

# ARIZONA STATE LEGISLATURE

## JOINT STUDY COMMITTEE ON STATEWIDE ANIMAL CONTROL STANDARDS

**Minutes of the Meeting**  
**November 20, 2023**  
**1:00 P.M., SHR 1**

**Members of the public may access a livestream of the meeting here:**

<https://www.azleg.gov/videoplayer/?clientID=6361162879&eventID=2023111009>

### **Members Present:**

Senator John Kavanagh, Chair  
Senator Eva Diaz \*  
Dr. Nancy Bradley-Siemens  
John Castaneda\*  
Monica Dangler\*  
Arleen Garcia\*  
Patty Gillmore\*  
Annette Lagunas\*

Representative Quang H. Nguyen, Vice Chair  
Representative Keith Seaman  
Debbie McKnight  
Audra Michael\*  
Jose Pena  
Michelle Ryan\*

\*Participated via a teleconference platform.

### **Members Excused:**

Liz Olson

### **Staff:**

Rachel Andrews, Senate Research Analyst  
Samuel Rosenberg, Senate Research Assistant Analyst  
Blanca Santillan Ramos, House Research Assistant Analyst

Chairman Kavanagh called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. and attendance was taken.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Senator Kavanagh stated that without objection, the minutes of November 13, 2023 were approved as distributed.**

### **DISCUSSION**

**Q/A: Victoria Whitmore, Executive Director, Arizona State Veterinary Medical Examining Board**

**Victoria Whitmore, Executive Director, Arizona State Veterinary Medical Examining Board**, gave an overview of veterinary training, duties and jurisdiction over the shelter animals. Ms. Whitmore answered questions posed by the Committee.

### **Discussion regarding the Standards of Care in Animal Shelters**

Chairman Kavanagh distributed a questionnaire entitled "Maricopa County Animal Care & Control, Animal Control Study Committee" (Attachment A) and asked each member to address the questions.

**Jose Pena, Santa Cruz County Animal Care and Control**, addressed the questions in the questionnaire (Attachment A) and answered questions posed by the Committee.

**Debbie McKnight, Interim Director, Maricopa County Animal Care & Control** addressed the questions in the questionnaire (Attachment A).

**Arleen Garcia, Animal Control Supervisor, Nancy J. Brua Animal Care Center, Sierra Vista**, addressed the questions in the questionnaire (Attachment A) and answered questions posed by the Committee.

**Annette Lagunas, Executive Director, Humane Society of Yuma**, addressed the questions in the questionnaire (Attachment A) and answered questions posed by the Committee.

The Committee offered comments.

**Monica Dangler, Director, Pima Animal Care Center, Pima County, Arizona**, addressed the questions in the questionnaire (Attachment A) and answered questions posed by the Committee.

**Audra Michael, Director, Pinal County Animal Care and Control**, addressed the questions in the questionnaire (Attachment A) and answered questions posed by the Committee.

**Michelle Ryan, Executive Director, Coconino Humane Association**, addressed the questions in the questionnaire (Attachment A).

**John Castaneda, Program Director, Gila County Animal Control**, addressed the questions in the questionnaire (Attachment A).

**Patty Gillmore, Executive Director, Western Arizona Humane Society**, participated remotely via a teleconference platform but was not able to communicate with the members due to technical difficulties.

Chairman Kavanagh discussed the agenda for the next meeting and notified the members that the Committee will be voting on the Standards of Care in Animal Shelters. He asked the members to email their recommendations to the analyst.

The Committee offered comments.

## **PUBLIC TESTIMONY**

**MJ Simpson, representing self**, expressed her concerns on animal conditions and on the standards of care recommendations.

**Debra Nolen, Lobbyist, Community at Large**, testified in support of shelters and adopting animal control standards.

**Terri Hoffman, representing self**, testified in support of the recommendations for the Standards of Care in Animal Shelters, the spraying and neutering and licensing of animals.

**Jenna Pavleck, representing self**, testified on the issues regarding animal rescues.

The Committee offered comments.

Attached is a list noting the individuals who registered their positions on the agenda items (Attachment B).

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracey Gardner  
Committee Secretary

(Audio recordings and attachments are on file in the Secretary of the Senate's Office/Resource Center, Room 115. Audio archives are available at <http://www.azleg.gov>)