



BRENHAM ANIMAL SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD

June 9, 2026

A regular meeting of the City of Brenham's Animal Services Advisory Board was held on Tuesday, June 9, 2026, beginning at 11:00 a.m. at the Brenham Animal Services Center Conference Room, 1804 Longwood Drive, Brenham, Texas.

Board Members Present:

Megan Gray, Jeana Bellinger, Suzanne Callaway, Carol Doersom, Kristina Newton, Sharon Guelker, Dr. Christine Rockey

City of Brenham Staff Present:

Morgan Patton

Citizens/Others Present:

None

1. Call Meeting to Order

2. Citizen and Visitor Comments

None were heard

3. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon the Minutes from the April 7th, 2026, Regular Meeting

A motion was made by Suzanne Callaway and seconded by Sharon Guelker to approve the Minutes from the Brenham Animal Services Advisory Board Regular Meeting that occurred on April 7, 2026.

4. Discussion and Presentation on the Purpose and Scope of Brenham Animal Services and Shelter Statistics as of May 31st, 2026

The shelter statistics as of May 31, 2026, were presented by Manager Gray.

Carol Doersom asked what the 2 reported deaths were. Manager Gray answered stating one was a sick kitten that died in its pen from failure to thrive. The other was a dog in foster for heartworm treatment who was hit by a car and killed.

Jeana Bellinger asked if Carol Collins was getting updates on the County SNAP program after her generous donation. Manager Gray stated that she sends quarterly updates to Carol Collins via email.

Kristina Newton asked about the transport partners and how those partnerships came about. Manager Gray stated that, while she was working at Lubbock Animal Services, she made a working relationship with Idaho Humane Society, as well as Cache Humane Society in Utah for transports. When she came to Brenham, she kept those relationships and continued sending dogs to those shelters. In addition, the transport driver, Rose, introduced Manager Gray to the management at Spokane Humane Society in Washington State. The 3rd transport to Spokane will be June 13, 2026. Brenham Animal Services also partners with Sterling Humane Society in Massachusetts for occasional puppy transports.

Kristina further asked how the animals are chosen to go to the other shelters. Manager Gray stated that the receiving shelters hand pick who they are interested in. Megan then shares more information and recommendations with them regarding those animals.

5. Administration Updates

- **Adoption Van Promotion Plan**

Carol Doersom asked about the van and if it would be used for transports. It was clarified that the van would be used for local adoption events for animals at the shelter. A mock-up flyer for the adoption van sponsorship options was shared with the board. The van is expected to be \$250,000. The shelter needs to raise half of that through donations and promotion, and it is proposed that the city would match the other half. If the funds are raised, October 1, 2028, would be the date for the capital purchase. If the van is fully funded beforehand, it could be purchased sooner.

One benefit of this van would be the ease of travel. There will no longer be lengthy setup and breakdown of kennels, a tent, table etc. at each event. This will help with time management and more efficient use of staff members.

There was some brainstorming on funding and sponsor advertising. Kristina Newton recommended asking the new AI center if they would sponsor the van. Jeana Bellinger said the shelter could utilize creative ways to get the word out about the van while looking for sponsors. Discussions were had about applying for grants, promoting it at Clear the Shelter, the Arts & Music Festival in the fall, using QR codes on “adopt me” vests on the dogs, as well as keeping a digital donation tracker in the shelter and online to show the fundraising progress. More discussion included advertising the van at the Uptown Swirl event and walking dogs around as “ambassador dogs” to bring attention to the adoption van fund raiser.

Jeana Bellinger considered re-evaluating the dollar amount for each tier of sponsorship. She also recommended that she and Manager Gray look at the naming rights policy for the city which has information about large sponsorships. An example given was the naming of

parks in the city. Jeana also considered increasing the goal amount for the shelter to raise before the city contribution.

Suzanne Callaway asked if people could donate small amounts toward the van. The answer was yes, and the flyer was only regarding large sponsorships. Manager Gray and Jeana Bellinger stated the adoption van fund will be separate from the normal donation fund and people will need to request the money be earmarked for the van specifically when donating. There is still lots of brainstorming to do before sharing information about the van with the community. Manager Gray asked for board members to email her with any ideas regarding promotion of the van funding. Sharon Guelker recommended, once the van is purchased, having it in the parades to show available animals.

Jeana Bellinger stated that she shared the idea and specs of the adoption van with city council and they were supportive.

- **Events**

Since the last advisory board meeting, ACO Elantra Walton gave an educational presentation at Citadel Christian School regarding snake identification and safety. The students enjoyed it and it went well.

There were 7 dog adoptions at the Bluebonnet Festival in April despite having to leave early Sunday due to thunderstorms.

Monday June 15, 2026, from 3:30pm-5:30pm, there will be a Citizen 101 presentation and adoption event at the Nancy Carol Roberts Library. Information about Brenham Animal Services will be shared through a PowerPoint presentation. Dogs and cats will be available for adoption.

This year, Clear the Shelters is the entire month of August and there is not a specific date for the crescendo event across the country. Brenham Animal Services has chosen August 29, 2026, for the main adoption event. Volunteers will be needed.

The shelter has a part-time worker from the Texas Workforce Commission. He will be working on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday for 5 weeks. This is to help him transition from high school into the workforce.

A shade structure for the Animal Services parking lot has been approved in the budget for FY 2026-2027. This will help keep the vehicles cool in the summer and out of direct sunlight.

The next Animal Services Advisory Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 8, 2026, at 11:00am.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 11:37 a.m.

Megan Gray

Megan Gray
Chairman

ATTEST:

Morgan Patton

Morgan Patton
Staff Liaison