



## MINUTES

### BRENHAM ANIMAL SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD

April 7, 2026

A regular meeting of the City of Brenham's Animal Services Advisory Board was held on Tuesday, April 7, 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

**Board Members Absent:**

Dr. Christine Rockey

**City of Brenham Staff Present:**

Morgan Patton

**Citizens/Others Present:**

None

**6. Call Meeting to Order**

**7. Citizen and Visitor Comments**

None were heard

**8. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon the Minutes from the January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2026, Regular Meeting**

A motion was made by Jeana Bellinger and seconded by Sharon Guelker to approve the Minutes from the Brenham Animal Services Advisory Board Special Meeting that occurred on January 13, 2026.

**9. Discussion and Presentation on the Purpose and Scope of Brenham Animal Services and Shelter Statistics as of February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

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

Bellinger stated that the county SNAP (Spay and Neuter Assistance Program) vouchers for the March statistics were still funded by the City of Brenham budget because it was prior to the \$20,000 donation for Washington County SNAP participants.

Sharon Guelker asked what constituted a landlord surrender. Megan Gray answered and stated that a landlord surrender is an animal who was abandoned at a house after moving out. In this case, the animal may be surrendered to the shelter by the landlord if no contact can be made with the owner.

Kristina Newton asked what the primary reason for an owner surrender animal is. Megan Gray replied stating that the majority of owner surrendered animals are surrendered due to no fault of their own. Typically, it is due to the owner's economic hardship, relocation, or landlord restrictions.

Megan Gray stated that the TNR (Trap, Neuter, Release) Program has been a success and that the last TNR date for the public will be April 8, 2026, until the program resumes in the fall during the slower season. She added that several businesses and community cat colonies also participated in TNR in February and March. These included the Blinn College campus, Belle Towers apartment complex, Moeller Electric, and the feral cat colony at the end of Weldon Trace. Due to this, the TNR statistics were higher in these months. Jeana Bellinger advised that a note be made on the statistics that will be publicized stating that the TNR program is only from October to April to explain the significant decrease that will be expected in the summer months.

Sharon Guelker said there is a colony of cats near the portable building next to the Fireman's Training Center. Megan Gray said she had spoken with the lady who feeds the cats and advised her about trapping them, but there has not been any further communication on this situation. These cats are near Moeller Electric, so it is possible that some of those cats have been in the TNR program already. There have been approximately seven TNR cats from the Moeller Electric area.

## **10. Administration Updates**

### **• Events**

The April 1, 2026, vaccine clinic was very successful. At the event, 31 microchips, 46 rabies vaccines, and 15 SNAP vouchers were given during the two-hour period. Staff members were very efficient in serving each participant. It took staff members about 5-10 minutes to complete the services for each vehicle. This included giving a rabies vaccine, microchip, and paperwork to the animal owner, as well as having SNAP participants complete the SNAP waiver and gathering the animal's weight for those applicants. Jeana Bellinger stated that everyone she spoke to after the event was happy with how it went.

Kristina Newton asked how the shelter advertises for an event like the vaccine clinic. Megan Gray stated that the event was posted on social media, KWHI, and the Banner Press.

As this was the first event, the number of participants was capped at 50 animals. The event was quite popular, and all of the slots were full within 18 hours. Megan Gray said she would like to offer this type of event twice per year and will allow more participants moving forward.

The Bluebonnet Festival is the next upcoming event which will be April 11-12, 2026, in Chappell Hill. There are currently not many dogs to adopt from the shelter as several have been adopted or transported recently. There are several litters of puppies who will be sterilized this week and will be ready for adoption at the event. Shelter staff will take 5-7 crates this year as opposed to 10 in previous years because thunderstorms are expected. With fewer crates, the animals will be set up under the canopy and out of the inclement weather.

A newly implemented event is dog therapy with Flourish with Friends. A staff member takes a dog to the Presbyterian church, and the animal gets to interact with dementia patients. This was successful and enriching for both the animals and participants.

A new receptionist, Cindy Boyd, was hired and started March 23, 2026. She replaced Jane Goehring who moved out of town but will still participate in fostering bottle kittens.

ACO Elantra Walton will be attending the Texas Unites for Animals Conference in Austin, TX on April 24-26, 2026. Here she will earn required continuing education hours as well as gain more knowledge regarding the animal services industry.

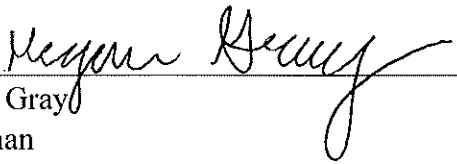
Staff members from the Texas Municipal League, which is the city's insurance company, toured Brenham Animal Services and met with Megan Gray and Morgan Patton for a risk assessment. Megan Gray read part of an email she received after this assessment. They stated, "We left really impressed, not just with the facility itself, but with how thoughtfully everything is run. It's clear there's a lot of care put into day-to-day operations, both for the staff and the animals, which really stood out to us." They told Megan and Morgan that Brenham Animal Services is the standard that other shelters should follow. Megan stated that the staff members would benefit from first aid and AED training to better serve the citizens who come to the shelter.

- **County Spay/Neuter Assistance Program (SNAP) Update**

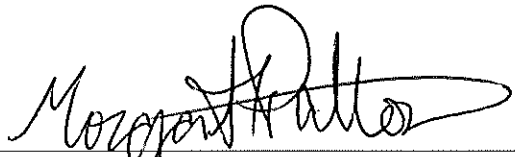
Carol Collins, a citizen of Washington County, made a very generous donation of \$20,000 to Brenham Animal Services. This donation was presented at the Brenham City Council Meeting which occurred on April 2, 2026. This donation was designated specifically for Washington County residents outside of Brenham city limits to be able to participate in the SNAP program. The county government has not acknowledged the need to financially assist the county residents in sterilizing their pets. The donation and Washington County SNAP program offer were published in a media release on April 6, 2026. There have been at least 3 email inquiries and several social media comments and interactions thus far. It is expected that this donation will last about two years to be utilized to help Washington County residents and their pets.

**Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

 6-9-26  
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Megan Gray  
Chairman

**ATTEST:**

  
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Morgan Patton  
Staff Liaison