

JENNINGS COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL BOARD

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

JENNINGS COUNTY GOVERNMENT BUILDING

September 16th, 2025

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

Board Members in attendance: Trent Wisner, Mark Smith, Tara Thormin, and Chasity Gerkin.

Not present: Nad Day.

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

Introduction: Meeting was opened by Wisner. Minutes were signed from August 19th, 2025, motion for approval by Thormin and seconded by Gerkin, carried unanimously.

Agenda items: Mowing- Board received three quotes, county has not given an answer on if animal control is responsible for mowing. ACO1 sent a follow up email to county commissioners after budget meeting to ask again. Volunteers and employees have continued mowing along with community service workers.

Phone system- board previously discussed going through ring system. ACO1 believes that whenever ac phones go down, most county offices go down. Frontier continuously goes down. Metronet internet works well at facility. Board may get quote for ring central to present to county officials. Call recording and functionality is a dire need.

Budget line items- County will not raise budgets, Wisner highlighted to county officials that budget is 10 years behind. We rely on volunteers, especially to provide items such as puppy pads, cleaning supplies, etc. "Hwy capital" line in budget was a typo, ACO1 stated that this was actually an equipment line. ACO1 stated trash and carcass removal can be combined. Board was advised that we will need to buy ammo for firearm training. Gerkin asked about possible grants for firearm items, ACO1 stated we were removed from sheriff's department grant for reasons unknown.

New business- Wisner asked ACO1 if there are any building improvements that may need done before confirmation on a new building which may or may not happen in the coming years. County council is made aware of maintenance items, and that projects will go into any capital improvement projects. ACO1 was able to purchase tires out of motor vehicle line item, total was under \$800. ACO1 only uses gas and oil line item for gas, still under budget for this line. ACO1 utilizes ACO2. Board discusses potential for line-item cuts, county officials asked board to clean line items up. ACO1 to ask auditor's office for print outs of last few years of transfers. Wisner expressed that county officials understood that an operational budget of only \$32,000 a year is borderline impossible. County highway put gravel onto driveway to allow for horse trailer to not be in mud. Stone was brought for parking lot, but ACO1 expressed the need for more. Owner surrenders are turned away due to high capacity. Still waiting on ordinance updates, county attorney is aware. Animal control will be on future county agenda for ordinance. Board discussed volunteer initiatives, how to attract a head volunteer to oversee general volunteers.

Thormin made the motion to adjourn, Gerkin seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

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



Chasity Gerkin, Animal Control Board Member