

FULL MEETING  
PACKET

APRIL 15, 2019

FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH ANIMAL CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA  
MONA LISA DREXLER ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS AT THE  
JUANITA HELMS ADMINISTRATION CENTER  
907 TERMINAL STREET, FAIRBANKS, ALASKA

April 15, 2019. 6:00 P.M.

**A. ROLL CALL**

**B. MESSAGES**

1. Citizen's Comments – limited to three (3) minutes
  - a. Agenda items not scheduled for public hearing
  - b. Items other than those appearing on the agenda
2. Disclosure & Statement of Conflict of Interest

**C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA**

Approval of consent agenda passes all routine items indicated by asterisk (\*) on agenda. Consent agenda items are not considered separately unless any Commission member or citizen so requests. In the event of such request, the item is returned to the general agenda.

**D. \*MINUTES**

1. \*Minutes from March 19, 2019

**E. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1. Shelter report
2. Commercial sale of exotic animals
3. Budget
4. Legislative bills or activity of interest

**F. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Licensing
- b. Ft. Wainwright deployment and increasing relinquishment

**G. EXCUSE FUTURE ABSENCES                      May 20**

**H. COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS**

**I. ADJOURNMENT**

# **MINUTES**

**APRIL 15, 2019**

FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH ANIMAL CONTROL COMMISSION

**MINUTES  
MARCH 19, 2019**

A regular meeting of the Fairbanks North Star Borough Animal Control Commission was held in the Mona Lisa Drexler Assembly Chambers, Juanita Helms Administration Center, 907 Terminal Street, Fairbanks, Alaska. The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Scott Chesney, Chair.

**A. ROLL CALL**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ronnie Rosenberg      Mary Forture  
                                 Alex Thornton      Link Olson  
                                 Jamie Marshcner      Gail Gardner  
                                 Scott Chesney

MEMBERS ABSENT & EXCUSED: Lindsey Heaney

OTHERS PRESENT: Mayor Bryce Ward, Sandy Hill, Raeanne Ross, Kiffiny Bailey, Sharon Wittenkeller

**B. MESSAGES**

Citizen's Comments – None.

Disclosure & Statement of Conflict of Interest – None.

**C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion to approve the agenda made by **Commissioner Gardner** and seconded by **Commissioner Fortune**. Carried without objection or roll call vote.

**D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes from February 19, 2019.

Motion to approve the minutes with correction of the spelling of Commissioner Rosenberg's last name in section G. 2, 4, and 6 made by **Commissioner Fortune** and seconded by **Commissioner Thornton**. Carried without objection or roll call vote.

**E. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1. Shelter Report presented by Sandy Hill – The officers are completely moved into their new location at the emergencies operations building. There are ongoing improvements of use of space at the shelter. The beginning stages of redesigning the backyard have taken place. They are looking into hiring a casual admissions clerk. The sled dog yard was filled to capacity the week prior, with 16 sled dogs, from various kennels and of various ages. Second chance league is aiding in the placement of the dogs. Mush for kids is scheduled for April 6<sup>th</sup>. Disaster response training will take place on July 21<sup>st</sup>, and 22<sup>nd</sup>. Sandy planned to attend the community emergency response teams meeting in Two Rivers on 3/21/19.

a. Chameleon web demonstration  
Officer Ross and Bailey gave a demonstration on the new web Chameleon program that is being utilized in the field by officers.

2. Sled dog housing committee report

a. Proposal to proceed with portable shelter  
**Commissioner Fortune** handed out the final draft letter of the proposed warm animal shelter.

Motion to approve the final draft proposal letter made by **Commissioner Thornton** and seconded by **Commissioner Gardner**.

Discussion on the motion ensued between commissioners.

**ROLL CALL**

Seven (7) in Favor: **Rosenberg, Fortune, Thornton, Olson, Marschner, Gardner, Chesney**

Zero (0) Opposed:

**MOTION PASSED**

3. Regulation of sale of exotic animals

Discussion took place on educating the public about the required care of exotic animals and the necessary supplies needed to care for them, and the extra steps to take to prevent impulse purchases of exotic animals by unprepared or unaware buyers. Commissioners are all in favor of further looking into this issue.

4. Budget  
The budget will be released in April.
5. Legislative bills or activity of interest  
No current legislative action on domestic animals. May 4<sup>th</sup> is International respect for chicken day.

**F. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Discussion with Mayor Bryce Ward  
Mayor Ward reported; the bond proposal before the voters from last fall was not approved. Part of his take away from the bond package, was the voters wanted to understand what the plan was. The animal shelter was a component of the bond package, it was not the only thing on the package.

- a. ACC future directions  
Mayor Ward suggested to the Commission to use the administration as an advisor and tool to help with future directions the Commission wishes to take.

There was a discussion on the concept of dog and cat licensing. It was noted staff is available for resources.

- b. Facility replacement options  
There was an explanation of the current 10 year capital improvement plan and process. The animal shelter is high on the list. Based on the future results of the capital improvement plan, addressing the public, public response, and scoring process, the best case scenario would be about three years before the facility would be replaced. There are repairs that need to be done in order to be able to meet the current needs of the shelter. The long-term plan will be replacement of the shelter.

**G. EXCUSE FUTURE ABSENCES                      April 15**

The absences of **Commissioner Olson**, and **Commissioner Marschner** are excused.

**H. COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS**

Commissioner's Comments

**Commissioner Olson**, asked if the intake and adoption numbers for "other" animals were high. Sandy replied, the number was presented by mice, and is an unusually high

number in general. It is not uncommon to see mice come into the shelter, and each individual body is counted. **Commissioner Olson**, asked if the intake and rehoming data is generally available from other municipalities, and how does the shelter compare with other communities. This could potentially help make the case in passing a bond proposition if the shelter can show this is what the shelter is accomplishing on limited resources. Sandy said she will research this.

**Commissioner Thornton**, stated, deceased exotic animals are weighed, rather than counted individually, and asked how many pounds of exotics are disposed of every year at the shelter. Sandy will look to see if this information is available. **Commissioner Thornton**, asked if the next shipment that came in could be weighed, it may be helpful for the discussion and future direction of the sales and purchases of exotic animals.

**Commissioner Rosenberg**, stated, it is round up at the register for the animal shelter fund at the food co-op during the month of March. Pick. Click. Give. is going until the 31<sup>st</sup> for filing your dividend, you can continue to add until August. The walk for charity is May 10<sup>th</sup>. Clean up day is around the same time, a date has not been announced. They will be cleaning up the highway around Fred Meyer West. Fund raising efforts continue. **Commissioner Rosenberg** is thankful for the endowment. This summer is the first time they can withdraw from it if needed. The shelter had a few bequests. There has been a lot of complex animals, a lot of orthopedic surgeries, and the usual dentals, for the shelter fund.

## I. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m

ADDENDUM  
MATERIALS

APRIL 15, 2019



# Animal Shelter

3/1/2019 to 3/31/2019

Intakes	SENIOR DOG	DOG	PUPPY	SENIOR CAT	CAT	KITTEN	RABBIT	OTHERS	TOTAL
At Large	7	45	5	0	2	0	1	1	61
Owner Surrender	12	47	6	1	15	3	2	16	102
Return	0	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	5
Foster	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
Qaurantine	3	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	8
Protective Custody	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Euthanize Request	13	6	0	1	1	0	0	0	21
Disposal Request	10	3	2	4	1	0	0	5	25
Incoming Transfer	1	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>236</b>

Outcomes	SENIOR DOG	DOG	PUPPY	SENIOR CAT	CAT	KITTEN	RABBIT	OTHER	TOTAL
ADOPTION	6	50	8	0	11	4	3	15	97
RTO	7	28	5	0	1	0	0	0	41
RESCUE	1	13	0	0	1	0	0	1	16
FOSTER	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	3
EUTH-BEHAV HIST	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	3
EUTH-BEHAV OBSV	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
EUTH-MEDICAL	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
EUTHR	13	6	0	1	1	0	0	0	21
DISPOSAL	10	7	2	4	1	0	0	5	29
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>214</b>

## Sterilization Status of Incoming Animals

	DOG	CAT	RABBIT
<b>ALTERED</b>	46%	68%	33%
<b>INTACT</b>	53%	31%	66%

Activity	TOTAL
	1
ASSIST	1
DISPATCH	9
INV - BARK	6
INV - BITE	23
INV - BITEF	53
INV - CRUELTY	10
INV - FOLLOW UP	1
INV - HUM CARE	11
INV - VIOLATION	1
STRAY	146
TRANSPORT	35
TOTAL	297

Bites	Total
SCRATCH	1
SKIN BROKN	21
Total	22

Lost & Found	Total
HOME	4
LOST	20
Total	24

## **Ideas for a Regulation Limiting Unrestricted Sale of Exotics in FNSB**

- For commercial sales, it will be prohibited to sell warm- or cold-blooded species for which the business/entity does not permanently have available for sale the necessary adequate supplies – including enclosures, habitat, food, etc. – for all life stages of that species as appropriate for animal's nature, natural conduct, or the animal in its natural habitat. Species for which supplies cannot be provided may be sold by special-order to a consumer with a signed document acknowledging that the seller cannot provide adequate supplies.
  - *Note:* A prohibition or ban would be easier to implement versus a licensing system given the additional need for monitoring and enforcement.
- Sale of any species cannot pose any threat to a native Alaskan ecosystem; the animal cannot pose a threat to human health or safety; care for the animal is no more demanding than care for “common domestic animals”; and the captivity of the animal cannot have a significant adverse effect on the animal’s natural population.
  - *Note:* Inspired by Massachusetts’ General Laws banning the sale of certain exotics
- No sale shall be made until the business/entity provides satisfactory assurances that said animal(s) is not capable of being returned to its natural environment (in the case of wild animals) and will be provided with sufficient good and wholesome food and water, proper shelter and protection from the weather, veterinary care when needed to prevent suffering, and humane care and treatment, and that the animal(s) will not be cruelly ill-treated, tormented, overloaded, overworked or otherwise abused and that adequate protective devices are provided to prevent it from escaping, injuring the public, or threatening an Alaskan ecosystem.
  - *Note:* Inspired by Greenville County, South Carolina’s permit system
- Animals must be handled expeditiously and carefully so as not to cause unnecessary discomfort, behavioral stress, or physical harm to the animal.
- A legal possessor of an animal at the time of implementation may keep possession of the animal for the remainder of the animal's life.
- The purpose of this regulation is to ensure the responsible private ownership of exotic animals as pets. Therefore, the provisions of this chapter shall not apply to any facility possessing or maintaining exotic animals as defined in this chapter which is owned, operated or maintained by any city, county, state or the federal government, including but not limited to public zoos, nor shall it apply to museums, laboratories and research facilities maintained by scientific or educational institutions.
  - *Note:* Inspired by King County Code §11.28.110.
- A person who violates this regulation or a person who directs or orders a person to commit the violation, is subject to a civil fine of not more than \$500 for each violation.
  - *Note:* Inspired by ALASKA STAT. §03.05.090

## **Why Implement Regulations Limiting Unrestricted Sale of Exotics in FNSB?**

- Protects consumers
  - This encourages responsible pet ownership .The vast majority of consumers are well-intentioned and hope to provide a home with adequate welfare to animals purchased, but they may not have the full information on what is required to provide that

adequate welfare. This regulation would prevent sales of species to consumers presuming a seller would have adequate supplies available.

- This regulation would not limit choice as they can still special order species from a vendor who does not provide adequate supplies for sale. (No vendor would be put out of business by this regulation; any closures would be by their own choice.)
- Protects animals
  - Animals purchased on a whim would be protected given that necessary supplies would be available to a consumer who hadn't had time to do the proper research.
  - Less animals would die in transit and be brought into the FNSB Animal Shelter for disposal of carcasses.

### **Existing Regulations in Alaska regarding Sale/Import of Exotics**

“No person may possess, import, release, export, or assist in importing, releasing, or exporting, live game animals as "pets." Live game animals are defined as any species of bird, reptile, and mammal, including a feral domestic animal, found or introduced in the state, except domestic birds and mammals. The Department interprets live game to include all animals, including exotics, such as wild felines, wolves, bears, monkeys, etc., not listed as domestic under Alaska Admin. Code tit. 5. §92.029. No person may possess, transport, sell, advertise or otherwise offer for sale, purchase or offer to purchase a wolf hybrid possessed after Jan. 23, 2002.”

*Citations:* ALASKA ADMIN. CODE tit. 5. §92.029-035; ALASKA STAT. §16.05.940

*Source:* <https://www.animallaw.info/administrative/topic>

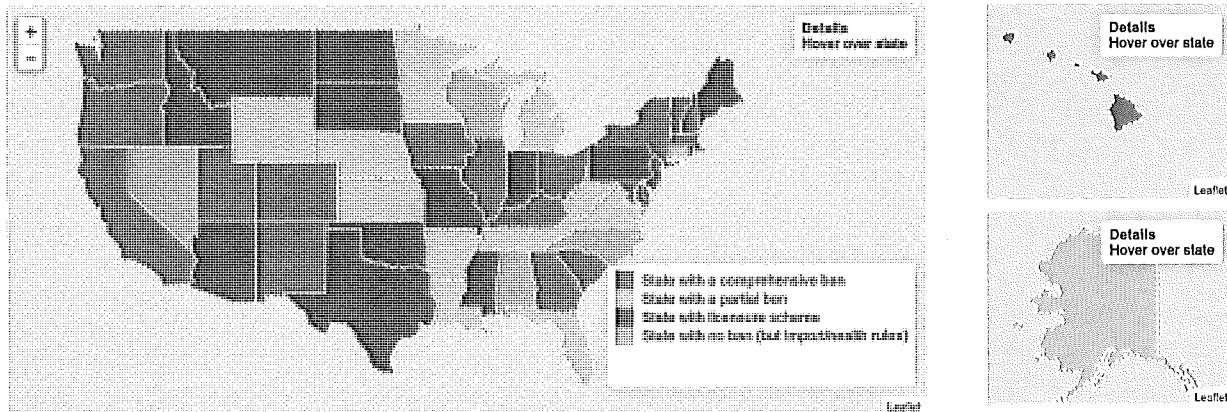
“The following species, not including a hybrid of a game animal and a species listed in this subsection, may be possessed, imported, exported, bought, sold, or traded without a permit from the department but may not be released into the wild:

<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>
Dog	Canis familiaris
Cat	Felis catus
Sheep	Ovis aries
Goat	Capra hircus
Cattle	Bos taurus
Oxen	Bos spp.
Horse	Equus caballus
Guinea pig	Cavia porcellus
Reindeer (except feral reindeer)	Rangifer tarandus Var.
Llama	Lama peruana
Alpaca	Lama pacos
One-humped camel	Camelus dromedarius
Ass	Equus asinus Var.
Mule	Equus asinus x caballus
Swine	Sus scrofa Var.
European ferret	Mustela putorius furo

European rabbit	Oryctolagus cuniculus Var.
White rat albinus	Rattus norvegicus Var.
Mice: white, waltzing, singing, shaker, piebald	Mus musculus Var.
Fat-tailed gerbil	Pachyuromys duprasi
Gerbil	Gerbillus spp.
Hamster (golden)	Mesocricetus auratus
Chinchilla	Chinchilla laniger
Cavy	Cavia aperea
Hedgehog, African Pygmy	Erinaceus albiventris
Chicken	Gallus gallus Var.
Pigeon	Columbia livia Var.
Any Turkey species	Subfamily Meleagridinae
Any Pheasant, Junglefowl or Coturnix species	Subfamily Phasianinae
Any Guineafowl species	Subfamily Numidinae
Canary	Serinus canaria Var.
Parrot, parakeet, cockatiel, macaw, and other members of the Family Psittacidae not prohibited by federal or international law	Family Psittacidae
Toucan	Family Ramphastidae
Any New World Quail species (including Bobwhite)	Subfamily Odontophorinae
Mynah	Acridotheres spp.
Any Peafowl species	Pavo spp.
Any duck, goose, swan, or other migratory waterfowl which the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service determines does not require a federal permit for private ownership	
Chukar partridge	Alectoris chukar
Button "quail"	Family Turnicidae in the order Gruiformes
Any nonvenomous reptile (crocodile, alligator, snake, turtle, or lizard)	Class Reptilia
Members of the bird families Fringillidae, Turdidae, Zosteropidae, Pycnonotidae, Timaliidae, and Ploceidae of non-Holarctic origin. Members of the bird families Columbidae and Trogonidae of non- nearctic origin.	
Elk (except feral and wild elk)	(cervus elaphus)
Bison (except feral and wild bison)	(Bison bison)
Muskoxen (except feral and wild muskoxen)	(Ovibos moschatus)

**Existing Laws in other U.S. States regarding Sale/Import of Exotics**

Source: <https://www.animallaw.info/content/map-private-exotic-pet-ownership-laws>



“The above map details states that ban, partially ban, require licensure, or provide miscellaneous regulations on private ownership of wild or exotic animals. **Currently, 20 states have what can be called "comprehensive bans."** These bans typically classify wild cats, large non-domesticated carnivores, reptiles, and non-human primates as "dangerous animals" or otherwise prohibit private ownership of these species. These laws may outright ban the ownership of wild or exotic animals as pets or only allow those animals to be kept under certain licenses not including pet or private possession (i.e., for educational or scientific purposes). **Thirteen (13) states have partial bans on exotic pets**, which means that these states ban specific, listed animals by statute, but not all non-traditional, non-domestic animals (for example, these states may allow ownership of small primates). **Fourteen (14) states permit private ownership of exotic animals under a licensure or permit scheme.** People seeking licenses may have to register with the state, prove satisfactory conditions for the keeping of such animals, pay a fee, and maintain liability insurance. The remaining **five (4) states do not have a statutory or regulatory scheme** that directly addresses or controls the private ownership of exotic pets, but may regulate some aspect of ownership. These states may require health certificates or import permits for such animals.”

**Excerpt about U.S. State Laws from “Detailed Discussion of Exotic Pet Laws” by Matthew G. Liebman (2004)**

*Source:* <https://www.animallaw.info/article/detailed-discussion-exotic-pet-laws#id-8>

“Whereas the federal government is limited by the enumerated powers granted in the Constitution, state and local governments usually have plenary police power, which allows them to legislate for the general welfare. As such, there are fewer obstacles to passing exotic pet regulations at the state level. State laws are easier to pass than federal laws, and potentially more effective than local laws because of the resources and expertise available for enforcement through the state wildlife agency or state law enforcement agency. Though it is often difficult to get animal protective laws passed at the state level, these laws can be very effective when enforced.

Exotic pet regulations vary from state to state. While some states have a complete ban on exotic pets, other states simply require permits for their possession, and some states have no regulations whatsoever. This paper does not aim to cover the laws of all 50 states, nor the laws of the

thousands of counties and cities in the country. A fantastic resource for such thorough information is the Animal Protection Institute's webpages. For a clickable map of all state laws and their texts, see <http://www.api4animals.org/323.htm> ; For a color-coded map of state regulations, see <http://www.api4animals.org/372g.htm> ; For the text of all state laws regarding exotics, see <http://www.api4animals.org/372.htm> . The purpose of this section, rather than to specifically discuss each state or local law, is to give a few examples of the major types of regulations, and to compare these approaches to exotic pets.

While there is no uniformity in laws regulating the possession of exotic pets, three central variables recur among and between different jurisdictions' laws: (1) the degree of regulation, (2) the animals covered by the law, and (3) the punishment for violation. In what follows, each of these variables are discussed in turn."

**Excerpt from "Overview of Exotic Pet Laws" by Martha Drouet (2014)**

*Source:* <https://www.animallaw.info/intro/exotic-pets-update-2013>

"Animal welfare and environmental concerns are both triggered by exotic pets as well. Exotic pets have especially high standards of care as they are wild and not domestic. Exotic pets are larger and have higher psychological demands for space, freedom, aggression, and exercise that owners are frequently not equipped to handle. Neglect and abuse are rampant in the exotic pet industry. Moreover, invasive species are detrimental to the environment. Where owners can no longer handle their exotic pets, the animals are released to the wild and wreak havoc on local ecosystems.

Exotic pet concerns are local in character but have national effects. The federal government has little regulatory power over local issues so there is not a comprehensive federal law that addresses exotic pets. Some federal laws effect the ability to purchase and sell exotic animals across the country but the regulation of exotic pets is largely and traditionally a state issue.

States vary greatly across the board on how they approach this issue. 21 states ban exotic pets, but they all do so in unique ways. For example, Alaska facially bans the practice stating that game or wild animals may not be kept as a pet. California, conversely, does not allow anyone to have an exotic animal without a permit. California then issues permits for narrow purposes, none of which include pet ownership. This is a practical ban because, in effect, it functions to ban the practice but does not do so outright like Alaska. Eight states have partial bans where the state government has identified an enumerated list of specific species that are banned. 14 states allow for exotic pets along with a license. State requirements for licenses vary by state. Some states require paying a nominal fee, some require minimum insurance policies, and some, such as Maine, have standards for care and enclosures to protect from escape.

Local municipalities and counties are free to regulate more stringently than the state in which they are located. This happens quite often. However, the effect of local regulation is inconsistency. More strict regulations by one town does not isolate it from the practices of the local town nearby. Thus, the negative effects may still manifest."