



Blount County Government

359 Court Street
Maryville, TN 37804-5906

Meeting Minutes - Draft

Animal Center Advisory Board

Commissioner Mike Akard
Commissioner Richard Carver
Commissioner Jessica Hannah
Board Member Angie Holley
Board Member Carl Koella
Commissioner Staci Martin
Board Member Chris Protzman
Board Member Pam Ragon
Commissioner Linda Webb

Tuesday, December 16, 2025

6:00 PM

Blount County Animal Center

Roll Call

BE IT REMEMBERED, that a meeting of the Blount County Animal Center Advisory Board was held on Tuesday, December 16, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in the Blount County Animal Center of Maryville, Tennessee. Blount County Board of Commissioners Chairman Jared Anderson called the meeting to order. There were 7 members present and 2 were absent. The Chairman declared that a quorum did exist. The following proceedings were held, to wit:

- Present** 7 - Commissioner Mike Akard, Commissioner Richard Carver, Board Member Carl Koella, Commissioner Staci Martin, Board Member Chris Protzman, Board Member Pam Ragon, and Commissioner Linda Webb
- Absent** 2 - Commissioner Jessica Hannah, and Board Member Angie Holley

Election of Animal Center Advisory Board Chairperson

Chairman Anderson opened the floor for nominations for Chairperson of the Animal Center Advisory Board. Board Member Koella nominated Mike Akard, and the nomination was seconded by Board Member Protzman. Chairman Anderson asked if there were any further nominations. Hearing none, he asked if there was any objection to closing nominations. There was none.

A roll call vote was taken on the nomination. Chairman Anderson declared Commissioner Akard elected as Chairperson of the Animal Center Advisory Board by the following vote:

- Yes:** 6 - Carver, Koella, Martin, Protzman, Ragon, and Webb
- No:** 0
- Absent:** 2 - Hannah, and Holley
- Abstain:** 1 - Akard

Election of Animal Center Advisory Board Vice Chair

Chairman Anderson opened the floor for nominations for Vice Chair of the Animal Center Advisory Board. Commissioner Martin nominated Rick Carver. That was seconded by Commissioner Webb. Chairman Anderson asked if there were any further nominations. Hearing none, he asked if there was any objection to closing nominations. There was none.

A roll call vote was taken on the nomination. Chairman Anderson declared Commissioner Carver elected as Vice Chair of the Animal Center Advisory Board by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Akard, Koella, Martin, Protzman, Ragon, and Webb

No: 0

Absent: 2 - Hannah, and Holley

Abstain: 1 - Carver

Chairman Anderson relinquished the floor to Animal Center Advisory Board Chairman Akard.

A. Setting of Agenda.

A motion was made by Board Member Koella, seconded by Commissioner Carver, that the agenda be set. A voice vote was taken with all voting aye, and none opposed. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed.

B. Public Input on Agenda Items.

There was none.

C. Approval of Minutes.

1. [Animal Center Advisory Board Meeting Minutes for May 27, 2025.](#)

Attachments: [Minutes \(55\)](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Carver, that the minutes be approved. A voice vote was taken with all voting aye, and none opposed. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed.

D. Old Business.

There was none.

E. New Business.

1. Report from the Blount County Animal Center Staff.

Blount County Animal Center Director Ron Crowe gave the quarterly report that included the fiscal budget review year-to-date; center statistics for animal intake (678), animal outcome (725), and live release rate (90.29% excludes owner requested euthanasia); building update (expansion and interior remodel); Dr. Chelsie Atchley; and Volunteer Appreciation Day on February 21, 2026.

2. Other.

Board Member Ragon initiated a discussion regarding local city animal shelters. Board Member Koella recommended that Blount County's Mayor contact the city managers to revisit the possibility of combining efforts.

There was no action was taken.

F. Public Input on Items Not on the Agenda.

There was none.

G. Adjournment.

A motion was made by Board Member Koella, that the meeting be adjourned. The Chairman declared the meeting to be adjourned. The Blount County Animal Center Advisory Board adjourned on Tuesday, December 16, 2025, at 6:41 p.m. This was adjourned.