

JENNINGS COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL BOARD

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

JENNINGS COUNTY GOVERNMENT BUILDING

March 18th, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 9:00am.

Board Members in attendance: Nad Day, Trent Wisner, Mark Smith, and Tara Thormin.

Others in attendance: Department Head and ACO1, Michelle Matern.

Introduction: Meeting was opened by Day. Minutes were signed from February 18th, 2025, motion for approval by Thormin and seconded by Wisner carried unanimously.

Board went over final draft of new ordinance, discussed ability for shelter to be closed for intakes if need be (i.e. to lower euthanasia rates / overcrowding). Owner surrender fee now based on if animal is fixed or not (i.e. if an animal is not fixed, owner will pay to have said animal fixed, no longer a flat rate).

Ordinance changes include: Only Jennings residents to surrender animals, added definition of Emotional Support Animals, public nuisance, and trained guard dogs. Holding stray animals “hostage” is now an ordinance violation. State recommendation added to county ordinance on square footage / acreage for livestock. Winser made motion to approve ordinance change, Thormin, motion carried 4-0.

Discussion of building continued: 14ft door to back vehicles in, office space in front, sound barriers, fencing and plumbing. Current building started out with 1500 square feet and only around 4 kennels, much needed upgrades to be finalized.

Wisner suggested Matern to bring budget to monthly meetings or via email to entire board. Further suggestion of creating a “volunteer call out” for a couple Fridays a month. Board discussed adding to budget for spay/neuter. Matern to purchase new dryer for facility.

Wisner made the motion to adjourn, Thormin seconded. Motion carried 4-0.



Nad Day, Animal Control Board President



Trent Wisner, Animal Control Board Vice President



Tara Thormin, Animal Control Board Secretary



Mark Smith, Animal Control Board Member

JENNINGS COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL BOARD

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

JENNINGS COUNTY GOVERNMENT BUILDING

April 15th, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 9:00am.

Board Members in attendance: Nad Day, Trent Wisner, Mark Smith, and Tara Thormin.

Others in attendance: Department Head / ACO1, Michelle Matern. Community member Sarah Cook.

Introduction: Meeting was opened by Day. Minutes were signed from March 18th, 2025, motion for approval by Wisner and seconded by Thormin carried unanimously.

Sarah Cook attended the board meeting. Board discussed ways community members could help support animal control; fundraising for adoption fees, encouraging spaying/neutering of animals, sharing social media posts, fostering through Community Animal Rescue Effort (C.A.R.E.). Wisner explained what a new building for animal control would cost, possible location, operations once completed, etc. Board highlighted that a new building would not be possible without the county's consent/approval among everything else as animal control is a county entity. Board is still waiting for a budget to be presented as well as a capital bond to be approved by the county. Wisner suggested Cook make connections with community foundation on endowment.

Smith brought up topic of spay/neuter clinics, Wisner suggested raising funds for vouchers to CSL area. Matern and board to start email chain for infrastructure / equipment / description of capital items up to 2031. Board discussed fencing project at facility, fencing was coated wire before replaced, fencing was then torn. Owens to return to facility to fix side panels of fencing. A dog at the facility had chewed through fencing within the first week. Dogs have also been bending the bottom of the fencing.

Board to continue pushing for hire of an ACO2, with Matern, Thormin, and Nicci Lucas conducting interviews as applications and resume are sent in.

Wisner made the motion to adjourn, Thormin seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Nad Day, Animal Control Board President



Trent Wisner, Animal Control Board Vice President



Tara Thormin, Animal Control Board Secretary



Mark Smith, Animal Control Board Member

JENNINGS COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL BOARD

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

JENNINGS COUNTY GOVERNMENT BUILDING

May 20th, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 9:00am.

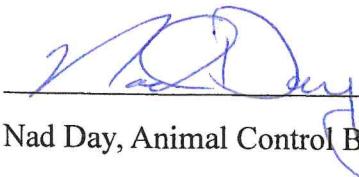
Board Members in attendance: Trent Wisner, Mark Smith, and Tara Thormin. Missing Nad Day.

Others in attendance: Department Head / ACO1, Michelle Matern. Community member Chasity Gerkin.

Introduction: Meeting was opened by Wisner. Minutes were signed from April 15th, 2025, motion for approval by Thormin and seconded by Wisner carried unanimously.

New ACO2 and part time kennel technician were hired. County council to make decision on hiring of new board member on June 10th, 2025. Board discussed having a booth at the Jennings County Fair and what types of informational material to hand out. Wisner made the motion to approve booth fee, Smith seconded, motion carried 3-0. Matern sent in transfers to pay for spay/neuters of animals at the facility out of firearms training. Board discussed remaining amounts in budget, only \$1,000 left in cleaning supplies. Uniform line of \$2,500 to be used this week for new hires. No money was used out of euthanasia line for this year. Board consistently highlights that only \$3,000 a year is spent outside of payroll, budget talks will most likely begin at the start of July. Wisner brought capital spending plan as of April 30th, auditor explained that some things may be changed. Council has previously stated that everything requested in 2023 may be approved such as the new vehicle, radios, and dog box for vehicle. Wisner suggested phone recording system, to be pulled from utilities. Smith suggested moveable storage to be purchased but board is unsure if county bond has been released. Smith also suggested storage boxes for dog food storage, Thormin highlighted that lining in dog food bags is made to make food last longer. With new employees being hired and trained, facility is open for volunteers Monday through Friday 8am-4pm, and Saturday 8am-12pm. Owner surrenders are completely bombarding shelter, preventing room for emergency intakes. Animal control to advertise partnerships with C.A.R.E for fostering animals.

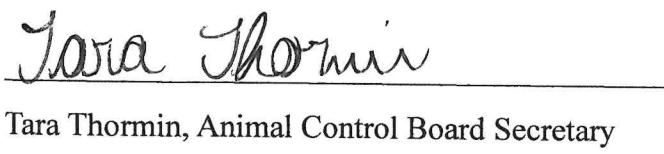
Wisner made the motion to adjourn, Thormin seconded. Motion carried 3-0.



Nad Day, Animal Control Board President



Trent Wisner, Animal Control Board Vice President



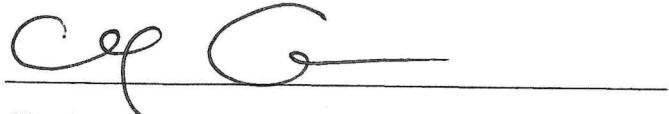
Tara Thormin

Tara Thormin, Animal Control Board Secretary



Mark Smith

Mark Smith, Animal Control Board Member



Chasity Gerkin

Chasity Gerkin, Animal Control Board Member