

1 STATE OF NEW MEXICO)
2 COUNTY OF CURRY) ss.
3

4 The City of Clovis Animal Control Task Force Euthanasia Sub-Committee met in
5 regular session at noon, Tuesday, July 8th, 2008 at the Bert Cabiness City Government
6 Center, in full conformity with the laws of the State of New Mexico and the ordinances
7 and resolutions of said city with the following members present:
8

9 PRESENT: Ms. Linda Cross (Chair)
10 Commissioner Vohs
11 Commissioner Garza
12 Commissioner Edwards
13 Ms. Jacque Wuest
14 Dr. Glenn Keim
15 Ms. Louisa Maestas
16

17 ALSO PRESENT: Louisa Maestas
18 Glenn Keim
19 Jacque Wuest
20 Joe Thomas
21 Don Clifton
22 Claire Burroughes
23 Dave Richards
24 Claudia Roll, City of Albq. & APNM
25 Heather Ferguson, APNM
26 Yvette Dobbie (via telephone)
27 Clovis News Journal
28

29 Ms. Cross advised the meeting was to put together recommendations to take to the
30 task force, to brainstorm and get some ideas.
31

32 Ms. Cross advised she visited the Animal Shelter this morning. She
33 complimented them on what they do. They are undermanned and overwhelmed but she
34 found everything to be top notch. She advised they needed to address the situation of
35 change, how they were going to do it and how they were going to pay for it.
36

37 Ms. Dobbie thought Ms. Ferguson and Ms. Roll could cover the issues. Ms.
38 Cross advised their concern was the high volume of animals they were euthanizing. It
39 would take two people to do the injection as they do not have enough staff now. They
40 could address contracting out the euthanasia.
41

42 Commissioner Garza advised Ms. Dobbie was saying there would not be any cost.
43 He asked who would pay for the extra personnel. Ms. Dobbie advised if the city had a
44 licensing program in place that would help bring money in to the city for the shelter.
45 Commissioner Vohs said they used to have a licensing program which became ineffective
46 because people did not license their animals. Ms. Dobbie advised it was a process that

1 needed to be enforced. She thought it would be a beneficial program. Ms. Cross thought
2 this was something they needed to try to reinstitute. Ms. Maestas advised that last time
3 the charge was only a dollar for the lifetime of the animal.
4

5 Ms. Roll asked how much time was spent on euthanasia now. Ms. Maestas said
6 they euthanize on Tuesdays and Thursdays starting at 7:00 a.m. and finish by 9:00 a.m.
7 including cleaning and taking the animals to the landfill. They euthanize anywhere from
8 25 to 40 animals.
9

10 Ms. Wuest advised with the small amount of employees they have, she did not see
11 any way other than to contract out to take care of the euthanasia. Ms. Cross agreed. Ms.
12 Wuest advised she had talked to one of the dairy vets regarding doing this on a rotation
13 basis and he thought they might be open to this.
14

15 Dr. Keim of Curry County Animal Hospital advised he would not be interested in
16 performing lethal injection. He advised this was the depressing end of the business. Ms.
17 Ferguson said there was a program in Albuquerque who may want to do this. They may
18 be able to rotate veterinarian interns out of here.
19

20 Commissioner Vohs thought the best thing was to get them all adopted out. He
21 thought education was primary. Now they are looking at 300 animals a month which
22 they cannot do with the 4 people who currently work at the animal shelter. Ms. Roll
23 advised the smaller communities have lower numbers and tend to contract out. Once the
24 numbers are higher they are usually dealt with in house.
25

26 Ms. Maestas advised her staff called around to New Mexico towns and were
27 advised that they contracted out and the city paid the fee for the euthanasia. Ms. Cross
28 thought it would help if they could get something like that to happen in Clovis. She
29 thought the numbers of animals euthanized were high and if they worked on spay and
30 neutering, education and other things the numbers would go down. They would need
31 help initially with this due to personnel issues. They could use the chambers and also the
32 injection until they could get their numbers down. Ms. Ferguson advised from what they
33 were understanding about what is going to happen with the regulations, she thought a
34 dual process was not what they should be looking at going forward. The Animal
35 Sheltering Services Board have advised that the gas chambers will be prohibited so it will
36 not be an option to utilize both. Regulations will be drafted by the end of August and
37 they will have to go through a public hearings process as well as going through the Board
38 of Pharmacy review and Veterinary Medicine Board review for the state. She thought it
39 would be in place by the end of the year. She advised she did not know what the grace
40 period will be regarding the regulations.
41

42 Dr. Keim advised he had a copy of the Animal Sheltering Services Act which
43 states July 1, 2012. Ms. Ferguson advised that is the sunset clause for the act and not the
44 regulations that are being put forth. Dr. Keim asked if this had been legally put into
45 effect. Ms. Ferguson advised this was already in effect and the board had already been
46 meeting. There is a rules committee that has a veterinarian on contract who is assisting in

1 drafting all the euthanasia certification practices and guidelines. As soon as the
2 regulations are adopted by the board they become law. Dr. Keim asked if they were
3 adopted. Ms. Ferguson advised they were not, but that was they are drafting now. Dr.
4 Keim asked if their position was to micromanage what they were doing in Clovis and was
5 that their thinking. Ms. Ferguson advised no. She stated their position is not to do that
6 all. The reason they were put into place was because about 6 years ago they started
7 getting calls for different calls for different situations. They got calls from the landfill
8 where a bag was still moving. The shelter staff had been handed a syringe, a rabies pole
9 and a uniform and had been told to go and do your job. The staff had not been told how
10 or what to do, so as good intentioned as the animal control officers were in doing this,
11 they had not received training. When they started hearing those sorts of reports, that
12 animal control officers were not euthanizing with proper dosages and ensuring the animal
13 was dead before being sent to the landfill, APNM started sending them to training.
14 \$75,000 has been spent by APNM sending animal control officers for training around the
15 state for euthanasia but animal handling practices, rabies, etc.

16
17 There are not licenses or certifications for euthanizing animals and those who are
18 doing it are psychologically traumatized by not receiving the tools they need to be able to
19 do the job appropriately. APNM approached the state to do two things. Firstly to create
20 a board to create the euthanasia regulations and a certification and training process where
21 vets around the state working with animal shelters would make sure people were
22 euthanizing animals were trained so animals get a humane end and not suffer in a bag in
23 the landfill. They also wanted to create voluntary shelter standards. It was in place to
24 address this on a statewide basis so that there would be a state agency to turn to and fund
25 some of costs related to this. They wanted the state involved in this to get some funding.
26 Clovis came up because it is one of four communities that still have a gas chamber.

27
28 Ms. Maestas asked what the grace period was when the decompression chamber
29 was outlawed. Ms. Ferguson did not know what the grace period was. Ms. Maestas
30 advised they would like to know. Ms. Ferguson advised she would have to pull up the
31 original act.

32
33 Ms. Ferguson advised there were two things going now. While they have the
34 Animal Shelter Services Board doing this, they also have heard from the Governor's
35 office that he would like to carry legislation if the Animal Sheltering Services Board does
36 not have things completed through the public hearings process by the end of the year.
37 She thought the safest bet was to be looking at a timeframe between now and what could
38 happen legislatively at the end of March. She advised there was a liaison from her
39 organization that were working with them and is on the rules committee. She did not
40 know how long the grace period would be.

41
42 Commissioner Garza asked who determines whether the lethal injection was less
43 painful or more humane than the gas chamber. Ms. Dobbie asked if they were still
44 talking about whether this was going to happen or not. Ms. Ferguson advised no, there
45 were just some questions. Ms. Roll advised policy statements have come out from
46 groups like the Humane Society of the US, National Animal Control Association

1 (NACA) which shelters have a lot of faith in. She advised all the commissioners did get
2 a packet regarding this.
3

4 Ms. Roll advised what they are hearing and reading is euthanasia by injection is
5 the most humane method that they have right now. The chamber is not appropriate for
6 certain animals. It is not appropriate i.e. the very young, very sick or pregnant animals so
7 the next step to that is that it should not be the sole method of euthanasia. She advised
8 they accept the oxygen deprivation differently. She asked Dr. Keim as a veterinarian if
9 he wished to speak regarding this. Dr. Keim said carbon monoxide was carbon
10 monoxide. He advised he could not breath it and neither could Ms. Roll and no animal
11 can. He advised he could not buy differentiating between old, young, sick and pregnant.
12 Carbon monoxide kills all things.
13

14 Commissioner Vohs could see about the unborn might not get the correct levels
15 by the time the mother dies and he could see that argument by not even being a vet.
16 When people die of carbon monoxide in their home they go to sleep and do not know it is
17 in the air. They have witnessed at the shelter that the animals go to sleep within 20 to 30
18 seconds. He advised he used to work for a vet and they used to shave the arm and he
19 thought that was more traumatic, shaving, trying to find a vein and being muzzled etc.
20 He advised he was having a little debate as to whether this was the right thing, not only
21 for the animals but for the people who are administering this. They have four people
22 with one in charge and he did not know that they could implement this now. They would
23 have to be approved for a controlled substance and store that. They would have to watch
24 the landfill in case the animals are dug up and therefore put another animal at risk.
25

26 Commissioner Vohs thought there were a lot more things than meet the eye. He
27 advised there would be no charges for the first year and asked how long it would be
28 before the city would be reimbursed. He did not think it would be slam dunk and that
29 easy. Ms. Roll advised it was not a simple issue and there were a lot of things to work
30 out with the Pharmacy Board and with the landfill and the training. Ms. Roll said there
31 was a lot involved, but they were things that could be worked out. Many animals are
32 taken to the landfill and they have their drugs on site and follow the regulations
33 concerning that. Ms. Roll advised they have a procedure in Albq. which they follow and
34 she advised she could share that if need be.
35

36 Regarding the funding and whether or not it is a reimbursement, Ms. Roll advised
37 it is not a situation where they would ask them to buy a bank of cages, exam table,
38 lighting, etc. for a euthanasia room. Staff would be registered by them, sent to the
39 training in August and they would pay for it. Ms. Ferguson advised they would send
40 three people for training in Albuquerque in August. They would buy all the supplies for
41 the shelter and bring it to them. There would not be a reimbursement situation.
42

43 Ms. Maestas asked how much it would cost to redo the whole euthanasia room.
44 They would need a table, syringes, safe and a freezer, a control box and redo the room.
45 She asked if they would have to build another room. Ms. Ferguson advised it would cost
46 \$10,000 to \$15,000. They have set up full surgical rooms in Farmington where they set

1 up multiple animals, spay neutering, lighting systems, benches, drapes, sterilization for
2 less than \$25,000.

3
4 Ms. Roll said if the decision is made to go in this direction part of setting the time
5 line would be to really get into the shelter and figure out where they were. Hopefully
6 there would be an existing space. Ms. Maestas asked if OSHA would be involved in this.
7 Ms. Ferguson thought OSHA already did shelter checks. Ms. Maestas asked if OSHA
8 would get involved with the procedure. Ms. Roll did not think so and it should be part of
9 what they should normally be doing already.

10
11 Ms. Ferguson advised they would pay for all the set up and changes at the shelter,
12 including training courses, including a per diem.

13
14 Ms. Maestas asked who they would send because they do not have anyone they
15 could send.

16
17 Commissioner Garza advised they were missing the point. Whether they were
18 paying for the training which is \$270.00 per person, they would still have to get more
19 personnel. It would cost \$80,000 for two employees for the city a year which was a
20 recurring expense the city would have to come up with. He asked how they would
21 recoup this. He thought they would need at least an additional two employees, one who
22 would be certified and the other who would help with the administration of the injection.
23 Ms. Roll thought they would euthanize twice a week. Commissioner Garza said they
24 could not do that when they had to do 25-45 animals on those two days. Ms. Roll
25 advised they could spread it out, but it would not take all day. Commissioner Vohs
26 advised they were doing 75 animals a week. Ms. Roll advised she was a certified
27 euthanasia technician. Commissioner Garza advised 75% of the dogs are vicious dogs
28 and they would have to have personnel in place who were trained so they knew what they
29 were doing.

30
31 Commissioner Garza advised safety for the employees was the most important
32 part. He asked what would happen if an employee got stuck with a needle. Ms. Roll
33 advised this was part of the euthanasia training and safety was a part of it. Commissioner
34 Garza advised it was part of the training, but what would happen if a person got stuck
35 with a needle. Ms. Roll advised if they got stuck with a needle with the drug in it they
36 would go to a doctor. They have had people get stuck and she heard they felt a little
37 funny around the entry site. She advised the chance of getting stuck with a needle of
38 hitting the vein and accidentally injecting, would be a problem. She had never heard of
39 this ever happening in the field of animal sheltering and the field of euthanasia. Dr. Keim
40 advised he had heard of a tech about 20 years ago where they got hold of some
41 medication where they killed themselves. Ms. Roll meant accidental. Dr. Keim advised
42 from a veterinary standpoint that is the worst nightmare, and he did not know what her
43 intention was. When you have controlled drugs, and more than one (as you pre-
44 anesthetize), there are multiple things that are being handled by multiple people. He
45 advised he deals with these issues all the time and as hard as they try to keep up with all

1 of it this is difficult to keep up with it all. He does all the injections and handling
2 himself. He thought the safety of employees at the shelter was paramount.
3

4 Dr. Keim advised his surgery served as a pound facility for CAFB for 20 years. 3
5 weeks ago they kept a dog for the city of Bovina which they could not handle. He said it
6 was a female pit-bull. Somebody could get hurt easily dealing with the animal. The
7 shelter staff would encounter this kind of animal and that needed to be considered.
8

9 Ms. Roll agreed that it was not just about the animals but the people involved.
10 Ms. Maestas advised they get a lot of vicious dogs at the shelter. Dr. Keim advised he
11 was on the operating end of the animal and he had a muzzle and whatever chemical
12 restraint they employed ahead of time, and he had a well trained assistant who assisted
13 him, but it was a challenge and there was a risk involved.
14

15 Ms. Wuest asked how long folk the three people would be able to do this before
16 they had to be retrained. Ms. Wuest advised they have a meeting next week regarding the
17 transfer program and she would like to see the money used for transport. Ms. Ferguson
18 advised the money being offered is for humane euthanasia because it was something
19 where the law is changing. The gas chamber is going to be outlawed within the next
20 year. Exploring transfer programs and spay neutering programs were essential. They
21 were trying to take the process through as deliberately and pragmatically as possible to
22 ensure everyone has the training or contract vets could be set up. She advised Clovis
23 was their first priority right now. Ms. Roll thought it took Roswell six months to
24 implement and it was a pretty smooth transition.
25

26 Ms. Maestas advised Roswell still has the same amount of animals as they did
27 when the program started. She thought the priority was a very aggressive spay and
28 neutering process. Ms. Roll thought with spay neutering numbers could come down but
29 it would take a while. Some pit bulls could not be transferred.
30

31 Ms. Ferguson advised the VCA interns have just arrived and she thought this
32 could be a temporary solution.
33

34 Commissioner Vohs advised the reason this all came about was that the state was
35 dumping on them and they said they had to do something. Ms. Ferguson said they were
36 the only resource available to animal shelter workers. Many cannot afford to send them
37 to this training and they had donors who had specific interests in making sure that animal
38 control workers were trained.
39

40 Ms. Ferguson advised they anticipated ways to institutionalize this so they don't
41 have non-profits doing this. They are helped by their donors but would like the state to
42 assist with this.
43

44 Ms. Roll thought the legislators were hearing more from their constituents about
45 dogs and cats and that public expectations were going up. There was no one they could
46 go to regarding this.

1 Ms. Maestas asked about the landfill and how they would bury the animals.
2 There are regulations regarding how things are buried. Ms. Ferguson advised Las Vegas
3 incinerates them but crematoriums are really expensive. Ms. Roll will get information
4 for Ms. Maestas regarding burial at landfills.
5

6 Regarding the Animal Sheltering Services Board, Ms. Cross asked if they would
7 help with setting up the drugs etc. Ms. Ferguson advised they would help. They would
8 have inspectors, instructors and providers and an off-staff veterinarian. They would do
9 the trainings internally.
10

11 Ms. Ferguson asked if the Governor's office would be able to help with funding
12 for personnel issues. She asked Ms. Dobbie what the Governor had specified to her. Ms.
13 Dobbie advised she met with the Governor in May and they discussed Clovis in particular
14 and he asked what she needed to get things done there. She told him about the gas
15 chamber and what was happening out there. He told her that in January he would take
16 funds, whatever was necessary, to make and help and implement the changes necessary
17 in Clovis. He did not say tell her a number, but he was very receptive and supportive and
18 he would like to see these changes made. He went so far as to say that he would sign any
19 legislation to outlaw the gas chamber. It is going to happen. She said he realized it was
20 going to cost some of these little towns some money and he said to her that he would
21 have funds for them. Ms. Dobbie advised the Governor was on board and willing to do
22 whatever it takes and it doesn't get any better than that.
23

24 Commissioner Garza advised with all due respect to the Governor and to her, he
25 stated that in 2008 various capital outlay funds were sought to improve conditions in
26 animal shelters. Albq. was asking for \$350,000 to help with the spay/neuter facility. He
27 said the Governor could promise the stars and the moon and they might not get any help.
28 Ms. Dobbie advised they have not asked for the money and the Governor was a man of
29 his word. Ms. Roll advised they actually received \$400,000 from the Governor. Ms.
30 Ferguson advised she moves to Santa Fe for the 60 day session and lobbies. Ms. Roll
31 advised she knew that they had a funding on Clovis' ICIP. Commissioner Garza advised
32 Clovis did not get anything and that was his question and that was his problem with the
33 situation. He advised he did not agree with everything they were saying. Ms. Ferguson
34 advised no one mentioned that Clovis needed money for the animal shelter last year so
35 they have put it on their priority list for this year and they have spoken with
36 Representative Crook and Senator Harden already to let them know that it will be a
37 priority to get some funding for the Clovis shelter this year. She advised this was
38 separate from the issue here. Commissioner Garza advised it was relevant for this issue
39 because if they were going to throw this at Clovis and put the burden on the community
40 to go through the extra expense and they would not receive any funds for additional
41 personnel from the government, then how would they take care of the issues. Ms.
42 Ferguson advised they would hit it from both sides, they would provide the funding from
43 their non-profit to pay for all the training and the supplies, whatever the cost.
44 Commissioner Garza advised they were not going to help them every year. Ms. Ferguson
45 advised they have been doing this for other communities and asking for funding annually.
46

1 Commissioner Vohs advised Clovis received less money during the last
2 legislative session than they have ever received. Ms. Ferguson advised it was a tight
3 year. Commissioner Vohs advised the federal government is not feeding the states and
4 so the cities are not being helped. Clovis has major issues in wastewater, landfill, roads,
5 etc. He advised they are all great things.

6
7 Ms. Ferguson advised they do not ask the legislators to compromise other projects
8 for the animal process. Ms. Ferguson advised the budget gets broken down into three and
9 this is a unique set of circumstances where they could be helped by the Governor in the
10 next session.

11
12 Ms. Ferguson said most capital outlay money which is used for the animal shelter,
13 junior money is something that legislators are afforded which can help with labor costs.
14 This is something they could talk to the legislators about. It is a different budget bill.
15 There is a house budget that goes towards capital projects then there is a sub-section of
16 this.

17
18 Regarding contracting the animals out, they currently contract with Portales.
19 They do not pay per animal but they help purchase the carbon monoxide. They do not
20 pay per animal. Commissioner Vohs advised they may have to look at this.

21
22 Commissioner Vohs asked if they would sign a contract to say they would take
23 care of all of this. Ms. Ferguson advised they would. She advised they would have to
24 have a veterinarian on contract to oversee the program. She thought they could explore
25 look into veterinary technicians to help with that. There are some compassionate people
26 in the community who may be willing to do this.

27
28 Ms. Cross asked if they had to have a pharmacist as well as a veterinarian. Ms.
29 Ferguson advised they have to have a controlled substance log. Dr. Keim advised the
30 state board comes out. Ms. Cross advised within their own town you had to have a
31 veterinarian supervise the whole thing.

32
33 Ms. Cross thought the meeting was good because they know they have to do it
34 and there are some problems that need to be worked out. She thought it could be a win-
35 win situation. She thought they could help them to tap into money they do not know
36 about.

37
38 Ms. Cross advised the animal shelter falls under the police department. Ms.
39 Ferguson advised there is an anti-donation. A 501(c)3 associated with program could
40 receive donations. Mr. Richards advised anti-donation is government donating to private
41 business. People can donate to government but government cannot donate to private
42 business. Ms. Roll advised friends of the shelter groups is a good way of raising money.
43 Ms. Maestas advised they have done things with the Animal Welfare League, but liability
44 was a big issue.

45

1 Ms. Maestas advised the Animal Control Shelter has more respect being under the
2 police department in the uniforms they have.

3
4 Ms. Cross asked for a recommendation. Mr. Richards asked what
5 recommendation. Ms. Burroughes thought this group was tasked with making
6 recommendations to take back to the Animal Control Task Force per the agenda. Ms.
7 Cross asked if they have anything to approve today.

8
9 Commissioner Vohs advised he was not ready to vote for a recommendation. Ms.
10 Dobbie advised she would like a recommendation to go forward with. Ms. Ferguson
11 advised they had training in August and did not know when the next training would be.
12 The next training was August 17th. Commissioner Vohs advised right now they have four
13 people and they do not have a budget for anyone right now. To make a decision before
14 there was something in place he would have to step back and see what the
15 recommendation of the city manager was.

16
17 Ms. Ferguson advised this would happen over a period of time. Commissioner
18 Vohs advised they do not have enough people to send to the training in August. He
19 advised he was not confident regarding this. He needed to know how city staff felt and
20 visited with counsel. He did not have enough information at the end of this meeting to
21 feel comfortable with the vote.

22
23 Ms. Roll advised as this was inevitable she wondered if they could have a
24 recommendation to transition to euthanasia with injection, whether that be in house or by
25 contract. She wondered if they could go back to the task force with that
26 recommendation.

27
28 Commissioner Garza advised he still had issues with the extra personnel. He
29 advised they would have to pass the expense onto the taxpayer as that was what it would
30 come down to. The legislature would not help with the extra personnel and he asked how
31 that would be fair on tax payers who do not want any pets, and how could they justify
32 this.

33
34 Ms. Wuest advised if they were being forced into this and they make a
35 recommendation that would free the city up to look for people they want to train outside
36 of the shelter. When the citizens realize the humane aspect she thought they would be a
37 little more open to it. Commissioner Garza advised he was not sold on the idea that lethal
38 injection was more humane than the gas. Ms. Wuest advised that was true, but they did
39 not have a choice. Commissioner Vohs asked if they were not sold on it how could they
40 sell it to the community that it was more humane. Ms. Wuest advised the ruling was
41 being imposed on them and they did not have a choice.

42
43 Mr. Richards asked what action had the board taken. Ms. Ferguson advised the
44 action taken so far was that they made a statement at their meeting saying that when they
45 have the presentation by the veterinarian from San Diego, they all agreed that the gas
46 chamber was going to be prohibited. The contract veterinarian who is drafting the

1 regulations right now is doing exactly that and she wanted to take the next two months to
2 go back and forth with the rules committee and her regulations before she submits her
3 final thought regarding euthanasia practices and drafts. She is working with the UNM
4 law school with that.

5
6 From that, at the end of August there will be public hearings for public comment.
7 What they understand from the sheltering board this is absolutely set in stone and the gas
8 chamber will be outlawed and as soon as the regulations are adopted by the board in full
9 they will already support that proposition and it will be outlawed probably by the end of
10 the year.

11
12 Commissioner Garza asked who makes the decision. He stated it does not make
13 any common sense for small communities who have to change the ability to do things
14 and then have to go through the extra expense just because somebody decided that was
15 the thing to do. He stated that was wrong. Ms. Ferguson advised the board, just like the
16 board of pharmacy would be charged with the same exact issue of making a ruling or an
17 intent on having extra precautions put into place for controlled substances. There was
18 something called the Animal Care and Facilities Fund which is to allow them to help
19 defray the costs to the communities for some of this, which is some of the funding they
20 are going to use on the other three communities in the state. She advised the charge of
21 the board is to create these regulations and to adopt them and impose them on the entire
22 state. Commissioner Garza read from the Animal Care and Facilities Fund as follows:
23 "A disbursement from the fund shall be made only upon a one drawn by the secretary of
24 finance and administration pursuant to a voucher signed by the superintendent of
25 regulation and licensing or the superintendent's designee." Commissioner Garza advised
26 this was more red tape to him because unless somebody signs on it, nobody else is going
27 to get any money. Ms. Ferguson advised it was more red tape than they were offering to
28 them right now which was a simple contract and they would pay for it. The other
29 communities were going to go into the red tape fund and that is either going to be with
30 the Animal Sheltering Services Fund or the legislative session in January. She advised it
31 has been determined by the American Veterinarian Association that they agree.
32 Commissioner Garza stated the American Veterinarian Association did not agree with it.
33 He disagreed with that. Ms. Ferguson advised if they went onto the ABMA, the ABMA
34 agrees with it. She said what she was hearing was that the Commissioner cared about
35 what was humane and what is not humane for the animals and that was why they were all
36 there, but she thought that what they were seeing across the country was that injectable
37 euthanasia was the most humane option for animals. Commissioner Garza asked
38 according to who. Ms. Ferguson advised according to the ABMA, NACA.
39 Commissioner Garza advised it did the same as carbon monoxide did which was inducing
40 unconsciousness. Commissioner Vohs advised "Carbon monoxide induces loss of
41 consciousness without pain and with minimal discernable discomfort".

42
43 Ms. Roll advised after injectable, carbon monoxide chamber is the most
44 appropriate. She has spoken with the veterinarians who believe if they have better
45 options and injection is that option, they should use it. The National Animal Control

1 Association has looked into it and they recommend that lethal injection is the method of
2 choice for humane euthanasia.

3
4 Commissioner Vohs advised he was not convinced that carbon monoxide was that
5 bad. This is all very opinionated on what is the most humane. He advised he thought
6 they may have to let the law go into effect and just do it. To him, when you have to
7 inject an animal, give them a sedative while they are scared, this is a lot of work for
8 someone and more traumatic for the animal than putting them in a chamber and putting
9 them to sleep.

10
11 Ms. Dobbie asked about the onset of rigamortis to know that they are dead. Ms.
12 Maestas they confirm death with a stethoscope. Commissioner Vohs advised did not
13 think that had anything to do with being humane.

14
15 Mr. Richards advised he had the minutes of the June 9th meeting of the rules
16 board. He asked if they have voted on any occasion to not authorize the gas chamber.
17 Ms. Ferguson did not know who the municipal league representative was. She thought it
18 was Lt. Kelly Wallace from Alamogordo. He works with the Department of Public
19 Safety and helps run and manage their animal control there.

20
21 Ms. Maestas advised at the June 19th meeting that they would look into the
22 contracts. Ms. Roll had information from the other communities which is what she
23 provided this group with. Ms. Ferguson thought they could ask to sub-contract with local
24 veterinarian assistants.

25
26 Commissioner Vohs advised he could not recommend either way. He needed a
27 lot more information. He did not know it would take two employees and he thought this
28 would be a conservative estimate. They are already shutting down on weekends and if
29 one is on vacation and one is sick they have to close. He was not comfortable until he
30 knew how they needed to go forward on that issue.

31
32 Ms. Cross thought they could take sometime this week to think about things and
33 have another meeting before the 24th July.

34
35 Commissioner Vohs asked if there was anyone in the state who has had a chamber
36 like Clovis' who has gone to injection. Ms. Roll suggested Carlsbad's Steve Hall.

37
38 Ms. Roll did not think it would take two full time employees to do this.
39 Commissioner Vohs advised last time she told him that one person could not do it. Ms.
40 Roll advised they would have to rotate. Ms. Roll advised they would not have to add two
41 full time employees to their staff. Commissioner Vohs advised Roswell have nine staff
42 full time.

43
44 Ms. Burroughes advised there would be a cost associated with implementing the
45 licensing program as it would need personnel to enforce that, including billing staff.

1 Mr. Richards said the minutes stated that the two hour presentation made by the
2 Dr. from California was attached to the minutes but they were not. Ms. Ferguson has
3 asked for these which she will forward to them. Mr. Richards advised it would be helpful
4 for the Commission in their decision making process. Ms. Ferguson advised she was the
5 director of the San Diego and the Los Angeles of the shelter. She will send cd's to the
6 city.

7
8 Ms. Cross suggested meeting again next Tuesday, July 15th, 2008 at noon at the
9 Assembly Room.

10
11 There being no further conversation, Commissioner Vohs moved to adjourn;
12 Commissioner Garza seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

13