



**ANIMAL ADVISORY COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2024**

**The Animal Advisory Commission convened in a regular meeting on Monday, February 12, 2024, at 301 W. Second St. in Austin, Texas.**

**Chair Clinton called the Animal Advisory Commission Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.**

**Commissioners in Attendance:**

Ryan Clinton, Chair, Travis County  
Ann Linder, D3  
Dr. Paige Nilson, D4  
Luis Herrera, D6  
Larry Tucker, D7, Vice Chair

**Commissioners in Attendance Remotely:**

Lotta Smagula, D1  
Beatriz Dulzaides, D2  
Whitney Holt, D5  
Dr. Amanda Bruce, D10

**Commissioners Absent:**

Nancy Nemer, Travis County, Parliamentarian  
Sarah Huddleston, D9

**PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: GENERAL**

**Rochell Vickery – Spay and Neuter**

**Pat Valls-Trelles – EmanciPet**

**Ben Joyce – Fois Gras**

**Kristian Camtes – Fois Gras**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Approve the minutes of the Animal Advisory Commission Regular Meeting on January 8, 2024.  
**The minutes from the meeting of January 8, 2024, were approved with a correction to change the minutes meeting date from December 11, 2023, to January 12, 2024, on Commissioner Linder’s motion, Commissioner Herrera’s second on a 9-0 vote. Commissioners Huddleston and Nemer were absent.**

### **STAFF BRIEFINGS**

2. Overview of monthly reports provided by the Animal Service Center. Reports posted in backup materials.  
**The presentation was made by Jason Garza, Deputy Chief and Don Bland, Chief Animal Services Officer.**

### **DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS**

3. Approve the creation of a Working Group regarding the Emancipet contract.  
**A motion to approve the creation of a working group regarding the Emancipet contract was made by Commissioner Bruce and seconded by Commissioner Herrera.**

**An amendment to change the name of the working group to “Spay & Neuter Contracts with the City of Austin” was made by Chair Clinton, seconded by Commissioner Bruce, and approved without objection.**

**The motion to approve the creation of a working group on Spay & Neuter Contracts with the City of Austin was approved on Commissioner Bruce’s motion, Commissioner Herrera’s second on a 9-0 vote. Commissioners Huddleston and Nemer were absent.**

4. Approve the creation of a Working Group on owner-intended euthanasia at the Austin Animal Center.  
**The motion to approve the creation of a working group on owner-intended euthanasia was made by Commissioner Nilson, seconded by Commissioner Linder, and approved on a 7-1 vote. Vice Chair Tucker voted nay. Commissioner Dulzaides abstained. Commissioners Huddleston and Nemer were absent.**

5. Discussion and approve possible recommendations regarding the Animal Services Office Budget.  
**Discussed with no action taken.**

### **WORKING GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS**

6. Report of recommendations by the Finder to Foster Working Group.  
**Commissioner Nilson presented on the recommendations of the working group.**

### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

**Chair Clinton and Vice Chair Tucker requested an item to approve recommendations regarding the Animal Services Office Budget.**

**Chair Clinton adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m. without objection.**

**The minutes were approved at the April 8, 2024, meeting on Commissioner Linder's motion, Commissioner Nilson's second on an 8-0 vote. Vice Chair Tucker, Commissioners Herrera, Hoke, and Huddleston were absent.**