



Blount County Government

359 Court Street
Maryville, TN 37804-5906

Meeting Minutes

Animal Center Advisory Board

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

6:00 PM

Blount County Courthouse, Room 430

<https://zoom.us/join>
Meeting ID: 986 2292 9665

Roll Call

BE IT REMEMBERED, that a meeting of the Blount County Animal Center Advisory Board was held electronically on Tuesday, February 23, 2021 at 6:00 PM via Zoom Meetings. Blount County Clerk Gaye Hasty called the meeting to order. There were 7 members present and 2 absent. The following proceedings were held, to wit:

- Present** 7 - Vice Chair Mike Akard, Chairperson Richard Carver, Commissioner Tom Hood, Board Member Carl Koella, Board Member Angie Holley, Board Member Chris Protzman, and Board Member Pam Ragon
- Absent** 2 - Commissioner Dodd Crowe, and Commissioner Jackie Hill

Election of Animal Center Advisory Board Chairperson

The Clerk opened the floor for nominations. Board Member Koella nominated Rick Carver for Chairman of the Animal Center Advisory Board. The motion was seconded by Board Member Ragon.

A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, seconded by Board Member Holley, to cease nominations. A roll call vote was taken. The Clerk declared the motion to have passed and nominations closed by the following vote:

- Yes:** 6 - Akard, Hood, Koella, Holley, Protzman, and Ragon
- No:** 0
- Absent:** 2 - Crowe, and Hill
- Abstain:** 1 - Carver

A roll call vote was taken on the nomination to elect Commissioner Carver to serve as Chairman of the Animal Center Advisory Board. The Clerk declared Rick Carver elected as Chairman of the Animal Center Advisory Board by the following vote:

- Yes:** 6 - Akard, Hood, Koella, Holley, Protzman, and Ragon
- No:** 0

Absent: 2 - Crowe, and Hill

Abstain: 1 - Carver

Election of Animal Center Advisory Board Vice Chair

The Clerk opened the floor for nominations. Commissioner Hood nominated Mike Akard for Vice Chair of the Animal Center Advisory Board. The motion was seconded by Board Member Koella.

A motion was made by Commissioner Carver, seconded by Board Member Koella, to cease nominations. A roll call vote was taken. The Clerk declared the motion to have passed and nominations closed by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Carver, Hood, Koella, Holley, Protzman, and Ragon

No: 0

Absent: 2 - Crowe, and Hill

Abstain: 1 - Akard

A roll call vote was taken on the nomination to elect Commissioner Akard to serve as Vice Chair of the Animal Center Advisory Board. The Clerk declared Mike Akard elected as Vice Chair of the Animal Center Advisory Board by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Carver, Hood, Koella, Holley, Protzman, and Ragon

No: 0

Absent: 2 - Crowe, and Hill

Abstain: 1 - Akard

A. Setting of Agenda.

A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, seconded by Board Member Koella, to set the agenda. A roll call vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Akard, Carver, Hood, Koella, Holley, Protzman, and Ragon

No: 0

Absent: 2 - Crowe, and Hill

Abstain: 0

B. Public Input on Items on the Agenda.

There was none.

C. Approval of Minutes.

1. [Animal Center Advisory Board Meeting Minutes for February 27, 2020.](#)

Attachments: [Minutes of Animal Center Advisory Board 2020-Feb-27](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, seconded by Board Member Koella, that the minutes be approved. A roll call vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Akard, Carver, Hood, Koella, Holley, Protzman, and Ragon

No: 0

Absent: 2 - Crowe, and Hill

Abstain: 0

D. Old Business.

1. **Discussion and Possible Action of a Trainer/Volunteer Coordinator Position.**

Board member Holley inquired about who the volunteers answer to at present. Board member Ragon explained that a volunteer coordinates the schedules of the volunteers, but ultimately they are under the jurisdiction of the Animal Center Director. Board member Protzman concurred that the volunteers adhere to the center's operating procedures and roles as set by this board as well as the county and director.

A motion was made by Board Member Koella, seconded by Board Member Protzman, that the item be tabled until the next meeting. A roll call vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Akard, Carver, Hood, Koella, Holley, Protzman, and Ragon

No: 0

Absent: 2 - Crowe, and Hill

Abstain: 0

E. New Business.

1. **Report from the Blount County Animal Center Staff.**

There was none.

2. Other.

Board member Ragon reported that the adoption rates for 2020 exceeded 90% with an in-take of about 1,600 animals. Board member Koella stated that to average 5 per day - great work!

Board member Protzman reported that even with COVID the center saw successful and exceptional adoption rates. He commended the county and staff running a facility during the pandemic - a best in class facility!

There was no action taken.

3. Next Meeting - Tuesday, May 25, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

The Chairman declared that the Animal Center Advisory Board would meet on Tuesday, May 25, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

F. Public Input on Items Not on the Agenda.

There was none.

G. Adjournment.

A motion was made by Board Member Koella, seconded by Board Member Protzman, to adjourn. A roll call vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote and the meeting adjourned on Tuesday, February 23, 2021 at 6:22 p.m.:

Yes: 7 - Akard, Carver, Hood, Koella, Holley, Protzman, and Ragon

No: 0

Absent: 2 - Crowe, and Hill

Abstain: 0