sheriff's Office. As
  they make their way through and people get arrested, she'll bring them to the
  board so you're fully aware.
- The Sheriff's Office program started up again a couple of months ago. Inmates used to come to DAS on Wednesdays to help clean, feed and take care of the dogs. We're going to revamp that program in August. Instead of Wednesdays, they'll come in on Tuesdays and Thursdays. She's also working with the Sheriff's Office so DAS can participate in the weekend work program. She doesn't have those details and was hoping Sherry would be here to explain the program.
- She believes that before a defendant is sentenced, they report to the Sheriff's Office on certain days and then they come to DAS to help out. We're going to host them on the first and third Saturday of every month. That also starts in August. They're not able to handle animals, touch animals, play with animals or do anything with animals, but they can clean and empty dirty kennels and cages. Staff will be with them at all times to ensure that and will take a dog out of a run for a walk so they can clean the empty kennel.
- We have a new phone system. Starting at 10 a.m. tomorrow, we will go live with it after quite some time waiting for that. The new system has amazing technology. They trained us on what it can do and it allows us to know how many calls are coming in, how many calls are abandoned, what employees are answering the calls, which calls aren't being answered, how long they're on the phone and what type of calls are coming in. It will be trial and error.
- If you receive information on Wednesday or Thursday that there's a glitch and people can't get through, send me a text or an email or call me on my cell phone. We're going to try and work through that.
- The new phone system will improve our processes immensely. They've already improved the process with voicemails, but it's going to take it a step further.
- We've hired a veterinarian who will start on July 31. The first week is onboarding, which is Human Resources training and related issues. We won't start seeing her

until the second week in August. She also has a planned vacation, which she told us about during the interview process, and she'll be gone about 3½ weeks, so she'll be with us about three weeks, take a 3½-week vacation and then return. She has about 33 years of experience working in shelter medicine, as well as private practice. She's being hired as our herd-health vet.

• We're still in talks with other veterinarians. There was an interview yesterday and there's another in two weeks to hire a second vet, a surgical vet.

**Chairman Rich** said great job and thanked Marcy. One of the things on the report was that DAS officers attended a 40-hour course and a national animal-cruelty investigation school. What is that exactly?

**Director Perry** said it's a class to provide training for cruelty-type situations and how to collect and document evidence at the scene. It's a series of three courses. This was Level 1. After they pass Level 1, we'd then host Level 2 and Level 3 and so on. That's just one of the training opportunities that we've provided to our field officers. A few minutes ago, Susie Thomas provided me with some additional training for field staff, which looks very interesting. We're going to reach out to Susie after this meeting and see which classes we can provide to field staff.

#### VII. Old Business

(None)

#### VIII. New Business

## A. New Spay/Neuter Law – Jim Rich Chairman Rich reported that:

- There's a new bill that addresses the veterinarian workforce shortage. We were just talking about Florida Animal Friends, the license plates with animals. They came out with this bill, which says that due to the pandemic, the number of spay and neuter surgeries has dropped and added to a shortage of veterinarians. That means an increase in homeless pets. To address the issue, a new law took effect on July 1, 2023, that allows veterinarians with a license in other states to perform these critical surgeries in Florida.
- We can bring vets in during emergencies without jumping through all the hoops.

## B. Update: Community Cat Food Drive – Jim Rich Chairman Rich reported that:

- We had a Community Cat Drive. We did one last year and this year and it was very successful.
- We have several thousand cats out there loose that we're calling community cats.
- We have cat feeders who take the time at night and use their pensions and Social Security checks, etc. They wait until that money comes in to buy them food.
- We've been trying to find a way to help them, so we thought we'd hold another drive again this year.
- We had a lot of support from For the Love of Cats (FLC), from supporters, from Harborside. Dr. March has an incredible practice and staff and a wonderful cat there called Floyd. He was dearly loved and passed away too early. Dr. March held a memorial drive and collected nearly 1,000 pounds of food. With the other donated food, we had over 6,000 pounds of cat food we were able to pass out.
- It was distributed among 19 feeders who were verified. He's very careful when

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- talking to people who need help and asks how many cats they're feeding.
- He thanked the generosity and efforts of FLC supporters, Dr. Marsh and Floyd.
- He thanked Marcy for coordinating the food drop off and pickup arrangements at North Collier Regional Park. They were very accommodating and we're planning on making this a yearly event. It was very successful. He thanked everyone involved. It was well worth it.

**Director Perry** asked that he also recognize the Parks & Recreation Department, its director, Olema Edwards and her staff for getting that done for us.

Chairman Rich said absolutely and asked if those names could be placed on the record.

#### IX. Public Comments

**Chairman Rich** noted that one of our biggest commenters is Susie Mehas (Naples Cat Alliance). It's her birthday today, but she's not here or we'd sing happy birthday.

Chuck Danielian said he wanted to address the situation we're having with restricting Animal Control Officers from going on private property for suspected abuse cases. He asked once before, but never got an answer about the possibility of using drones. If the officer pulls up to a house and can't meet with anyone, he can at least survey the situation from the road. If there's an animal in distress and possibly dying, regardless of any technicalities, he should be able to go in and rescue that animal. That would provide a view that you would never get from the street.

Chairman Rich said Sherry addressed that at the last meeting and was going to look into it.

Secretary Law said it's illegal.

Ms. Hyland said Sherry said she'd get back to us.

Chairman Rich said we're pretty sure it's illegal, but he promised to find out for him.

Mr. Danielian said that's been a complaint by people, that it's an invasion of property. He doesn't know if it's illegal, but hopefully she can find out. It is a public airspace. Chairman Rich said he didn't know the technicalities, but promised he'd find out.

#### DAS Volunteer Al Schantzen told the board:

- There are other county meetings that staff have been attending, such as task force
  meetings. If you get the word out about cat food drives there, it helps generate
  interest among county employees. We mentioned towel drives at the last meeting
  and everybody was going to bring their towels. Networking through Code
  Enforcement staff also would be good.
- The ADA, Americans with Disabilities Act, protects the care animals and provides guidance to people on how they can get care animal certification through a social worker who could aid in getting some of these animals into restricted communities. The ADA overrides those restrictions.
- The state passed a law that says you can't discriminate on animal size, weight and type. He's not sure exactly what the law is, but we could ask the County Attorney to give us some guidance on how that affects dogs. The way he interprets it is it says it involves government public housing, but the County Attorney could help us and maybe it's another tool in the arsenal.

Chairman Rich said unfortunately, it only applies to government housing, but thank you.

We really appreciate your input.

### Nancy Revelt told the board:

- Why doesn't Domestic Animal Services do something similar to what the Humane Society Naples does with their yearly event that they have at the Ritz-Carlton, with prizes. She's a travel agent so she gave the Humane Society a cruise. Before they began sending a newsletter via e-mail, they sent out a hard copy of the newsletter to their members. To make money, she suggested a raffle for a Mediterranean cruise and they sent out raffle tickets to their members. It was about \$25 each or five for \$100 and we made \$75,000.
- That's not a lot of money compared to what the wine festival makes but it still could provide extra money for Domestic Animal Services.
- Would you be interested in doing something like that next year? The Humane Society has a great program, but they charge \$250-\$300 per person for the event or \$500-\$600 and a lot of people can't afford to go to a party at the Ritz-Carlton.
- She suggests something less expensive. They can buy a raffle ticket and she can get a travel prize so we can make at least \$50,000. She can talk to people about doing it. She's been doing this for the past 40 years and knows how to organize these things to make money.
- She appreciates DAS. She adopted four of her seven Weimaraners from Domestic Animal Services and just got a German Shepherd from DAS. It's probably the smartest dog she's ever had. This stray dog didn't even have a chip, so we waited and prayed and finally got him. Her Shepherd and Weimeraner are best buds.
- She trapped 12 feral cats in her neighborhood and brought them to Domestic Animal Services, but had to bring some to the Humane Society because DAS didn't have a vet. She got 12 of them spayed and neutered, and then they said to trap and release. So she brought them back to where they were around her house and released them, but they still hang out at her house.
- She thanked DAS for doing a great job.
- If you're interested in making some extra money and having an event, it probably
  won't be as luxurious as the Humane Society event, but it would be a very
  successful way of making some extra money. So just let her know.

**Chairman Rich** thanked her and asked Marcy if DAS has any restrictions as a government agency in terms of holding that type of event.

**Director Perry** said we just held Puppies for Prom recently and there are restrictions, but we just abide by those restrictions. They don't prevent us from doing fundraising events. **Chairman Rich** suggested she could get together with Ms. Reyelt to look at the options. It would be wonderful to have something like that. Thank you so much for speaking.

## X. Advisory Board Member Comments

**Ms. Hyland** said she has a few questions to ask on behalf of all the people who wanted to know these answers.

Chairman Rich asked who the people were.

Ms. Hyland said just the public, but some are her own questions.

Ms. Hyland said Marcy went over this in my e-mail regarding the breeder ordinance and the meetings that transpired. She was told that they had meetings, but at this time, they're not going to change any of the wording.

Chairman Rich said that's correct. They're enforcing what they have at this point.

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Ms. Hyland asked if breeders were giving away or trading animals and not selling them, would the ordinance still apply?

**Director Perry** said if they have a litter of puppies, they're required to get a breeder permit.

**Ms.** Hyland asked if they'd have to do that if they're giving away puppies.

Director Perry said they're required to get a permit to breed puppies. If they give them away, they're not required to have a health certificate, but they need a breeder's permit.

## A discussion with Ms. Hyland ensued and the following points were made:

- We've gone through this many times with Tanya Williams and the County Attorney's Office and the county ordinance is enforceable.
- The county can't add wording that it can't enforce.
- We've revised the ordinance many times and it's sufficient.
- The animal cruelty case from November 2020 took so long to get an arrest because they had to wait for reports and necropsies. If they rush, a conviction may not stand. CCSO handled that, not DAS.
- They wanted to ensure that the evidence wouldn't be thrown out.
- DAS is working on several other cases with the Sheriff's Office that we expect an arrest on but it can take a few years.
- DAS currently has six ACOs on the road. All the officers handle the calls they
  receive in the area they're in, but we don't have specific officers for breeders or
  pet stores.
- We run calls in priority order and handle sick and injured first emergency calls and we also get to inspections.
- We could use more staffing in the field. The expanded ACO request is still with the County Manager's Office. Staffing levels are a concern because we'll always go for a sick or injured animal first before a pet store or groomer inspection.
- We're not that far behind. When somebody renews their inspection, they complete
  an application and the call is placed in the database. For the current priority list, it
  takes about five days from when that comes in due to priorities. The majority take
  five to seven days.
- Any new pet store, groomer or breeder is handled by Domestic Animal Services, so our enforcement officers handle enforcement. We've been extraordinarily proactive with the new Pet Supermarket in Freedom Square. We've contacted her multiple times and provided inspection forms. She applied but there are some pending personal concerns with her and we're not certain she's going to be opening. If she does, it's not going to be tomorrow. It will probably be next month or the next. She's had the store for 1½ years and still hasn't been able to open. That may be the case in the end. We've given her the ordinance, we've reviewed it and before she opens, we'll go there for an inspection. They're building from scratch and it's still empty.
- The other pet store is up for an inspection because their annual expired. An officer will go out there and do an inspection.
- DAS doesn't yet have the three new officer positions filled and doesn't have someone assigned to Golden Gate or Immokalee. When DAS is fully staffed, there will be eight ACOs, but they will be covering all of Collier County seven days a week, nearly 24 hours a day. We don't have officers to designate to areas.

When the public wants to place an item on the agenda, they need to complete an
online form. We haven't limited anyone to a two-week deadline and only one
person has ever filled out the form. We have never turned down someone asking
to put a topic on the agenda.

**Chairman Rich** told Ms. Hyland that many of these questions could be discussed with Marcy one-on-one, not at a board meeting. You've had your own meetings with her, but you choose to ask them again here with the group.

Ms. Hyland said she thinks it's appropriate. Doesn't everybody else want to know the answer to some of these questions?

Chairman Rich said no, some of them are repetitive.

Ms. Hyland asked which were repetitive.

Chairman Rich said the cages and how often they're going to be inspecting everything.

### A discussion ensued and the following points were made:

- Marcy has told Ms. Hyland several times that they've been trying to get inspections done more than once a year.
- Marcy has told her several times that they're short on officers and they're planning on going back every six months. They're doing the best they can.
- It sounds like she doesn't know the answers to the questions, despite being told several times.

### Ms. Hyland told the board:

- Ms. Hyland said the board meets only every three months. She doesn't understand what the resistance is to wanting communicate on the dais and discuss issues.
- She's floored that no other board member is asking questions or citing concerns.
- She's happy about all the good things happening at DAS, everything we've been waiting for, but there are things that need work.
- If we can't work on that here, we don't have workshops. Why can't we take the time?

Chairman Rich said she can bring up any topics she wants discussed, but some have been discussed several times, including what the function of this board is. If there was an issue important enough for a workshop, he'd schedule one tomorrow, but no one has brought up a topic for a workshop.

Ms. Hyland said he's probably referring to enforcement, but enforcement is a service provided by DAS to the community. If it's a matter of working on things to make them better so animals get the attention and the help they need faster, she doesn't think anyone would be resistant to that. Going back to 2000, we've been trying to improve things.

**Chairman Rich** said he's not questioning her intent. It's certainly sincere but you tend to keep asking the same questions at every single meeting.

Ms. Hyland said that's because it hasn't been resolved. Are we not supposed to bring it up or push it? This is supposed to be an active, working board that brings up ideas, talks about things and bringing up issues to commissioners to get voted on or passed. That's not happening here, so she doesn't understand. Marcy can email us her leadership report and then why do we need to be here? I'm here to get things done, to try to make things better and work on things if something isn't right in the community or animals aren't getting the care and the attention that they need.

Chairman Rich said we all do that every day. You're not the only one fighting for animals.

Ms. Hyland said she wasn't saying that, but we need to be more active here to try to get things done out in the community.

Chairman Rich said we're all active. You've had several meetings with Marcy over these same things and she's answered your questions, yet you feel you need to bring them up here every single time.

Ms. Hyland said that's because they keep changing from one minute to the next. There are emails and everyone says the ordinance isn't enforceable and we need to change it, then all of a sudden, it's enforceable and doesn't have to be changed. So what is it?

## A discussion ensued and the following points were made:

- DAS realized the ordinance didn't need a revision; it was being interpreted wrongly.
- County commissioners, the county, Marcy and others have agreed to leave the
  ordinance alone for now while they take a different approach. They want to see
  how things go before trying to revamp it again. We've discussed this several
  times.
- Ms. Hyland wants the ordinance revised to help field officers.
- Ms. Hyland said every time she tries to put something on the agenda, it gets rejected. But the chairman said that's because it was discussed 10 times before and we don't want to take up everyone's time.
- Ms. Hyland said there are loose and stray dogs all over the county.

## Secretary Law told the board:

- When she joined the board, she thought she could bring a lot of knowledge about what goes on in the streets because she's out there with the strays, calling officers and dealing with it at the public level.
- But she realized that's not what the board is about. We are here to support the commissioners with any decisions that they have to make.
- We had some workshops where we brainstormed, which she liked, but it didn't go anywhere.
- Marcy and others have a new administration this year and needed time to get set up and get people in place to see what works and what doesn't.
- She's (Secretary Law) never been a friend of DAS in years past. She was always the thorn in their side and gave them every benefit of the doubt.
- She thought we could brainstorm and discuss how to get dogs picked up faster, how to get food out faster, how to get kennels cleaned quicker but that's not our job. DAS and its new administration are doing that.
- The new ACOs are impressive. They're the best lost pet professionals and they care. They get out of their trucks to try to catch a dog.
- Adoptions are going great, volunteers are doing wonderful and are supportive.
- Everybody needed to step back and let DAS get people in place. We've now got a vet coming on board. Things are falling into place.
- She's thankful for the new administration. They're addressing inspections and animal cruelty. But that's on the county and sheriff's level and takes a long time.
- They've done a great job.
- The new phone system is great.
- We're not here to rewrite the book and solve all the problems. We're not the

county lawyers or employees. We're here to make suggestions and they can take them and run with them. That's what Marcy's been doing, so she supports her.

#### Ms. McLean told the board:

- She agrees with what Secretary Law said.
- DAS is making some really good improvements and that shows in the meetings and reports.
- But as Ms. Hyland said, these meetings have become more of a reporting forum, not us discussing things or bringing up problems.
- We should either reevaluate what this advisory board does or what we can be doing to make sure it's not just reporting. We all have lives, so we need to ensure we're all using everybody's time here wisely.
- The Community Cat Food Drive was great.
- She will look more into the new spay and neuter law. It's probably not as simple as vets can come down here and do spays or surgeries.
- We should start looking at these new progressive things that are coming forward and see how we can work together as a community to take advantage of new laws.

#### Dr. March told the board:

- He agrees with Ms. Hyland that often he's up here listening and not doing much.
- He's doing his part by being an ally for Marcy and doing all he can for the veterinary area.
- It would be nice to know more about what we can do.
- Maybe this isn't the forum for going back and forth about everything that needs to be done, but if there's something specific, we can set up a workshop to sit together and brainstorm.
- He's the furthest away from adoptions compared to the rest of the board.
- He's a vet and he'll do his part.
- He's happy there are others on the front line.
- If they want to set up a workshop, he'd be interested.

#### Chairman Rich told the board:

- He joined the board 12 years ago and for several years after that, DAS was not running well. We had directors who were very happy to euthanize animals. The first director was euthanizing 6,000 animals a year, including kittens and newborn puppies. It was easier to euthanize than try to save them or adopt them out. They didn't care.
- There were so many issues. If you were feeding cats or a stray cat, they didn't have a TNR program. When we moved to Marco Island, there were supposedly almost 2,000 feral cats there. We'd just sold our business and decided we needed to do something. If it was dogs, we probably would have called it For the Love of Dogs, instead of For the Love of Cats. We started trapping and neutering and fixing. We started with Harborside and there were hundreds of animals.
- We got two citations from DAS that said if you're feeding those animals, you
  have to license them, they're your cats. He told them they were just trying to help
  DAS do its job because if they didn't, there would be thousands more out here and
  they're starving.
- We ignored them and got a group of volunteers together and we fixed them. We were kind of undercover at different hotels and condos, doing everything we

could.

- We fought to have TNR legalized, as long as the animal wasn't yours and you could feed and take care of it.
- That was the beginning of the Community Cat Program, although it wasn't called that then. It took us almost three years on the board before we could convince anyone that people can do this without being fined or harassed.
- Then there was the anti-chaining law for dogs, which took two years or more.
- There were things the board had to fight for.
- A lot wasn't being done before and now we don't have to fight anymore.
- He has urged Marcy to speak to the board more about what she's fighting for. That's what they're here for. Otherwise, we're useless.

Ms. Hyland said she's here to try to make things better. That's why she got on the board. She doesn't like the easy stuff. She wants to work to fix the hard stuff. She's happy to hear the good things, but that's not why she's here. She wants to be involved and make a difference and make changes. She's more than willing and happy to give up her seat here to be involved in something else that's going to do that, because she can get a feel-good e-mail anytime. She wants the board to work on the stuff that needs to be worked on.

Chairman Rich said he's the one who encouraged her to be on the board for the reason she's talking about. He doesn't want it to seem like we're becoming a useless board.

Ms. Hyland said she has her own business, which she started from scratch. She's motivated and driven to get stuff done. She doesn't need a to-do or checklist.

Chairman Rich said he spoke to Marcy and said she has the responsibility to involve us. Ms. Hyland said our job is to take issues to commissioners. They think everything is great. They don't come to meetings. They have thousands of things to do. The perfect example is the uninformed comments Commissioner Hall made. Some things he said about pit bulls were uninformed and he also asked why we aren't working on the reason that animals are coming to the shelter. Bingo! He's right on track with that. He made a mistake in what he said about it all being pit bulls. We all know that's not true, but someone needs to reach out to him, have a meeting with him and inform him.

[A discussion ensued about trying to reach Commissioner Hall and showing commissioners the problems at DAS.]

**Chairman Rich** said the bottom line is he's asked Marcy to include the board on things that are problematic. It's her responsibility to the board, herself and to the animals.

Ms. McLean told him that he said TNR was something no one spoke about years ago. It was forward thinking. We need to look at things we aren't doing well. There are lots of things we still need to work on. Let's start thinking progressively and outside the box as to how we can get our community to be a better place. You're talking about why animals come to the shelter. She won't give Commissioner Hall any credit, but let's start looking at that and how we can fix those problems. We're doing a lot of good things, but what aren't we doing? Let's start looking at that.

Secretary Law said on the Fourth of July, she warned everyone to keep their dogs inside. But they didn't. What can we do except nail their doors shut?

Ms. Hyland said DAS should have been all over that news every day for two weeks

before July 4<sup>th</sup> to educate people. Not everybody has social media. DAS needs to get out there and make things more public, like on TV or in the newspaper. How else are people going to know? Talk about the fireworks, about being responsible and not letting dogs run outside.

Chairman Rich said we've had a lot of abandoned dogs recently. A lot has to do with housing being unaffordable. People can't afford their animal or food so they're abandoning them

Ms. McLean asked if he wanted her to make a motion.

Ms. McLean made a motion to have DAS hold a workshop to investigate other programs DAS can use so animals don't end up at the shelter. Second by Ms. Hyland. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

## XI. Adjourn

Next meeting: TBD October 2023

Time: 4 p.m.

Administrative Building F, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Collier County Government Center

Ms. McLean made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Hyland seconded it. The motion to adjourn passed unanimously, 5-0.

There being no further business for the good of the County, the meeting was concluded at 5:08 p.m.

	Collier County Domestic	Animal Services
	James Rich, Chairman	1 /
These minutes were approved by the (check one) as presented, o	Committee/Chairman on r as amended	1/16/24,