

APPROVED BY
JB



Lakewood Animal Safety & Welfare Advisory Board
January 21st, 2026 Meeting
Location: East Conference Room

Present: Board Members: Emily Christescu, Nancy Binder, Phyllis Dykes, Juleen Russell, Julia Garleb, Teresa Schleicher, Lise Stevens, Amanda McCready, Councilperson Angelina Hamilton Steiner, ACO Gary Crumley

Not present: Stacey Zigman

Lakewood Animal Safety and Welfare Advisory Board Meeting
Minutes Wednesday January 21st, 2026

- I. Welcome and roll call conducted by Board Chair Binder. 8 voting members present.
- II. Welcome new Board Members: Amanda McCready, Lise Stevens, Teresa Schleicher. The Board Members introduce themselves.
- III. Approval of November Meeting Minutes - Board
 - a. Unanimous verbal vote in favor of motion to waive formal reading of the minutes. No discussion on minutes as presented. Motion passes to approve the minutes. The board did not hold a meeting in December.
- VI. Officer Elections
 - a. Chair: Nancy Binder is nominated for the Chair position; nomination seconded. Nancy accepts the nomination. Nomination passes.
 - b. Secretary: Emily Christescu is nominated for the Secretary position; nomination seconded. Emily accepts the nomination. Nomination passes.
 - c. Vice Secretary: Board Chair Binder discusses the need for a Vice Secretary. A motion is made to elect a Vice Secretary; motion is seconded. Motion passes. Julia Garleb is nominated for the Vice Secretary position; nomination seconded. Julia accepts the nomination. Nomination passes.
 - d. A potential Vice Chair position is discussed. The Board feels the new members need some time to acclimate to the Board and the work we do. The Board agrees to put this idea on the agenda to discuss in four months.
- V. Lakewood Animal Control Update
 - a. ACO Crumley introduces himself as the current supervisor at Animal Control and invites the group to visit the new Animal Shelter. He reports that there are no adoptable animals at the shelter right now. But there are 2 dogs with a foster that will be adoptable after they are seen for medical issues. They have a vet appointment on the 26th as they both have dental issues and one has a growth. It is possible the foster may adopt them. There is 1 cat in foster to gain weight. ACO Crumley mentions Shelter Pro, a new software for shelters that helps with impounding, adopting and keeping track of animals. He notes the

new software will make posting adoptables and lost animals better. Juleen asks if it can hook up to other systems/websites that share lost animals. ACO Crumley mentions the Animal Control Facebook group. Lise asks if all animals get microchipped, ACO Crumley says not all animals, but they offer a \$25 microchip for animals that get adopted through the shelter. He is in talks with the Law Department to ask if they can adjust the policy to make all adopted animals microchipped at adoption and hopefully reflect that in the adoption cost. Lise mentions a DNA (Do Not Adopt) List that most shelters keep and she wishes there was a system so all of these shelters were in communication. ACO Crumley mentions the current cost is \$100 for a dog adoption and \$75 for a cat that helped better cover the expense involved with vetting the animals prior to adoption. That increase was approved recently and he believes today's vetting cost is now even higher. Juleen discusses the cost to microchip the number of cats and dogs adopted last year based on the animal control report and that the cost is not high.

VI. TNR Ordinance Update

- a. Councilperson Hamilton Steiner shares communication from yesterday's Council meeting where Councilperson Strebog reintroduced the TNR legislation and referred it to the Public Safety Committee. She distributes a printout that should be the copy discussed at the Public Safety meeting. LASWAB is invited to the next meeting scheduled for Monday, February 23rd and we will have around 45 minutes to discuss any talking points.

VII. Committees & Initiatives

- b. Wildlife -
- c. Ordinances/Admin -
- d. Community Events - LCSC Pet Food Drive: Juleen mentions hosting the next event in April or May. She explains that Pet Supplies Plus brought down an additional 300 pounds to the last event after it ended. Juleen discusses ways to obtain other donations from corporations or ways to get more folks involved. Emily distributes a printed tally of the Pet Food Drive event showing collected donations and other notes (the Fall event number in the printed report includes the last Pet Supplies Plus donations). Emily mentions working with H2O and Emmie Hutchinson to bring in new help for the next Pet Food Drive and inviting her to the next meeting.
- e. Spay/Neuter - PetFix program: Nancy explains that the ARPA funds have run out so the city is out of the grant money used in previous years. She shares that around 500 cats have been spayed/neutered since the LASWAB board initiated this program. Juleen would like the board to consider ways to fund this program. Phyllis mentions the Cleveland Foundation that has suggestions for grants. Nancy mentions a recent bill going to the state senate to provide funding for spay/neuter.

VIII. Communications

- a. Juleen mentions content that LASWAB used to make for social media posts. She says there's room to help there and invites the new members to engage in the process. Amanda offers to create content; Lise offers to help write content.

IX. Public Comment

Motion is made to adjourn; motion passes. Meeting adjourned at 7:32 pm.