



## **Animal Shelter Advisory Committee**

### **1/18/2024**

Notice is hereby given of a regular meeting of the Animal Shelter Advisory Committee of the City of San Angelo to be held on January 18, 2024 at 12:00 PM at City Hall – East Mezzanine, 72 W. College Ave., San Angelo, Texas, for the purpose of considering the following agenda items.

#### **1. Call to Order**

#### **2. Public Comment**

Issues or items that are not on the agenda may be raised by the public at this time. Citizens should speak from the podium, begin by stating their name and limit remarks to less than three minutes. Committee members may request that a discussed item be placed on a future agenda. The Committee takes public comment on all Regular Agenda items during the discussion of those items.

#### **3. Consent Agenda**

- a. Consider approving the August 18, 2023 Animal Shelter Advisory Committee regular meeting minutes (Morgan Chegwidden)
- b. Consider accepting report of non-negative rabies specimens (Morgan Chegwidden)

#### **4. Regular Agenda**

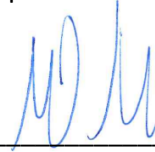
- a. Consider election of a chairperson and a vice-chairperson to terms ending January 2025 (Presentation made by Neighborhood & Family Services Assistant Director Morgan Chegwidden)
- b. Discussion and possible action related to monthly shelter performance for October 2023 (Presentation made by Assistant Director Neighborhood & Family Services followed by Morgan Chegwidden)
- c. Discussion and possible action related to monthly shelter performance for November 2023 (Presentation made by Assistant Director Neighborhood & Family Services followed by Morgan Chegwidden)
- d. Discussion and possible action related to monthly shelter performance for December 2023 (Presentation made by Assistant Director Neighborhood & Family Services followed by Morgan Chegwidden)
- e. Discussion and review on Animal Services and challenges faced by San Angelo and other cities throughout the state/country (Presentation made by Neighborhood and Family Services Assistant Director Morgan Chegwidden)

#### **5. Follow Up and Administrative Issues**

#### **6. Adjournment**

**CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that the above notice of meeting was posted on the bulletin board at the City Hall of the City of San Angelo, Texas, on the 11th day of January 2024, at 4:52 p.m.



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Morgan Chegwidden, Assistant Director  
Neighborhood & Family Services

All agenda items are subject to action. The Animal Shelter Advisory Committee reserves the right to consider business out of posted order.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of San Angelo will provide for reasonable accommodations for persons attending board or commission meetings. To better serve you, requests should be received 48 hours prior to the meetings. Please contact the Assistant Director Neighborhood & Family Services at 325-657-4225, or the ADA Coordinator at 325-657-4407 for request, or by completing a request form online at [cosatx.us/ada](https://cosatx.us/ada).

## Staff Report

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Requestor: Morgan Chegwidden, Assistant Director of Neighborhood Services, Neighborhood and Family Services, 325-657-4224

Meeting Date: January 18, 2024

Item type: Consent Item

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**Caption:**

Consider approving the August 18, 2023 Animal Shelter Advisory Committee regular meeting minutes (Morgan Chegwidden)

**Summary/History:**

Attached are the draft minutes for the committee's consideration.

**Financial Impact:**

N/A

**Other Information/Recommendation:**

Staff recommends approval.

**Attachments:**

- |    |                               |                                    |
|----|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. | 3a 231019 ASAC August Minutes | 3a 231019 ASAC August Minutes.docx |
|----|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|

**Presentation:**

None

**Approvals/Reviews:**

Morgan Chegwidden  
Theresa James

Created/Initiated  
Final Approval



**City of San Angelo, Texas**  
**Animal Shelter Advisory Committee Minutes**  
**August 17, 2023**

Present:

Caitlin Wylie, SMD1  
Jen Murphy, SMD2  
Sgt. Chris Carpenter, SMD3  
Bambi Aker, SMD5  
Morgan Chegwidden, SMD6

**1. Call to Order/Roll Call to Establish Quorum**

With a quorum of the committee members present, Committee Member Caitlin Wylie called the regular meeting Animal Shelter Advisory Committee to order at 12:00 p.m. on August 17, 2023 at City Hall – East Mezzanine, 72 W. College Ave. San Angelo, Texas.

**2. Public Comment**

Citizen Kay Brown asked for spay/neuter ordinance and microchip enforcement that leads to intake.

Tom Green County resident Susan Perry asked for spay/neuter and microchip ordinance awareness to the public.

Citizen Mary Wilson stated she doesn't support killing for space and asked to (1) appoint a group for ordinance review and recommendations, (2) budget for animal services officers' spay/neuter enforcement and disallow breeders permits for pits, and (3) we can spay/neuter our way out of capacity issues.

**3. Consent Agenda**

- a. Consider approving the April 20, 2023 Animal Shelter Advisory Committee regular meeting minutes.
- b. Consider accepting positive rabies specimens for 2023.

MOTION: Committee member Aker made a motion, seconded by Committee member Murphy, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously five (5) ayes to zero (0) nays.

**4. Regular Agenda**

- a. Discussion and possible action related to monthly shelter numbers for April 2023.

A presentation was made by Neighborhood & Family Services Assistant Director Morgan Chegwidden. No action was taken on this item.

Tom Green County resident Susan Perry asked about the intake of animals at the shelter being open.

b. Discussion and possible action related to monthly shelter numbers for May 2023.

A presentation was made by Neighborhood & Family Services Assistant Director Morgan Chegwiddden. No action was taken on this item.

c. Discussion and possible action related to monthly shelter numbers for June 2023.

A presentation was made by Neighborhood & Family Services Assistant Director Morgan Chegwiddden. No action was taken on this item.

d. Discussion and possible action related to monthly shelter numbers for July 2023.

A presentation was made by Neighborhood & Family Services Assistant Director Morgan Chegwiddden. No action was taken on this item.

Committee member Carpenter asked if San Angelo Animal Services had euthanized for space. Committee member Chegwiddden answered that they had not.

Citizen Kay Brown stated the infographic presented should include spay/neuter ordinance enforcement and compliance data.

e. Discussion and consider adopting the revised coordinated intake policy for owners wishing to surrender their pets.

A presentation was made by Neighborhood & Family Services Assistant Director Morgan Chegwiddden.

Wall resident Jenie Wilson asked for this policy to shift approval responsibility to the City of San Angelo.

MOTION: Committee member Aker made a motion, seconded by Committee member Murphy, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously five (5) ayes to zero (0) nays.

**5. Follow Up and Administrative Issues**

Committee member Carpenter stated microchip scanners for the San Angelo Police Department have been deployed for patrol officers.

Tom Green County resident Susan Perry asked what San Angelo police officers protocol is once a loose dog is secured.

**6. Adjournment**

MOTION: Committee member Aker made a motion, seconded by Committee member Murphy, to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously five (5) ayes to zero (0) nays. The meeting was adjourned at 12:43 p.m.

## Staff Report

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Requestor: Morgan Chegwidden, Assistant Director of Neighborhood Services, Neighborhood and Family Services, 325-657-4224

Meeting Date: January 18, 2024

Item type: Consent Item

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### **Caption:**

Consider accepting report of non-negative rabies specimens (Morgan Chegwidden)

### **Summary/History:**

This agenda item serves to update you on any positive, inconclusive, or otherwise unsatisfactory rabies specimens that we've collected this year. One specimen originally reported inconclusive since our last report but has since reported negative.

San Angelo Animal Services submits samples for testing at the Department of State Health Services lab in Austin, Texas. This lab collects three samples to test - one each from the brain stem, cerebellum, and hippocampus. Inadequate tissue was collected so the specimen was forwarded to the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, Georgia. The CDC lab conducted further testing and conclusively reported the specimen as negative.

Specimen 4304 Dog  
November 30, 2023  
1900 Ricks Dr.

Confirmed human exposure, directed to DSHS and medical provider for possible post-exposure prophylaxis while awaiting final results, ultimately notified of negative status once confirmed.

### **Financial Impact:**

N/A

### **Other Information/Recommendation:**

No action necessary at this time.

### **Attachments:**

### **Presentation:**

None

### **Approvals/Reviews:**

Morgan Chegwidden  
Theresa James

Created/Initiated  
Final Approval

## Staff Report

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Requestor: Morgan Chegwidden, Assistant Director of Neighborhood Services, Neighborhood and Family Services, 325-657-4224

Meeting Date: January 18, 2024

Item type: Regular Item

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### **Caption:**

Consider election of a chairperson and a vice-chairperson to terms ending January 2025 (Presentation made by Neighborhood & Family Services Assistant Director Morgan Chegwidden)

### **Summary/History:**

As required by city ordinance 2.07, the animal shelter advisory committee shall select a chairperson and a vice-chairperson at the first meeting of each calendar year. The previous chairperson and vice-chairperson were Caitlin Wylie and Bambi Aker respectively.

### **Financial Impact:**

N/A

### **Other Information/Recommendation:**

Staff recommends a chairperson and vicechairperson be elected at this meeting.

### **Attachments:**

### **Presentation:**

Yes

### **Approvals/Reviews:**

Morgan Chegwidden  
Theresa James

Created/Initiated  
Final Approval

## Staff Report

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Requestor: Morgan Chegwidden, Assistant Director of Neighborhood Services, Neighborhood and Family Services, 325-657-4224

Meeting Date: January 18, 2024

Item type: Regular Item

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### **Caption:**

Discussion and possible action related to monthly shelter performance for October 2023 (Presentation made by Assistant Director Neighborhood & Family Services followed by Morgan Chegwidden)

### **Summary/History:**

242 new animals arrived at the shelter during October. 67 were adopted/transferred, 73 were redeemed by their owner, 12 wildlife were released, 55 were deceased and 289 were in custody at month end.

Our live release rate was 73.43%.

### **Financial Impact:**

N/A

### **Other Information/Recommendation:**

No action necessary at this time.

### **Attachments:**

### **Presentation:**

Yes

### **Approvals/Reviews:**

Morgan Chegwidden  
Theresa James

Created/Initiated  
Final Approval

## Staff Report

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Requestor: Morgan Chegwidden, Assistant Director of Neighborhood Services, Neighborhood and Family Services, 325-657-4224

Meeting Date: January 18, 2024

Item type: Regular Item

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### **Caption:**

Discussion and possible action related to monthly shelter performance for November 2023 (Presentation made by Assistant Director Neighborhood & Family Services followed by Morgan Chegwidden)

### **Summary/History:**

188 new animals arrived at the shelter during November. 76 were adopted/transferred, 65 were redeemed by their owner, 28 wildlife were released, 49 were deceased and 273 were in custody at month end.

The live release rate was 77.52%.

### **Financial Impact:**

N/A

### **Other Information/Recommendation:**

No action necessary at this time.

### **Attachments:**

### **Presentation:**

Yes

### **Approvals/Reviews:**

Morgan Chegwidden  
Theresa James

Created/Initiated  
Final Approval

## Staff Report

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Requestor: Morgan Chegwidden, Assistant Director of Neighborhood Services, Neighborhood and Family Services, 325-657-4224

Meeting Date: January 18, 2024

Item type: Regular Item

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### **Caption:**

Discussion and possible action related to monthly shelter performance for December 2023 (Presentation made by Assistant Director Neighborhood & Family Services followed by Morgan Chegwidden)

### **Summary/History:**

158 new animals arrived at the shelter during December. 88 were adopted/transferred, 52 were redeemed by their owner, 5 wildlife were released, 31 were deceased and 255 were in custody at month end.

Our live release rate was 82.39%.

### **Financial Impact:**

N/A

### **Other Information/Recommendation:**

No action necessary at this time.

### **Attachments:**

### **Presentation:**

Yes

### **Approvals/Reviews:**

Morgan Chegwidden  
Theresa James

Created/Initiated  
Final Approval

# REPORT TO MAYOR & MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

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Requestor: Morgan Chegvidden, Assistant Director of Neighborhood Services, Animal Services

Meeting Date: January 18, 2024

Item type: Regular Item

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## **Caption:**

Discussion and review on Animal Services and challenges faced by San Angelo and other cities throughout the state/country (Presentation made by Neighborhood and Family Services Assistant Director Morgan Chegvidden)

## **Staff Recommendation:**

Accept

## **Summary/History:**

National challenges are largely related to domestic canines, as cat programming serves that species well. Previously, "easy to move" categories, such as purebreds and puppies, languished in both public and private shelters, creating a bottleneck with increased lengths of stay. American shelters are carrying 245,000 more animals this year than last year. One shelter reports the average length of stay increased from 15-18 days to 28-30 days. With an average intake increase of 5% and adoptions down by 1.2%, many shelters are making space-based euthanasia decisions for the first time in years.

San Angelo faces some of the same challenges with decreased adoptions/transfers (32% fewer than the prior year). Pressures on owners such as economic (inflation for dog food is 16% more than last year), restrictive housing (prohibited size, breed), managed owner surrenders to animal services, and policy restricting capacity contribute to more dogs at large and more dogs being abandoned at the shelter (34 last quarter). Local ordinances set an optimal standard for pet ownership, but families are not operating in ideal circumstances and need resources to house dogs.

For fiscal year 2022-23, Animal Services impounded 2,901 animals (28% less than the prior year), 1,491 of which were dogs (38% less than the prior year) but walk-in traffic, workload, and demands for service maintained. 49.8% of all animals were adopted or transferred (or 1,476 animals - 32% fewer than the prior year), 40.9% were returned to owner or wildlife released (or 1,213 animals - 10% fewer than the prior year) and 9.3% were euthanized or died in custody (or 275 animals). Deaths decreased 55% from 614 to 275 animals. 90.7% of animals were released alive, but the climate wasn't celebratory.

An increased need for field services was identified and communicated for funding. Animal Services Officers responded to 6,111 cases in FY23 and investigated 264 animal-to-person bites, up 56% from the prior year. Additionally, staffing is needed to manage this workload and prevent further increases.

Funding facility improvements ensures continued efforts, but shortfalls have been identified, including (1)

preparing a temporary facility to house displaced animals and (2) staffing animal care at two locations. Although originally planned to proceed in November 2023, complex engineering needs prompted a new timeline to break ground this summer.

**Funding Source(s):**

**Financial Impact:**

**Other Information/Recommendation:**

Staff recommends a three-prong approach to support these challenges.

1. Adopt legislation encouraging pet-friendly housing. Landlords should lift breed and weight restrictions, allowing families to stay together, decreasing owners re-homing their pets, and preventing households from releasing their pets to the neighborhood at large.
2. Incentivize community support to increase local adoptions, particularly marketing to young adults.
3. Funding (1) additional animal services officers, (2) four part-time temporary shelter workers during construction project, (3) preparation of temporary animal housing, and (4) free microchips to residents of target neighborhoods.

**Attachments:**

**Presentation:**

Morgan Chegwidden

**Approvals/Reviews:**

Morgan Chegwidden  
Theresa James

Created/Initiated  
Final Approval