

ANIMAL CONTROL ADVISORY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Date and Time:	Tuesday January 27, 2026 *4:00PM
Location:	Saginaw County Animal Care & Control 5615 Bay Road Saginaw, MI 48604
Council Members Present:	Kelli Scorsone, Carol Pickelmann, Tom McIntyre, Tracey Slodowski, Jonna Godley, Demetrios Scott, Cynthia Winiecke
Council Members Absent:	Dr. Bailey Mielke, Sharon Maher, Laureen Lutenski,
Others in Attendance:	Gilbert Ramirez, Rachel Horton, Jaime Ceja, Jen Speckhard

I. CALL TO ORDER

Tracey Slodowski called the meeting to order at 4:04PM

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Tom McIntyre made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from December 17, 2025. Cynthia Winiecke supported. Motion passed (7-0).

III. AGENDA

1. Tracey Slodowski welcomed Gilbert Ramirez, Deputy County Administrator Grants & Special Projects.
2. Election of Officers
 - a. Chair – Member Scott made a motion to nominate Member Slodowski. Member Winiecke supported. Motion passed (7-0).
 - b. Vice-Chair – Chair Slodowski made a motion to nominate Member Scorsone. Member McIntyre supported. Motion passed (7-0).
 - c. Secretary – Chair Slodowski nominated member Scott, Member Scorsone supported. Motion passed (7-0).
3. Bylaws – Bylaws were amended and approved by the Board of Commissioners.
 - a. Council will move to 9 members; nobody will be removed at this time.
 - b. Subcommittees are now referred to as work groups.
4. 2026 Meeting Schedule – Member Godley made a motion to approve the schedule. Member Scott supported. Motion passed (7-0).

IV. DIRECTORS REPORT – RACHEL HORTON, DIRECTOR – SAGINAW COUNTY ANIMAL CARE & CONTROL

1. **Adoptions** – Running adoption promotions currently \$25.00 January 17-27 Warm Hearts, February 7-21 Love is Adoptable.
2. **Business Hours** – Open 9-6 weekdays and Saturday's. Jonna confirmed 9-6 weekdays and 9-1 Saturday.
3. **Intake** – 17 dogs in the past few days alone due to cold.
4. **ACO's** – Continuing outreach offering dog houses, tethers, food, leashes when they can to the community.
5. **Press** – Rescue Roundup, Train your Dog Month, Fuzzy Fridays, cold weather tips.
6. **Donations** – Edward and Erna Foundation donated \$9K+ which will go towards animal care.
7. **Embed** – Best Friends staff are on site with the Embed project. Communication will be coming out to staff and volunteers about any operational changes.
8. **MSU** – Spay/Neuter bus is set to start end of March, beginning of April.
9. **Volunteer/Staff Shout Outs** – Sue R, Lori, DJ, Madison, Mike, Christine, Lindsey. Terry Martin is a longtime volunteer of 29 years. Patti is coordinating a bench in memory of Diane.
10. **Cold Weather** – Chair Slodowski asked about people online stating their dogs love the cold and won't come in. Director Horton stated they still can get frostbite on their ears

and nose. The law states that an animal must have food, water, shelter and windbreak with a 6-sided insulated shelter. Animals can be seized if people refuse to bring them in or have proper shelter. SCACC offers houses and straw. If 911 gets calls they are transferred to an ACO. If we seize a dog, it is now a court case animal and until we get custody from the judge, they are in the shelter waiting.

V. NEW ITEMS

1. Jen Speckhard – Court cases – do they pay restitution. Director Horton stated they may be ordered to pay restitution, but few do. Return Numbers – are numbers adjusted when animals are returned. Director Horton stated that 30 days is considered a return and anything over that is an owner surrender.
2. Member Pickelmann – Has a slide show that will be shown at the next meeting, highlights what the council has accomplished in the last year and looks forward to next year.
3. Educational Outreach – Member Scorson stated she has sent an email to County Civil Counsel for review but has not heard back.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

VII. NEXT MEETING

1. Next meeting will be held Tuesday, February 24, 2026 at 4:00PM.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

1. Member Scott made a motion to adjourn. Member Winiecke supported. The meeting adjourned at 4:45PM.