

CLARK COUNTY ANIMAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Paradise Community Center
4775 McLeod Drive, Town Board Conference Room
Las Vegas, Nevada 89121
January 28, 2010
6:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: CONNELL, MICHAEL (MC)
 ENGSTROM, CLARISSA NELSON (CE)
 PENNEY, JANNICE (JP)
 SMITH, STEPHANIE (SS)
 STOBERSKI, HOLLY (HS)
 GREISEN, ERIKA (EG)

1. **Call to order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m.

2. **Approval of agenda**

A motion to approve the agenda was made and seconded.

3. **Approval of December 10, 2009 Minutes**

A motion to approve the minutes was made and seconded

4. **Selection of Chair and Vice-Chair**

Motion to name Stephanie Smith as chair was made and seconded. Motion for Holly Stoberski to be vice chair was made and seconded.

5. **Changes to Title 10**

HS said that she and CE had been working on finalizing their revisions to Title 10 so they could give the Commissioner a concise statement of what the Committee recommends. Due to the size and voluminous nature of the provisions that are in Title 10 that have to be revised, the last time we met we agreed to break it up into sections and as we finished the sections, we would provide it to the Commissioner for her review. We are waiting for some horse provisions from Jannice. JP – we are working on those, trying to get Title 10 to interact more with Title 30 so that it is easy access when we do run into some large animal situation that it is black and white where everybody can deal with it properly. What's best for the animal is what everybody should mention first. HS said that she and CE will be meeting next week and after that should be able to bring some provisions to the Committee's next meeting for everyone to review and make recommendations and then we will forward it on to Dave March to take it from there. SS - I see a lot of recommended changes. Are we going through any of these tonight? HS – I think the Commissioner was kind enough to bring the latest version for everyone to have a copy but this is the set that we have been working off of. We don't need to go through anything tonight. The changes are being made on a daily basis. SS – so we are not going to discuss any of the changes tonight? Does anyone have any comments regarding these proposed changes? It says action but... HS – there is no action tonight. It is just an update as to where we are. SS opened it for public comment.

CHRIS GIUNCHIGLIANI (Chris G) – Welcome to the new committee members. I think this is going to be a wonderful year with a lot of action. Let me start with a background. For about a year we had a working group and this is where most of these changes have come from. The key piece is, MC was gracious about bringing forth some language on behalf of the breeders. What is key about that is CLV and NLV are interested in this language. What

we are trying to do are similar ordinances without those jurisdictions. So once you adopt what you are adopting, I think you will start to see more of a partnership which will make it easier for Animal Control in each of those jurisdictions but also for those folks who are playing by the rules and those who are not. Once that happens, I have promised Councilman Cherchio who is trying to deal with the issue of swap meets and selling of animals in swap meets. Janice in Commissioner Collins' office met with Broadacres owner and I met with him yesterday. I personally feel a ban should be outright. We probably can't leap into those waters exactly. We are trying to come up with restricting it to people who have breeders' licenses or permits, dog fanciers or if they are a pet shop owner, they all have to show vaccination records, all the things which are required under NRS 574. Who the vet is, where the dam and the sire is with the key piece being they have to be spayed or neutered before they can sell them, 3 months for NLV, 4 months. SS – there is no age in NLV. Any animal that is sold in NLV has to be s/n. Chris G – then that is even more clear. We can work with him on that part. Janice also got him to agree to provide a free booth to Lied to actually do adoptions right on site. So that is a start in the right direction. That is just an update. They have asked that this Advisory Committee consider what position you want to take on swap meets and then also promulgate those recommendations to the BCC as well. I am glad to hear we are moving faster and good because I need to get something before the Commissioner to actually introduce for public hearing to then take action on. Thank you very much Holly for yours and Clarissa's work.

SS has a couple questions. On page 4 where it talks about Lied where they are underage, is Lied giving out any animals that are so underage that they cannot be s/n? DAVE MARCH (DM) no. SS – are they adopting out 2-week-old kittens or something? Chris G – I am not sure now where that sentence came from. This was from a year ago. HS – this language has in fact now changed. This doesn't have all the changes that we discussed. MC – I believe that is under the fostering. When someone fosters a litter of animals, then they would bring them back for the s/n and adoption. SS thought that was a conflicting message. SS can't remember where the pigeon part was. Chris G stated she was still arguing with her own animal control about. We wanted a standard on the issue that there are feral pigeons which is mostly what they are dealing with and that should not be permitted. SS – so it is going to say feral pigeons. Chris G – it needs to say feral pigeons. That is mostly what they are dealing with. SS – a specific pigeon habitat would be exempted. Chris G – yes.

SS also wanted to ask about the pot-bellied pig section in there because I went through this in NLV. It was very controversial with some of the members there and I can't remember where this is either but since you are county, you are both urban and rural. I know this doesn't deal with zoning. It's confusing to me. So my questions is when you talk about neutering pot-bellied pigs, do you mean areas that are zoned R1 or residential? You wouldn't be talking in the rural area where they can have sheep and goats and cattle. Chris G – actually that's a very good question and that's a reference to Title 30. We actually did create a new zoning piece to recognize larger lots and acreages but in order to make sure the pot-bellied pig mills don't sprout out there, there is a requirement for s/n in our Title 30 code based on that and I didn't bring that language with me. MC – Commissioner isn't it, it must be one acre of land and the intent to breed, if not, they must be s/n? Chris G – Correct. SS – you are talking about rural areas because you want Chris G – it is under RURAL RERD1, which is a little bit different than NLV but it is basically in your.... SS – so in R1 they can be breeding pigs. Chris G – R1 CS, I have to read this correctly. SS – I know your zoning is a little different than ours. Chris G – 10,000 square feet of lot area so that would not be in R1. SS – for us it could be R1. In NLV they can have one and it has to be a certain height, certain weight. MC – 28 inches to the shoulders, no more than 200 lbs. SS – no more than 100 lbs. If it is 200 lbs., it is a hog. Chris G – NLV has it that way? SS 100 lbs., because if it is 200 lbs., you have a hog and you don't want your next-door neighbor having a hog. Chris G – restrictions on keeping of pigs, except as otherwise allowed by... Where is this one from Jana? Muni Code so this is NLV's. Restrictions on keeping pot-bellied pigs. Pot-bellied pigs kept at a detached single family residence must not exceed to a number minimum lot size, referring back to your zoning codes, in a district not less than 7,500 ft for one pot-bellied pig and a minimum lot size of one-half acre. Not allowed to be kept within ten feet of any property line. Weight must not exceed 120 lbs., be not in excess of 22 inches in height, be registered with the pot-bellied pig registry service in Lakeview, Indiana or any other nationally recognized pot-bellied pig code. CLV has one pig may be maintained, possessed or kept in a detached single-family residence, vaccinations. CLV is 120 lbs., 22 inches, vaccinated, s/n. So they require s/n. SS – initially they didn't have anything. Chris G – yea, they picked up some of NLV's. They have a s/n requirement, NLV didn't.

SS – I am assuming you will have different standards for the urban areas or your city part versus the rural area where you are the county part. Chris G – yes and if we don't have language then we need to have that. I think that is what Janice was trying to work on, Janice and Jannice, because you have equestrian issues, you have rural issues. Our Title 30 has updated that part but we still need to fold that concept into here and it is not in there yet. That's what I think you are still working on. JP – yes. SS – that was my question on this. The pig kind of bleeds over to either one. I mean cat is clearly domestic or dog but a pot-bellied pig could go either direction depending on what you feed it. Chris G – correct and then we have also added the tortoise because they cannot be s/n. There is no way to s/n. CE – I don't want to be the vet to try. Chris G – we've given that back to the Feds who were always supposed to be dealing with it. We are making the recommendation that you can still have a tortoise as a pet but only one. SS – because of the problem with s/n. Chris G – exactly. Then you don't have to worry about so that is in here as a recommendation as well. JP – it also pertains to disease control. SS – thanks for clarifying that. I just got it before the meeting so I didn't get a chance to read all of it. Does any one have any comments?

DR. MYRA LEE GLASSMAN (Dr. G) – relating to the s/n on the pot-bellied pigs and the limitations on what size lot you can keep one and all that, if I recall correctly, our piggy specialist told us that they are generally sold or adopted as pairs because they tend to do better. If you have just a single one, they get too aggressive and then have to be rescued. I think you might want to reexamine the lot size limitations in terms of the urban area. If people want to have a pot-bellied pig, there will be less problems if you let them have a pair. Obviously they need to be s/n as part of the package. CE - I own a single female pig who is a love. I actually think if you want an animal to bond to you then you don't have an equal. Dr. G – I am just going by what she told us. CE – well I sleep with the pig every night and I will tell you that she loves me because there is no other pig on the property. I do have t-shirts that say I sleep with pigs if you would like one. I think that if pigs are not in a pair and you have a single, they bond to you much more. JP concurs.

JANICE RIDONDO (JR) am glad SS is on the board and thinks 2010 is going to do great things for the animals in the valley, NLV and CLV. I agree with you because my little male pot-bellied pig sleeps in a doghouse beside my bed and he is very good friends with the dog. If I brought in another pig, I think it would cause big issues for him. They only thing I want to say about Title 10 and I am going to speak with Chris G. We would like to see pot-bellied pigs defined as pets. I also have a hog which of course is agricultural. She is a swine. CE – are you going to eat her? JR – never. That is a consideration I would like to see happen. I don't know that it is anywhere else but clearly they are companion pets, all the ones that I have met. Now you will hear lots of stuff if you entertain who I have invited, Chrystal KimHan, to come and talk to you a little more about pot-bellied pigs. SS – when we went through this in NLV and had these discussions, I understand that as long as you keep them small they are a pet but you can actually overfeed them and they can turn into hogs. JR – just like a child. Your child can be this tall and weigh 200 lbs. or you child can be this tall and weight whatever is proportionate. SS – so it is the breed and not the weight. JR no it's lack of exercise and too much food. CE – my pig has access to 10 acres and she runs and she is hot. She is sleek and sexy. I would say it is all how you treat them, just like any dog or any pig or any animal. MC – do we need more of a definition on this other than pot-bellied pig? Can that be construed somewhere in farm animals if we don't have more of a definition than just pot-bellied pig? Somebody could say they have a farm pig and say it is a pot-bellied pig because it has a potbelly so it qualifies. I know you have the size there but what if they have a young one and they say well this is a potbelly pig. Is there a more defined definition of the name? JR – why don't we let Crystal answer this.

JP – when we first started working on Title 10 that was one of my main goals. Remember horse wasn't represented at that time, even in the language under animal. There was no type of description so when they did go out to do any enforcement, without proper guidelines and descriptions, they are running on a wing and a prayer with an unknown animal like the horse or my pig or Clarissa's pig or anybody's else's pig. I think the weight is creating a box. These are awesome animals but you can't have one in a condo. They don't belong there so when you start speaking of sizes and things like that, that's where you need to curtail all your unworthy animal lovers who shouldn't even have them in the first place. They are a very large animal and can get aggressive. I like mine single alone because two pack up and are bigger than one. Where I am at, she shows kids, they eat cookies from her and she is gracious as all get out. SS – that's why I raised the issue. Are we talking about the urban or the rural? I

realize there are some zoning issues. The enforcement of it will really go through zoning and that's why I wanted to see how we are going to delineate but it seems to me that we are going to have to come up with a definition of a pot-bellied pig so we can separate her from a hog or a regular pig. That was part of my question and the size of the lots and all that really won't be our purview as it goes through zoning which is a county issue and they determine all those things, how many they want. But we just have to address the s/n. Are we talking just in the urban areas or if you live in a rural area, can you breed pot-bellied pigs?

JR thinks we would really like to see pot-bellied pigs fall under pets, companion animals, like dogs and cats, and if you are going to breed, you should have a pet fancier permit license regardless if you are urban or rural. SS – I would say you could only be rural to breed them because most of the urban areas don't allow it anyway. They have to be neutered unless you are a breeder and that would only happen in an RE or whatever your zonings are.

Dr. G has a question about the new compulsory s/n. Would like to know what the plan is to enforce it since the stated objective of the new law is to get control of the backyard breeders and I would really like to know how it is going to be enforced. MC – is there any chance we could get into this when we get into discussion. We are just going over Title 10. SS – is enforcement a part of this Title 10. Is there a section on enforcement? DM stated this is a whole separate discussion. There are some changes to enforcement in there but not regarding this particular issue. It will be handled. As we come across unsterilized animals, there will be enforcement. When they come to reclaim their pets, there will be enforcement. That's basically the process. If you are in violation of the law, that is when enforcement will take place. We are not going door to door. We really don't have the people for that so the violators are the ones who will be caught. SS – as the person who did this originally in NLV who got this through, that was certainly the intent in NLV and the same thing with our Code Enforcement and Animal Control. There aren't enough people to knock on everyone's door and say show us your pet and lift up its tail and check and see what is happening here so it is basically when they find animals that are stray or if there are other issues when they come in contact with them and then they will enforce that provision. Again, it's not punitive where they are fining them, just notifying them "here's where you can go and they offer s/n." The design of it is to educate people about why we have to put down 30,000 animals a year at Lied and to start preventing some of these issues. It is not to become a Gestapo guide of approach to your animals and every animal has an ID and shows that it has been neutered or not. That is the intent.

HS – what about those people who are selling online on Craig's List, are they going to be watching that? They "sell" but we don't really know if they are backyard breeders or not and that's where a lot of the animals come from. DM – we already do that. We have people who go through Craig's list and we have an undercover phone with a caller ID from some place back east. The caller ID says you are somewhere back east. You are on vacation in Las Vegas. We have a phony e-mail address to send e-mail responses, all to try and find out where these people are. They are getting smarter. More and more of them don't give out their phone numbers. Some of them don't even provide e-mails. They just want to meet you at some public place to try to do this exchange. It is a little difficult for us to get these people but we continue to work on it. SS – are there any more questions regarding the changes to Title 10?

BRUCE HALSTEAD (BH) – I still don't see anything regarding animals, being their caretakers, animal assistants for helping handicapped people and all that. It seems like they're constantly avoiding this issue. I keep presenting this issue. People that know me and just recently the oncologists in England have accepted my way of removing cancerous tumors, using an instrument they created to remove prostate cancer and they are going with it. I have had success here with animals that I have rescued. The cancer never returned, there was no chemotherapy or otherwise. I also took those rescued animals and placed them in homes of people who are handicapped. In many cases I even paid for their microchipping and their tagging and everything. You don't have to be a fancier to have animals helping you in your every day living. SS – this is just talking about whether they are neutered or not neutered. I don't understand how that would affect you. BH – I had a female and went ahead and had her neutered after two years. To my regret, I had it the old slice and dice method. The slice and dice method took away the animal's ability to want to go ahead and do certain things. With my late wife, she was able to detect when she was going to have a seizure and she would alert me. I am trying to get some vets to go along with the idea of

microsurgery, that way the animal still stays intact. I talked to a couple microchipping companies. They have no problem putting one more letter on the microchip saying that the animal has been spayed or neutered so when they put the microchip in the animal, animal control can scan and yep, it's been s/n. SS – if it has not been s/n, then it is not honest. If it is still intact, then it is not s/n. BH – wrong, if a guy gets fixed, he still has them. Wrong, he still has the family jewels. SS – so you are talking about vasectomies and tubes tying. BH – right so then you are not injuring the animal. SS – then it is s/n. BH – by doing it this way, they are neutered. SS – so with microsurgery you mean they are no longer able to reproduce, correct. BH – right but they have to be identified and you can do that through the microchipping. CE – as veterinarians, we don't do that. SS – we need a veterinarian to speak to this. BH – you have one right there and the females are more for it because they know what it is like to have a hysterectomy. SS – you are crossing the line here. Dr. G. said she can tell you that she is happier than she ever was since her hysterectomy. BH – my mom almost died and she had a partial. SS – we are crossing a line here trying to equate this with humans. Talking about a female dog and a female human is crossing the line here too. You raised an interesting point. I see no harm in asking for some research to be brought back on this but beyond that we are not taking action tonight, we appreciate your input on this but we don't have enough information right now and clearly you are not a veterinarian. We will get some research on this. I think we should also get some research from these groups that place these service animals and if there is any research on that that shows that this has been in effect with providing service with the animal. Then we can better address what your concerns are. BH – I have seen animals that have been opened up again but the scare tissue wasn't visible enough. SS – we will get some information so we can make an informed decision on that.

JANA WRIGHT (JW) I know HS and CE have been working on Title 10. Is it your plan then at the next meeting to bring this back? HS – yes, once several sections have been finalized in a way that it doesn't have a thousand comments in it, to bring that to the Board to vote and approve of and then once approved, it goes to DM and he submits it to you guys. JW – my question is if I personally had comments would I send them to you or to the Chair or...? SS – you can probably send them to Dave or Chris G. JW – I work for Chris G. SS – she will make the final legislation but anything you want us to consider between now and the next meeting so we can have it fully vetted, let us know now. HS – keep in mind all the work we are doing is taking into consideration all the comments that people have given in meetings that have been going on all year. SS – this is my first meeting here for ten years or so but I am sure some of this has been discussed before so maybe some of you are rehashing things that I haven't heard before but you guys have all heard before but at some point a decision will have to be made so anything that you are raising, we will get back more information so we can make a good decision next time with the right information.

6. Spay/Neuter of Pot-bellied Pigs

HS – it is on the agenda because of the last meeting we had a couple questions that we didn't have clarification on. Dave perhaps you can help me out with this. It has always been my understanding that pot-bellied pigs; either control or where they should be at is a private use issue. I don't understand how AC gets involved vs. code enforcement. Can you clarify that for me? DM – basically AC currently is more about how people keep their pets as opposed to what they are keeping as a pet. An example I like to give, it's a little extreme but it makes the point. If you have an elephant in your backyard, I don't care that you have an elephant, I care that you clean up after it, that you feed it, you give it water, it doesn't run loose, doesn't make noise. All those things are what AC does. CE is concerned about whether you are zoned to have an elephant in the first place so you are probably going to have to get rid of the elephant. That is the difference between CE and AC. HS – so in looking at Title 30, specifically 30.44, it says that pot-bellied pigs must be s/n unless kept for breeding purposes. What is the harm in saying pot-bellied pigs must be s/n? DM – it is probably not a bad course of action because you put them in a position where someone who wants to breed pot-bellied pigs will really have to have a hog farm. There are other provisions to have big farms, hog farms, so that would be a totally different animal to have than a pet pig. All of them then, as pets, have to be sterilized. SS – I think it is the same thing as a cat or dog that all animals have to be s/n unless you have a pet fancier permit. It is within the purview, it is where you define the conditions for the permit. Part of it would cross over to zoning but you would have to be in a rural area and you would list all those things. It is like the chicken and the egg; we are not going to debate that. You are saying somebody would have to go out of state.

HS – if I am understanding what DM is saying, couldn't we as a board then make a recommendation or have a motion and vote on it that we recommend there be a revision to Title 30 so it says pot-bellied pigs must be s/n. MC has a question. In accordance with Title 30, if you have the area, acreage and you are in it for breeding purposes, and you do mandatory s/n straight across the board, is that not infringing on that person's right to earn a living? SS – more importantly do we say all pot-bellied pigs must be s/n, all horses must be s/n and there is no provision. MC but you are strictly in the City. We have county, unincorporated rural areas so if they have the acreage in accordance with Title 30, I think you would be infringing on their right to earn a living. HS – is that accurate Dave? Are we then talking of the acreage language? Is that what would happen? DM – it would be a difference in the use more than anything. You are going to put them as a farm, breeding and raising pigs as opposed to someone who is raising pets. I think that would probably work in Title 30. You are simply saying that if you want to keep them as a pet, they have to be sterilized. If you want to breed them, you are a farm. SS – I would disagree with that. I would say that if you want to even breed them on a farm, you have to get a fancier permit and go through the same thing, as you would do. CE – it is very different when you have farm animals. SS – but the argument we just heard previously on pot-bellied pigs is that they are pets so you are saying for breeding purposes they are farm animals. CE – that's not the definition of a farm. You can have your farm animals and breed them, whether I agree with this or not. You can have your farm animals and can breed them as you see fit if you are in the zoned area. SS – I don't think somebody living on one acre is going to get 400 cattle, you know what I mean. Puppy mills on an acre can get 400 puppies and so I think the issue is pet breeding is different than farm breeding and if they are breeding them for pets, then they need to comply with all the same pet fancier rules that would limit them and make sure they are breeding them correctly. I would say you can't breed them in town but if you are in a rural area, you're going to have to get inspected, you have limits and do the same thing you would do if you are breeding cats or dogs. HS – what would be the problem with saying that under Title 30 that pot-bellied pigs must be s/n? SS – Title 30 covers the entire county and some of the county is rural and has to go under zoning. MC – you could write a residential pet fancier permit exclusively for pot-bellied pigs in Title 10. SS – you wouldn't want them in residential. You want all the zoning issues to be in Title 30 but here you want to specify what they would have to do to be able to breed them in a rural area. The zoning part would say they are not allowed in urban areas for breeding period. If you are in a rural area, you have to apply for a pot-bellied pig fancier permit and this is what you have to do to breed them. You have to get permission, you have to pay a fee, you have to be inspected. The same thing if you lived in a rural area and you wanted to breed puppies. You would still have to get a fancier permit. MC - pet stores have a commercial license. SS – they still have to get a fancier permit.

JP – on the s/n mandatory for the pot-bellied pigs as pets, I absolutely believe that should be something because if we did, she would be out of a job and not trying to rescue all these critters. What we have here in the definitions is can we as a city environment tolerate as a community tolerate the overpopulation of any pet. It has to be restricted but when you get into your rural lives and these pigs are providing food on the table and these horses are plowing their fields, you can't make them go and get a permit to breed for more. They are sold in the market. The horses fall in this category though and you can't force somebody to sterilize their stallion. You can't tell them they have an acre and a half and they can't breed that stallion and mare in their backyard if they live in the middle of the city or have them s/n if they live in the middle of the city. I can have a stallion in my backyard and I am 700 ft from Warm Springs. JR – we are back to “is it a pet?” Is it a cat or a dog? My argument is that it is. SS – that is what I am trying to say. JR – cattle, horses, lambs SS – you can breed it. It is not a rural animal, it is an urban animal so therefore if you are going to breed it, it still has to comply with the urban breeding standards. It doesn't mean anything as far as how many you can have in the urban area. Those are two separate issues. The county has to decide if they want one or whatever they want in a residential area but if you are going to breed it, it is the same standards as breeding any other pet. You have to have a fancier permit and you have to comply with all that. If it is a pet, it is a pet. HS – I am still interested in bringing it up to the board that we want to have mandatory s/n of pot-bellied pigs because of the concerns that we've heard. I am going to look into Title 30 some more and maybe we can continue this on the agenda item so I can have more information to bring it up again. SS- it is the same issue with overpopulation with cats, with dogs, with anything. That's why they're demanding they all be neutered unless you are a breeder and then you would have to meet certain criteria. HS – but the way Title 30 is written right now that talks about pot-bellied pigs doesn't enforce the s/n portion of it. SS – the s/n comes under Title 10, the zoning goes under Title 30. HS – but the recommendation that is must be s/n is under Title 30. It says that. I

want to see if there is a way we can tighten the language. SS – s/n is under Title 30? HS & JP – under pigs. We are trying to get it under Title 10. SS – that’s probably what the problem is. You need to add a definition under Title 10 and then do breeder and have Title 30 match up. I think that is the problem. Title 30 went astray on that. HS – we can have that as an agenda item again so we can follow up on this.

SS- I don’t think you can outlaw through the whole county in a rural area but I think they have to comply and they have to be inspected. We have to limit the number, all that stuff if they are going to be a breeder otherwise they are going to have to be neutered. You just won’t allow them I urban areas, only rural.

CRYSTAL KIMHAN (CK), Vegas Pig Pets, has some information packets to pass out. I tried to make it short and concise. They were made for the Nye County Advisory Board so some of the dates on this are from last year. I was invited to do a presentation because of the amount of backyard breeding of pot-bellied pigs and they sell them in Las Vegas. I did a presentation out there so some of the material is dated. I added a few things. The first page is the history of the pot-bellied pig and how it was imported into the US. Part of the problem with the pigs, whether they are livestock or companion animals, is that they were only imported in the mid-1980s so they are relatively new pets. There are cultures that breed them to eat them. They are considered a food animal. I put the USDA ruling in there, they do not consider pot-bellied pigs as livestock. The fourth page is a definition of a pet which is “any domesticated or tamed animal which is kept for a companion and cared for affectionately.” I think CE summed it up when she said she slept with her pig. Pot-bellied pigs can become feral if let go to breed. It only takes one generation of any kind of pig if you don’t keep them tame and socialized to bring in their feral temperaments. We have turned pot-bellied pigs. People are selling them way too young for them to even be s/n. We have people taking them at 3, 4 or 5 weeks old and vets aren’t able to s/n. Part of the problem is they shouldn’t be pulled from their parents before 8 weeks old, at which time pot-bellied pigs can actually be s/n between 6 and 8 weeks. I am totally for mandatory s/n because people keep them as pets. Dr. G said they are kept better as pairs not because of the human herd. My pig sleeps in my closet but we are not the norm. A lot of people are busy, have problems, their lives go on. Dogs have been domesticated enough that they will wait until you have time. They are a herd animal. They have to have a herd. What happens is the pig gets thrown out into the backyard; food gets thrown out to them. They become more like your backyard animal. In those cases, that’s when we promote pigs to be in pairs or more. Obviously we would want them to be s/n because of the overpopulation problem. Pigs can breed as young as 3 months and breeders are selling them to you to be s/n. They are selling them as pairs. People do not know they can only have one pig per single-family dwelling. They go great I am going to buy a pair of pigs, like you would buy a pair of dogs. Then brother and sister get each other pregnant. That is what I have seen with the backyard breeders. They had no idea when they bought these piglets that they could breed so young. SS – you raise an interesting point. Even if we require them all to be s/n, somebody is going to bring them in from Nye County and we will be facing the same issue. CK – it comes back to enforcement. We have a network of pig rescues and organizations. We post all the Craig’s List ads that come out and I post an ad on top of their ad to prevent people from just buying because they are posting cute little piglets. Hopefully, they come to us first. They get information first. We can’t stop them. That’s why I am hitting Nye County hard. You have brought up the point about pot-bellied pigs. What defines a pot-bellied pig? In Nye County, they are breeding the pot-bellied pigs with feral pigs and you will only know they are part feral when they grow up. That is a problem because I have placed quite a few part feral pigs. They look like pot-bellied pigs when they are young and when they are 3 or 4, they start taking on that feral, long nose, can’t be calm temperament and you know they are feral and came out of Nye County. SS – that actually supports having a fancier cause you can put all those conditions in there to make sure the only way they can do it is by meeting certain criteria. CK – if we can get something passed in Clark County, then we can start going outside of the County. Right now, there are no laws. I was told in NLV, there is no s/n ordinance. SS- not for pigs. We only have a few areas that are actually ranch areas in NLV. There are only a couple of acres. If they have them in the urban area, they can only have one and they have to be on at least ½ an acre so we have limited the number they can have. They can only have one. CK – the problem is they are still having more than one and because there is no mandatory s/n. SS – in NLV they have to apply for a permit. They have to go before the City Council and get a special use permit to even have a pot-bellied pig in NLV. CK – it is like CLV.

MC – I was raised on a dairy farm in Wisconsin and the boars, my grandfather would neuter them at birth. Can that be done with the pot-bellied pigs? CK – we would need a vet's recommendation but I was told as pet pigs, there is a certain age, they would prefer to do. MC – we did all the boars at birth on the farm. CK – I wouldn't think those procedures are very humane. MC – this was back in the 40's. CE – I would say it should be done when it will not harm the animal. If it is at birth, then that is fine, if it was done humanely. CK – does anyone know Henderson's laws? Pigs are allowed in Henderson, correct? SS- maybe that is something else that you should consider Commissioner G. If they are going to be able to breed them, even with a fancier permit in the rural areas, then they still have to get a special use permit for it. That way they have to personally show up. CK – Henderson's stance on the pot-bellied pigs is that they one get or two pigs a year and they are not a seek and destroy city so if people have them, they don't really want to know unless they become a nuisance or someone complains. Then it becomes a problem. SS – is there a problem in NLV with the breeding of pot-bellied pigs? CK – there was one instance. I called AC to get clarification. SS – it would be a violation anyway because they didn't have a special use permit. CK – it is just trying to enforce it, trying to stop it. SS – that is like everything. You have to know about because they weren't allowed to have them to begin with. CK – they can get pregnant as soon as they give birth. You have the problem. You could have up to 36 piglets a year from that one pair. SS – I am sure as soon as they were caught, they shut them down because they were illegal pigs in the first place. CK – I don't know if they got shut down but they got pulled off of Craig's List. SS – if they didn't have a permit for it, then they were illegal. In NLV you have to go before the City Council and get a permit to have a pot-bellied pig. You can't just go to the store and get one. CK – my understanding is some of these people that have pot-bellied pigs do not come forward because of the weight limitation. 120 lbs for a pot-bellied pig, I think CE said that's on the low side. SS – but that was only to have it in a residential area. If it was in a rural area, that's different. You can have one in a residential area. CK – we don't put weight limits on your dog. SS- dogs don't go to 200 lbs. CK – a regular sized pot-bellied pig can. SS – that was the point. CK – to make a point, I researched my pig because I am in the CLV. I researched my pig, went and saw the parents. The parents were 4 1/2, almost 5 years old. They were 85 lbs. and 95 lbs. If you look at this picture, she had a litter of 8 and my pig at 4 years old is 140 lbs. She is not fat, she gets lots of exercise but you cannot control the size of the pig. The original pigs that came into the US were 250 lbs. on average. Yes, they have managed to breed them down but without starving your pig and causing future health problems to it to keep it small. With 120 lbs., people go into hiding. That's the reason I came up with this because I don't want pot-bellied pig owners to stay in hiding because they can't make a weight limit. Then they are not getting the care they need. They are not getting vet care. They won't take them to a vet and the vet is going to say oh your pig is 150 lbs. They can't stay within the law. If we are going to make pot-bellied pigs pets. Yes, a pot-bellied pig is its own type and you can tell the difference between pigs just like you can tell the difference between a Cocker Spaniel and a Rottweiler. They all look different. By saying pot-bellied pig, that is generally what has been imported. You could breed a pot-bellied pig to a farm pig. SS – that's the delineation we have to define the pot-bellied pig as a pet and then we have to give them their pet standards. When they are in rural areas, then if you want pot-bellied pigs, they still have to comply with the pet fancier standard otherwise they are going to keep crossing it back and forth. When it is in a rural area, they will say it is a farm animal and they sell it to someone in the City and say no it is a pet. You have to leave them as pets and make them adhere to pet standards. CK – if we could have something that says they are pets, they will fall under the pet fancier regulations. Then we could regulate them and shut down your backyard breeders. SS – that is what I was trying to say earlier. CK – that would start one county and hopefully the cities will follow and then we can go out to Nye County. SS – then you encourage people if they want to acquire them to acquire them from responsible breeders. CK – we are never going to stop breeders of any animal so regulation is your next best.... I would love to put a moratorium. SS – you are never going to stop breeding. CK – we did an informal survey. We have over 300,000 pigs in sanctuaries in the world, US, England and Canada. We are pretty much out of space and the Canadians are actually bigger rescuers than we are. I guess they have the land. I am not sure. It is not a problem we see every day but because of some of the regulations, people have gone into hiding and they hide their pigs until there is a really pig problem. Either they foreclose and they abandon the animal or they outgrow the regulations and they can't call anybody because they are not meeting the regulations so they don't want anybody to know. I get those calls, and I understand but part of it is that as a pet your Rottweiler can only get to 100 lbs. Can AC then come in and take your dog cause he is 110 lbs. JR in defense of CE and AC, the county is a little bit closer; 28 in. and 200 lbs. If the animal is cared for and in a good clean place, you would be hard pressed for someone in CE or AC to take the dog. SS - You have to

understand that the reason NLV put that in was because nobody wanted to allow pot-bellied pigs. In NLV they were outlawed completely, so to be able to allow them that had to be put in there. What I am hearing here is we still need to define this in the pet section; the County will have to address this in zoning for what is going to be allowed. JR the worse thing that could have happened to pot-bellied pigs is that Paris Hilton got one last summer. She got them from this organization in Oregon that swears they are going to stay 35 to 40 lbs. when you have them on an acre or half acre lot. I have a third of an acre but I take mine up to Moapa and with the exercise he grows. There is not really a problem right now. I think it is important to address this now if they are going to hit Hollywood and they are coming up with teacup pigs, which is a fallacy. SS - We are not going to talk about pigs on steroids? JR but it already has and we have taken a lot of these Craig's list ads for miniature pigs were the pig wouldn't grow past 30 lbs. If you starve a pig, that's what we are trying to prove right now. But these breeders you know there are no regulations. People are seeing that on Craig's list they can have a 30 lb. pig and keep it in a condo. They shouldn't be in a condo, but they don't know that. That has to be the zoning part and then the part that sounds like you have to work on is the pet part. I think a lot of it can be decided on the zoning part. But I think with having a fancier permit and having a lot of provisions may actually be a benefit, because if it is going to be, then you need conditions for it just like a dog or cat. I think the zoning part will eliminate the majority of areas where they can even begin to exist. JP definitely will extend my time to anything that has to do with these animals and I will be right there with you.

EG - I have a question; I might be the only one in the room that doesn't know this. When you don't s/n a pig what happens to the pig? Does it get like what a dog does; does it get like tumors or something? CK - if you go to my website sometime, I just picked up a pig from a shelter. He's been through 2 foster homes, he's six months old, and he wasn't neutered. He humps everything, the video shows him circling a visitor to come and see him. If you come down to his level he comes at you opened mouthed. They are very aggressive; all they want to do is breed. By six months if they are not neutered, they are not very social. I was told that this pig slept with the people and was their pet. He does have his moments where he will sit on your lap and be a nice pig, but otherwise he is ripping things. That's what happens to an unaltered pig. Now on your unspayed, pigs we are finding that if they have gone through many many menstrual cycles even if they haven't been bred, the amount of tumors as they reach maturity (three or older)(showing picture) those are actual tumors that have been removed from pigs that came into sanctuaries. I know that is gross but we personally have seen a 70 lb. tumor that was removed from a pig. It looked like she was pregnant but it actually was a tumor. SS maybe that needs to be a consideration that they can only breed a pig once and then it has to be altered. CK - Most breeders, like North Las Vegas says, have to be registered with the pot-bellied pig registry, but unfortunately the registry comes and goes. I registered my pig and now the registry I registered her with is no longer there. What happens though is they just don't make good pets, if you went into heat every 21 days. SS-I teach middle school, I understand this concept. CK - Oh ok hormones, it's all about hormones. Well they say pigs are worse than rabbits, I don't know what a rabbits thing is but our pigs that we have seen because they have come full circle as far as a life term in some of these sanctuaries, they have gone, 20 or 22 years of their life cycle, we have been able to document a lot of what happens to these pigs that don't get fixed. SS - that probably needs to be a part of this too. CK – it is a cost thing. You can spay a pig for under a \$100 or you can spay a full-grown pig for \$300. Then you have anesthesia risks and lots of other health risks because of their size and the size of their belly. SS so let me ask a question. Let's say I am responsible pot-bellied pig breeder, how long would I let my animal breed? Would I just let it breed once and then spay it? CK – no, according to registry rules and I didn't put it in here, they only breed two litters a year for three years. SS and then they have to be neutered? CK right. Most of the breeders will breed one female pig to one male pig a year but they'll switch them. No female will have more than one litter a year but they are all with different pigs. SS then after three years they have to be neutered. CK – yes they retire them. If everybody were like CE, JR and myself they would be treated like family and we wouldn't have a problem. SS we want to make the laws as tight for the masses. CK if we can get them and say this is a pet vs. are they livestock. What are they? They have always been put in the middle. Then we can enforce the pet laws that apply to dogs and cats. SS would suggest you make them pets because there are stricter controls under pets than farm animals and they can be more regulated. I would definitely do that because otherwise they are always going to cross that line. CK – that's what we are hoping for.

7. Educational Outreach

JP – welcome to our board. You missed the last one but I actually have a Horses, Horse, Horses program that is up and running and we did our first demonstration on Saturday with some community leaders and we had them out there and it was such a success that they have now requested ten more kids. My first actual class won't be until February 13. We are already back-to-back and are taking ten more children. We are reaching out to underprivileged children through the efforts of our County Commissioners, City Councilmen. Mr. Barlow is good with our program. The kids come from underprivileged families as we know and they get dirty with the horse and the dirt. It is taking off by leaps and bounds and hopefully you will hear more about that. We are covering all bases with the horse. SS – wonderful, I love hearing about that. What is our involvement on this committee? Is it just informational for us? JP – this is my job as I represent the horses in our communities; to educate the children with the fundamentals of animal care. Of course, I am bringing in the large animals but this isn't limited to anybody who wants to do the dogs or anything. Through the outreach of being on this board, I have been able to put some things together that I have grown up in this valley understanding about the horse and sharing with the community in support of the community. This is all volunteers. This has been an awesome thing to watch. SS- it says action so I am wondering what action we are to take.

Chris G – the reason action was there is for JP to tell folks about the wonderful program she has up and running. Part of our charge for the AAC has long been educational outreach to our youth, our community and citizens. We have never put a plan together so we added that to say each meeting maybe come up with ideas on how to do that. With Erika now and the student population, I have talked with Terri Janison from the School Board. Maybe you could put together some working groups with some of the student councils on how they can begin to educate our youth on our s/n laws, our codes, our rules, what is a responsible pet owner. Maybe come up with fact sheets that could be provided to the high schools and middle schools that they can include in their home newsletters. Looking at those types of inclusions. JP's program we have on the county on County Critters on Channel 4. Maybe next month we do what is a pot-bellied pig, what are the rules and Crystal is interviewed. Then the next month is Horses, Horses, Horses. MC can do one on what is a responsible breeder and here is what we look for and here's what you should be doing. You all have expertise. CE can do one on veterinarians; HS can do one on the humane groups. Those are things that we wanted, not necessarily action tonight but if you have some ideas, County Critters is ready to do their next area of filming so maybe you can come up with some prioritized areas to start programming. Meet with Randy Swallow or we can have Randy come up and meet with you or give them the contact information. They'll follow up on that part of it and look at how we can begin to educate our community. We don't want CE going door to door to look for people we can punish. We want to be partners, responsible. So you have to start by telling them what the rules are, how you get to be there. We assume just like people who have kids know how to take care of their pets. There has got to be information out there that maybe "brought to you by AAC". Schools are always looking for information to put in their newsletter. The teachers are dying for information so maybe you find two or three different informational pieces that can be provided to the school district and then they include those in their information pieces. Just try to think out of the box. You all have wonderful talents and it is time to share that. That is what that agenda item was for. SS – I would suggest first and foremost as the mandatory s/n ordinances are coming on board that there should be a lot of information about the rules and about organizations who are out there right now offering help in this cause there are places that are doing that either on certain weekends or on an ongoing basis and letting people get in touch with them. I also think if you are going to educate them, the first part of it should probably be a tour through Lied and all the animals that are being put down and why these ordinances are there. I think that could be very powerful. Chris G – that is an excellent idea and maybe we can have those videos for Channel 4 and ask CLV if they would show them on Channel 2 and maybe at various schools for their programming. There is a lot out there that can be done at basically no cost. There is the Humane Society. We have Heaven Can Wait. We have our own heroes and heroines that we don't tend to talk about as much as we possibly could. So let them tell the story. It's far better than us sitting here telling the story in the long run. That was kind of the thought. SS – I am sure if you go to planning and zoning, they give you a booklet on CE or on zoning things. Now that these things are coming to play, are there any thoughts about putting a booklet together on s/n your animals and getting a brochure at the counter. Chris G – that is an excellent idea. We could actually piggyback on that with AB 15 in which the notices now, that's a new law, that has to go in all public areas in veterinarians' offices and in pet stores. Joe Boteilho from CE just did the signage. We are actually

going to provide it so we make sure that it gets done. We probably ought to link that to our sister cities so that they've got that and maybe you can put a working committee together on what information should go in a very quick, easy, down and dirty that can be available at any counter, any place where somebody goes and maybe we can be in partnership....Does NLV have an animal advisory committee? I think we are the only one that does and maybe we can do that in partnership. SS – we do it in-house actually like CE, all sorts of things. How to license a business, you know all those little quick pamphlets that everybody has. You can probably make a really friendly one for your pet and s/n. Chris G – why don't we gather what's out there and provide that to you and then maybe at one of your board meetings you can have a subcommittee, even here, just something to mock up, add this or do that. I know we can do that. SS – then people coming to the County for whatever reason, they can have them just sitting there on the counter and grab them. Chris G – even in our newsletter and such. We have started doing “did you know” and so it's did you know on CE, did you know you can only have so many yard sales in a year; those kinds of things because information is power. You don't want to catch people doing something wrong. You want to say thank you for following the rules in the first place. MC wonders if it would be advantageous for us on the AAC to do a one-day ride along with ACOs. That way we would see their side of the coin and be able to implement it into what our working atmosphere would be. CE would recommend having video along because everyone would be shocked at what these people have to deal with on a daily basis. DM – we do have that. Come on down. Chris G – ok great. That's an excellent idea. It's like doing a ride along with Metro. I wanted to see what they were doing and they are happy to help with things like that. Great idea, thanks Mike.

EG recently did a project. What students like to hear is that I did a project and when I showed them my project they were like “wow, we did not know that.” lots of students that, me being a teenager, the youth do, we are on the computer a lot. If you want to get the students involved, one of the things you really want to do is get a website going for the youth. If you go online and see all this stuff on these websites but they are too dull for the youth. Teenagers, if you have a youth site, then little kids will be like “oh, I can understand this.” You need to bring it down to where they can understand it, instead of preaching to them. Get them involved, come down to the shelter, bring in ACOs when they have the time letting them know what they do on a daily basis. SS – this ride along could also be part of your, even without us, it could be on “a day in a critter theme”, A Day in the Life of an ACO. Chris G – that's excellent. We are actually updating the County's website right now. I am a great believer as a teacher; I steal ideas from anybody and everybody. I think you are absolutely on to something so maybe that is going to become your next project. SS and then add some links to the rescue organizations and other groups. Chris G – link to the rescue organizations. There was a group of young people that worked on some things. There may be some kids at school that might want to do that with a teacher do that as a project which we can adopt. Then if you think about it, I had some science teachers in elementary school who really wanted to bring in people to talk to the kids about how you take care of your cat, your dog, your reptile, whatever it might be because they are the ones who will teach their parents. That could be another discussion but there are some groups out there. I don't know, Stephanie, maybe through a hotline at the school district. A call to teachers and then you can get them doing the work rather than the Committee. CE – if you really want the shock value, come see us at Animal Emergency Center (AEC). They would be shocked to see what actually happens. I have a technician and we can tell you the amazing things that happen. We could really charge people with what we see there. Chris G – remind me Dave and I will see if Randy can contact Clarissa. Maybe we can at least get started with something along those lines. CE – we welcome them at Animal Emergency Center. I tell you that every time that a dog comes in that has been hit by a car, the first thing I do is lift the tail and guess what, most of them are intact. EG – kids don't really know because in my project everyone is like “it's wrong not to have your animal s/n?” The thing is they're like “my dog is a big pit bull and duh duh duh duh.” They don't really know anything. No one has really educated them and what you have to remember is how many times kids text, IM on computers, e-mail. Instead of some inappropriate stuff that they could be talking about, you can give them something to talk about. SS – My Space and Facebook. CE – like 6 pit bulls came in tonight, hit by cars. It's the same thing. Chris G – I can see an educational program. We just have to find a handful of teachers that might help work with those youth to put that kind of thing into play. You're at which school? I keep forgetting. EG – I am at Foothills. Chris G – that 's actually a really good high school campus. Maybe we can ... EG – my principal is more than one hundred percent wanting to do something because she came to my project and she is like “OMG, OMG” tearing up and asked “what can I do to help?” I told her have an assembly or have something else. It's not only that. It's teens and adults too; their mom and dad,

telling them they want to fix it. It will make them look at what they are doing. The first thing they think of isn't let's go to a shelter, it is let's go to a breeder. We told the little kids stuff, non-high tense stuff and they are like "mommy, daddy, we need to go to a shelter." Chris G- exactly. A shelter and then we should publish and introduce the permitted breeders so that people know for the specialty breeds where we want them to go. That ought to be part of what we include in our information packets. SS – these are certified by us. You have lots of good ideas Chris. HS – this board has not had a subcommittee so maybe it would be a good idea to start with an educational subcommittee. SS – are you officially the Title 10 Subcommittee? HS – not a subcommittee but Title 10 volunteer. SS – so maybe that should be on our next agenda, deciding if we want some subcommittees, establishing what they would be. JP – we just need to remember that no more than two of us can be on a committee at one time so we don't represent a quorum. DM – right it is two as there are five voting members. SS – how odd is that. We have an odd number board. EG – I am not a voter. SS – but she can be appointed to a subcommittee. I think that is something we need to discuss and how we want to divide up our work

8. Discuss writing letter to the BCC requesting that the PW department amend their contract with dead animal pickups to require that they scan for microchips and take tags and turn them into Lied for notification of owners

Chris G – that was another idea that had come up and we wanted something formal. It had been discussed. I think we can amend our contract but it would be helpful to have it come from you as the official board for the local government to make that as a request. That helps me not only with our Public Works but also with NDOT. Maybe the letter could be to Susan Martinovich from NDOT because they have a contract as well for those not in the right-of-way. So that might help us have the negotiations and I think we have the ability to make that contract change. SS – I noticed it doesn't say discussion or action but I think we can direct staff to write a letter so why don't we just have staff move forward and write that letter.

9. Information-sharing by Committee Members

CE is grateful that in 2009, they didn't have to deal with a vicious animal declaration. I wasn't sure how I would deal with it but I am so grateful we never had a vicious animal attack in 2009. Praise God, hallelujah.

SS – Commissioner G, is there anything in your county ordinances about the owners of the vicious animals and what we do with them? It is sad to see that the animals have to take the responsibility for their owners. Chris G – I don't think we do. I don't remember. CE – we never had anything in 2007. Chris G – I have only been in office three years but that was the first year and I read your minutes every time. We didn't have a vicious dog last year. It is horrific to have to read those and it has to be agonizing to have to sit there as a Committee member to make that decision. We don't have anything, Dave, do we? DM – only whatever citations they receive for the dog running at large, etc. Chris G – down the road, again because I want s/n to become a positive because we want it regulated. I consider it regulated because we did allow breeders to have an exemption and the veterinarian to have an exemption, but that said down the road, as we educate, we might be revisiting you should have known and they were intact, there's a different story. It shouldn't just be the animal that pays. SS – penalties can be paid for animals that are intact and animals that are not intact. Chris G – exactly. That might be a place to look at down the road for penalties for individuals whose animal attacks, mauls or does something, in addition to just the animal being penalized. SS – there is no choice like having their teeth pulled so they just have to gum everything. Is there any other information that needs to be shared?

10. Comments by the General Public

Dr. G has two points. She heard a lot of talk here when we were talking about the education outreach, taking them down to Lied so they can see how many animals have to be euthanized, I have some concerns as a psychiatrist for using that kind of approach because sometimes it backfires, especially with young people. You show them the seedy side of the issue can turn them off and it scares them and they run for the exits. I would rather see the educational approach focus on the positive. I have my three dogs that are all rescues and when I am out walking,

the kids in the neighborhood see dogs and they come running and they want to know if they can pet them and what their names are and I try to educate them then about rescuing animals, about s/n and also about their care. These are little kids. Many of them are second or third grade kids. They will educate their parents. I would not push the fear that we have to kill all these animals because it can have the opposite effect. SS – my point is that if you show them pictures of what they are facing and then say what's the solution and give them this, I think it helps explain the s/n a lot as a way to solve the problem. Dr. G – for the adults. For the little kids, you are presenting them with an overwhelming problem. SS – I am not sure how many kids are watching Channel 4 though. EG – I kind of agree with her but I think there is an age where they should not be going to the shelter. I can understand that being a teenager myself. That's a horrid sight. I've been to Lied when they had the outbreak. That was horrid. I had flashbacks all the time but for the teenagers, I think that they're old enough to understand. Dr. G – teenagers but I think we need to start with the kids in grade school. For them, we need to be soft and cuddly rather than show them the horrors. SS – but what I was referring to was the Channel 4 program not so much with elementary school. Dr. G – my other point is that I would hope that in making the various changes in Title 10 and all the s/n issues, that we, we have talked about dogs. We've talked about cats; we've talked about pot-bellied pigs. Bunny rabbits, these guys really multiply and we do have a problem. A lot of them are being dumped in the parks around Summerlin for example. They are hard to get homes for so I think we need to make s/n for the bunny rabbits compulsory.

GINA GREISEN (GG) – I wanted to see if we can address the issue of Vash, the dog that my daughter and I chased on New Year's Eve and there were some issues with calling Metro and actually getting a page or not getting a page to AC. We chased the dog. It was running the wrong way down Russell Road. It was on Sandhill. It was horrible. Even Metro showed up at one point because they almost ran the dog over and they helped us chase the dog around the block and then finally corner it onto a half-acre property. We chased this dog for two hours till about 2:30 a.m. AC never showed up and then there was an issue as to whether or not because those calls are patched through Metro whether or not they paged, or when they paged. Sometimes when you call Metro, they won't page AC unless the dog is dead or injured. It is tragic so hopefully that sort of went to the scanning issue that was on the agenda tonight. The dog did end up going back on to Russell Road when no one would show up and was hit and killed. It was picked up by Craig Road Pet Cemetery who is the contractor for the County and was never scanned or anything. Only because I called myself because I knew they were the contractor and found out that they had indeed picked this dog up and that it had died within an hour after we finally gave up because we were freezing and it was dangerous for us. There were low power lines behind this house we were chasing him by so maybe if we could get with, at the BCC meeting, Commissioner G actually suggested maybe beginning a little subgroup here together with AC and Metro dispatch and figure out how we're going to direct those calls when they come in. What warrants a page and see how many officers were on because not only is it tragic that the dog was killed, I am sure it was tragic for the person who ended up hitting it when we knew three hours prior to that that it was a danger in traffic. It goes back to how much is on the plate of AC. They are one of the few departments within that county that didn't grow exponentially when all of that growth was going on and now we are still facing the cuts that are now coming down and they never grew in the first place. We need to prioritize what we want, what more we want to put on their plate. SS – it sounds to me that that is just internal policy with the County. You probably should go to the County Manager. That's really a policy issue I think, wouldn't you agree Commissioner? Chris G – we weren't sure because I didn't know the calls go through Metro in the evening. SS – I think all AC calls go through Metro. In NLV they all go to the police. The call goes to 911 and then AC is part of the police department in our jurisdiction. The City just changed their number and when you get forwarded to their number for AC, it now says you have reached the Department of Detention and Probation and unless you stay on the line and hear the next prompting, you don't even know that it has anything to do with AC. This happened after the first of January. SS – you need to bring those to City Council. CE can also tell you someone who works at AEC that when we get an animal because we get the CC animals and the first thing they do is give us number and we try desperately to contact the owners if they have a microchip. The first thing that happens, the dog comes in and most times we look at them and say what's going on now. We have them and contact the owner or they don't. We get the animal and try to save its life. That's what we do so if this dog which you were chasing and had come into us through CC, the first thing they do is give us a number and we stabilize the animal as best as we can and try to find the owner. SS – where does it start. CE will tell you the system does not break down the second they come to our center. Chris G – but we have to get them there and that was her issue because they refused to come as it wasn't a priority. Metro

only stopped to help for a little bit because they almost hit the dog. SS- I don't know why Metro didn't call AC. That doesn't make any sense. GG – I threatened to break every traffic law and stop all traffic on Russell Road. CE – I don't know what happens before they come to us but I will tell you the second they come to us.... Chris G – you do try to find the owners. SS – it sounds like there is a policy issue. Chris G- Sounds policy and I don't even know. SS – it is protocol and procedure when they get the call and what they do. DM – once our dispatch center closes at 7 p.m. on weekdays, Metro begins taking calls for us and dispatches them to an officer who is on duty until midnight. After midnight, the officer is on standby until 6 a.m. Standby calls are handled on a priority basis, emergency calls only, which does not include dogs that are just running loose. Now, had we been told that Metro was out there trying to control the situation that would have been a different situation. With Metro, we were told a citizen was following a loose dog which is not a priority or we would just as well have an officer on all the time because those are routine calls. Dogs running loose are routine calls. SS – at night, they are more dangerous. DM understands there are risks involved but unfortunately there has to be a line drawn somewhere and that is where the line was drawn. SS – because of money. DM – it has been that way for the twenty years that I have been here because I was a midnight officer back twenty years ago and we didn't go out on those calls because you just have to draw the line somewhere. Chris G- do you know how CLV and NLV and Henderson do it? Maybe that's the important information. Then Gina can go and take it to each of those jurisdictions. DM – I think you will find they respond even less than we do. Chris G- probably. SS – I do know NLV AC is part of the police department so they are under their jurisdiction so they may have more contact because they are part of their department. Chris G- maybe that's part of the information gathering that you need to do because I don't have time. GG – if it comes to a staffing issue where they are not going to go out on a call anyway, I guess that's where we need a say. If I were the person who hit the animal that night and I had come to find out that Metro had been called, that AC had been called and then what if that would have caused an accident. I think the County would be on the hook for big bucks for a danger cause that is like a suitcase lying in the middle of the road. It's dangerous and it's a moving object in the middle of the road that you are trying to avoid. I would certainly try to avoid hitting it. I have an estranged family member, far removed from me that actually got in an accident trying to avoid hitting a rabbit that is paralyzed and has been paralyzed for the last 25 years. I would probably try to avoid hitting a dog and I would have probably gotten into an accident; plus the damage that would have occurred to his vehicle because this was a wolf. SS - I don't think anyone is disagreeing with you. I just don't think this is our purview. I think this is a staffing issue. It's a policy issue and it really needs to go to the BCC and they have to decide if they are going to fund someone who will work all night. They need a policy change but we really don't dictate policy for the County. That's something you should bring up when they do the public comment at the County meeting. GG – I did and Chris G told me to come here. SS- we can tell you to hire more animal control officers or have another shift, but I don't know that we can dictate policy or their budget. HS – just so you know that dog's death was not in vain. I think a lot of what you are saying is leading me to Item 8, which is notification from Craig. It wasn't in vain. GG – at the end of the day, someone still showed up for that dog. It was just the wrong... if we would have gotten to save the dog from the front end. We still paid the contractor to go and scrape the dog off the road so we still paid to have someone go out and respond to that call. It just ended up being Craig Road Pet Cemetery. I think it would have been so much easier because we had a crowd to have come and get the dog. Boom, it would have been done instead of all this time wasted and energy and the tragedy of it all.

GG - one thing I wanted to add. When we talked about the s/n, this is going to the education component, I just wanted to say maybe we would get with the PTA even because as part of dog bite prevention, the AVMA and the CDC say one of the number one things to do to prevent dog bites is to s/n. So maybe we can even work with the PTA and really get them involved. Even trying to get them to try and adopt that as part of something that they...SS thinks there are some great things to take to the legislature that if your animal is not s/n and it bites someone that the penalties go to a felony. There are a lot of things you could do to just make the penalties stiffer if your animal is declared vicious and it wasn't neutered. GG – I would love to do that and just to see if we could get the PTA on board to accept that and promote that as part of their agenda of protecting and looking out for kids. They can encourage the s/n of their animals as part of their education program because I was bitten twice on the way to school and I graduated from Clark County schools so I know that this happens all day long, every day. I am sure Dave can speak to that. How many dog bites occur to small children while walking to school every day. It is a public safety issue. HS – this may just be my lack of knowledge but is PTA a group. GG – it is a very large,

powerful lobby. HS – when I think of PTA, I think each school has its PTA. SS – they lobby at the legislature. GG – if we could get them on board to support some of the stuff we're doing, as a public safety issue for kids, I think that would be really helpful. EG has a question. You say that it's not really a big hazard to go if someone calls for a dog running in the road, isn't that also a dog off leash. Isn't that what you guys talk about? DM – there is no leash law in the unincorporated Clark County. EG – dog running a large or something like that. SS – the issue is the officer made a decision not to contact you. That again goes back to the county, if they are going to change their procedures mandating that they get contacted. I'm not sure exactly what we can do. If they don't do it because of the funding, that goes to the BCC because they have to decide if they are going to fund an off hours officer full time to address those issues so while the issue is horrible and I am glad we are going to do this about the scanning, the rest of it I don't see as us having a role in telling the County how to run the County because we don't do their budget. If it is procedure, then they have to make a decision that they are going to change their policies and procedures that when they get that kind of call, they mandate that they contact them. If they change it from an emergency to a non-emergency or whatever. That has to be internally decided within the County. JP – remember to take your safety first in a scenario like that. Emotions get high and people get killed. It is a shame because it still reflects back to the owner who didn't take the responsibility. Please do not be running down Warm Springs chasing dogs. You have to think about what you are doing sometimes and let your compassion have a little common sense.

Dr. G wants to point out that the one thing the Committee member can do is attend the budget hearings and lobby for additional officers for AC. I have been at their hearings and they do listen to what we have to say.

11. Set date, time and agenda of next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 25, 2010 at 6:30 at Paradise Community Center.

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.