

PACFA Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

May 19, 2017

In attendance at the meeting: Doug Johnson, Chairman (Boarding/Training), Martha Smith, Secretary (Animal Rescue), Dr. Jenelle Vail (Veterinarians), , Beth Godwin(Dog Daycare), Bobbie Baugher (Groomers), Adam Morr (Small Animal Breeders), Jens Larson (Retail), Casey Ellis for Dustin Haworth (Wholesale), ReRe Baker (General Public), Kari Kishiyama (Animal Control), Nick Fisher (CDA-PACFA Administrator), Cindy Thompson(CDA) and Adrienne Bannister(CDA).

Absent: James Flanagan (General Public), Susanne Cochran (Bird Breeders), Leslie Yoder (Animal Shelters), Dr. Kelly Hepworth (Large Scale Dog Breeders), Curtis Figler (Cat Breeders)

Meeting Called to Order by Doug Johnson, Chairman at 10:15 AM

Introductions-Doug Johnson

Approval of Meeting Agenda – Doug Johnson

Approved.

Approval of Minutes – Doug Johnson

November 3, 2016, meeting minutes were approved.

PACFA Program Update – Nick Fisher

- Nick introduced Hollis Glenn the new Division Director for ICS. Hollis was appointed in May and replaced Steve Bornmann who retired in October of 2016.
- Nick discussed HB 17-1228 anyone boarding 3 or less pet animals is now exempt from PACFA. HB-17-1228 passed General Assembly and its way to the Governor. Will go into effect upon Governor's signature. Beth Godwin asked about future inspections, Nick discussed complexity of rule and what steps inspectors will have to look at to determine if someone needs a license.
- Proposed Puppy Mill Bill - Nick asked Lori Greenstone - CO Voters for Animals to update the committee on the status of this proposed legislation. Lori informed the committee that the bill is still in the process of being drafted. CO Voters for Animals plans on meeting with stakeholders this summer. The plan is to introduce a bill in Jan 2018 that is similar to the California bill currently going through their legislative process. Currently the bill would target retail/wholesale pet sales. Lori said everyone wants to make sure bill will work. Jens Larsen asked how a puppy mill would be defined. Lori advised language would need to be worked out and would be happy to discuss other questions after meeting
- Nick reviewed the rule change that was approved by the Ag Commission that will go into effect May 30th. Nick gave a brief history of the rule change process and advised during the process the Pet Sitter Category was deleted based on HB 17-1228, enclosure increases for rabbits were deleted and proposed S/N rule change was found to be in conflict with PACFA statute after legal review.

- Nick discussed the implementation of the new AgLicense Online License Renewal and Database Program. We are currently working on future enhancements to the program that we hope will include a public external search function that will be live by fall or start of 2018. Doug Johnson asked how we did with renewal on the new online system and Nick reported that we had about 80% of licensees use the new system.
- Nick informed the committee that PACFA now has over 2,061 licensed facilities.
- Nick informed the committee that we hired a new investigator position in January due to a dramatic 200% increase in complaints from 2015 to 2016. Amylee Riley is the new investigator and she will focus mainly on complaints regarding unlicensed facilities.
- Martha asked how many delinquents facilities we had this renewal season and Nick reported that there were 80 which was down from about 120 the previous year.
- Nick reported that we are currently working on compiling the shelter and rescue statistics for 2016. Looking at preliminary numbers, between 35,000 - 40,000 dogs and cats were imported into the state in 2016.

Proposed Rule Change - Nick Fisher

- Nick explained to all in attendance how the PACFA rule change process works in the Department of Agriculture. Proposed amendments to rules come from representatives of pet services, animal welfare, internally through inspection staff or committee members or can come from the general public. The PACFA Advisory Committee's role is to consider and design rule changes to recommend to the Ag Commission. Once a rule change is approved and recommended by the committee the next step is to hold stakeholder meetings for feedback on the proposed changes. Rule change recommendations usually take a year or longer to go through the public hearing process and get final approval by the Ag Commission. We have gone through three rule change processes in the last four years. We would like to slow down and probably won't work on another rule change until 2018 or 2019.
- Proposed Rule Change to split Boarding and Training category. Doug Johnson was asked give background as to why he would like to see the category split. Doug emphasized that there is quite a bit of variety to the methods of training that is going on, he believes that training is now becoming a larger industry that needs its own category. Doug introduced Mike & Daisy from Waggly Dog Training. Mike introduced himself and handed out materials.
 - Mike stated his desired goal is to regulate pet animal training in Colorado. Wants to see dog training improve. Packet included written statements and studies about positive reinforcement training. Doug Johnson asked about the use of behavioral control devices such as shock collars - Mike stated he disagrees with the use of shock collars. Mike and Daisy mentioned several organizations that rehabilitate dogs using positive reinforcement methods. Several members of the public made comments regarding other methods of training. Nick informed all in attendance that PACFA currently does regulate trainers and devices. Nick reiterated to all in attendance that the meeting today was only to discuss the potential of possible rule change, if the committee decides to move forward with rule changes that there will be future stakeholder meetings. Discussion was held regarding training standards and it was suggested that groups

discuss methodology and come back when they can agree on common standards for training. Martha Smith stated that she supported splitting the categories.

- Nick suggested that the groups talk to the national training organizations:
 - International Association of Canine Professionals (IACP)
 - Association of Professional Dog Trainers (APDT)
- Proposed Rule Change that would require Shelters/Rescues to have imported animals examined by a Colorado veterinarian prior to being placed for adoption. Committee approved and recommended this change move to stakeholder meetings at next rule change process.

Member Updates

Casey Ellis for Dustin Haworth (Wholesalers)

Nothing to report

Beth Godwin (Dog Daycare)

No update – everyone appreciates the work done on HB 17-1228.

Adam Morr (Small Animal Breeders/Reptiles)

Adam would like to suggest that we require the time of the incident to our online complaint reports.

Nick advised that he would check into it, but we do allow for anonymous reports and sometimes information is very vague in regards to describing the incident or complaint.

Martha Smith (Animal Rescue)

Nothing to report.

Dr. Jenelle Vail (Veterinarians)

Nothing to report. Cindy asked how PACFA can do more outreach with veterinarians. Jenelle suggested doing an article for the CVMA Voice.

Jens Larsen (Retailers)

Spay/Neuter deposit concerns, he does a \$50 deposit and they try to do them before they are sold/adopted. Jens said he offers free S/N to people who buy from him and they still won't do them and feels we still need to do something about this concern. Retail/Wholesale has concerns about the Puppy Mill Bill, Jens has no problem with bad pet stores being closed. Jens does have concerns about animal rescues buying dogs out of state and selling for \$1,700 - \$2,500 - how is this a rescue?

Doug Johnson (Boarding/Training)

Nothing to report.

Bobbie Baugher (Grooming)

Thanked Cindy Thompson for a presentation that she did for groomers. Bobbie is taking a sanitation certification course and is hoping she can give more info to groomers in the future.

Kari Kishiyama (Animal Control)

No updates – CAACO survey sent in. CAACO would like to see more training regarding PACFA. Kari will talk with Nick after the meeting

ReRe Baker (General Public)
Nothing to report.

Public Comment

Chad New, Nature Box Pet Emporium

Chad asked if retail facilities can get exemptions to sell turtles and tortoises under 4" carapace. Nick explained that the sale and possession is a FDA regulation and that it is an unlawful act under our statute. It might be something we might be able to address during the next Sunset Review process.

Jonathan Parker

Jonathan asked for clarification on pet sitters boarding animals. Nick advised that people who boarded 3 or less pet animals are now exempt from PACFA.

Jonny Wallace, House of Slithering

Johnny asked if there were any thoughts of adding a reptile representative to the committee. Nick advised that the representatives are set by statute so we wouldn't be able to add anyone until the Sunset Review

Meeting was adjourned at 1:24 PM